

Grundy County Board of Health

Monday, November 9th, 2020

Called to Order: 7:00am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Monday, November 9th, 2020, at 7:00am in the Conference Room at the Grundy County Annex Building in Grundy Center, IA. Per the Iowa Public Information Board: Electronic Meetings for a Governmental Body, minutes must include a statement explaining why an in-person meeting was impossible or impractical. Currently, LBOH meetings are offered in-person or via zoom for members and the public. This is due to the pandemic and wishing to support social distancing and safe protocols/mitigation efforts. Future minutes will reflect this information. Appointed board members present were: Beverly Meester, Chair; Dave Stefl. Also present: Barbara Smith, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS); Heather Bombei, Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) Regional Consultant; Janelle Ballhagen, UnityPoint Health/Allen Women's Health; Katie Thornton-Lang, Grundy County Public Health (GCPH) Program Coordinator; Michelle VanDeest, GCPH Office Coordinator.

Regular meeting of the LBOH was called to order by Meester. The minutes from September 14th, 2020 were reviewed. A quorum was not available for approval. GCPH will set up a conference call/zoom meeting to approval minutes.

Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Contract Update: Heather Bombei, IDPH Regional Consultant, offered an update of the LPHS grant contract via handout. FY20 Summary shows that the majority of GCPH personnel time was spent in the activities of Collaborative Relationships (community meetings and being the face of public health) and LBOH support (emails, meeting information, etc.). IDPH has a new table of organization that GCPH will provide to board members via email.

UnityPoint Health/Allen Women's Health Update: Janelle Ballhagen offered updates to LBOH. Handouts were available discussing topics/statistics for the service areas covered. Currently, clinic serves by giving birth control, STD testing, and family services. In regards to responding to COVID-19, clients seem to be more accepting of phone calls and zoom appointments for healthcare services provided; for example, transportation issues, pregnant moms with other children and issues leaving for appointments, etc. They are hoping to continue this beyond COVID for these types of services. People are not in waiting room of clinics, but are waiting in vehicles until their scheduled appointment. For family planning, chlamydia and gonorrhea are having screening issues, as it is the same testing as COVID. All are sent to SHL, which means testing is taking longer to get back, as COVID tests are priority. This means other exposures could be happening more frequently. They are beginning to test for these at the hospital, where they can get quicker results. Services see people from upwards of 36 counties in the state for prenatal care and family planning services. Many college students are served, and they would be listed as county of residence. If there are any ideas for suggestions on programming or outreach, contact Janelle or Sandy Kahler; can also email GCPH for contact info.

LBOH Operations Policy for GCPH: GCPH personnel has created a policy on behalf of LBOH for working on-call/remotely, as needed, for public health emergencies, such as the current pandemic and other disease outbreak investigations that require immediate attention. An upcoming example of how GCPH department will operate to meet community needs is the upcoming November 11th holiday. There is school that day; if guidance is needed by schools, GCPH personnel will work with schools based around this policy to meet those needs of the school; this would also apply to others need emergent guidance in long-term care facilities and/or childcare centers, etc. The policy also discusses office closure/weekly hours worked to meet the needs of the community. GCPH will set up a conference call/zoom meeting to approval policy.

New Member Recommendations/January Updates: Beverly Meester and Helene Wertz's terms are up at the end of December. Lexie Hach and Crystal Petersen have been mentioned as possible new members, and have agreed to positions. LBOH will offer recommendations to BOS. In January, there will need to be new Chair and Vice-Chair officers elected for LBOH; discussions/approvals to take place during meeting.

Sanitarian Annual Update/LBOH Letter of Support: County Sanitarian, Carie Steinbron, was not available to present annual environmental report for Grundy County. LBOH will review letter of support to offer to county/Board of Supervisors (BOS) to recognize position appointed procedure and approval. GCPH will set up a conference call/zoom meeting to discuss signature.

COVID-19 Updates: The pandemic continues to be the main focus during reporting period. GCPH continues to participate in weekly phone conferences, webinars, and zoom meetings as pandemic continues; these meetings include information shared with and available from local, state, and national partners. Working with individual inquiries that have come up daily via email, phone calls, and Facebook messenger are a high priority. GCPH works daily with local schools and sports teams' inquiries and guidance, long-term care facilities on guidance and updates, as well as childcare center guidance. We have also been reached out to by various businesses and churches for guidance offered by our department, IDPH and the CDC. Isolation and quarantine home orders have been distributed by the State of Iowa. If these were needed, LBOH would have to sign off orders, with GCPH personnel and local law enforcement working to execute orders. If orders have to be issued, there will need to be a meeting held by LBOH for discussion; do not need to give 24-hour notice. Templates will be distributed to LBOH members via email. Vaccine distribution plans and updates are coming from the federal and state level. GCPH is working with hospital, clinics, pharmacies, long-term care facilities, and assisted living facilities in county to ensure plans are in place before vaccine is delivered. GCPH will not be housing vaccines; dosages will be distributed to participating entities. GCPH will create a vaccine campaign, similar to flu campaign, for all participating entities offering vaccine to the public. There is still information being sorted out at federal state level for aspects of vaccine distribution. Discussions were held amongst participating board members with Stefl stating that as numbers are going up, healthcare providers are nervous, society is nervous, and he feels the

governor's office is not taking this seriously. He feels that the state level needs better education and a mask mandate, along with possible shutdowns of non-essential services. He feels this input needs to be sent to the state level about the recent uptick in cases across the state. Meester states that her opinion slightly differs and feels that non-essential shut-down is not the answer. Bombei stated that in Service Area 1, hospitals and doctors met recently with local partners regarding hospitalizations and the critical situation.

Public Health Report for July/August, 2020:

Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Grant

Collaborative Relations: GCPH continues to participate, as available, in community meetings/discussions.

Community Assessment: The CHNA&HIP deadline for submitting to IDPH has been moved to 2022.

Disease Outbreak & Investigation: On August 25th, 2020, investigation began on Botulism isolated case. Case was followed up with weekly by contacting family and getting updates. Case recovered and was closed on October 8th, 2020. On September 16th, 2020, investigation began on Crypto isolated case. Case closed on September 18th, 2020. On September 23rd, 2020, investigation began on Hep B isolated case. Case closed on September 24th, 2020.

Injury Prevention: The Sharps Disposal program received 12 sharps container during reporting period.

The required Performance Measure that was due on 9/18/20 was approved on 9/11/20.

The FY20 Annual Report that was due on 9/30/20 was submitted and approved on 9/24/20.

Immunization (I4) Grant: A latent TB (LTBI) patient is being treated within Grundy County. GCPH representatives dispensed medications and offered education two times during reporting period to patient. An additional TB (LTBI) patient was diagnosed in October. Medication was dispensed and education offered once during reporting period to patient. The Annual Flu campaign has begun for local pharmacies with flyers being distributed weekly on social media. Flyers have also been distributed to local media (i.e., newspapers, TV stations, radio stations), libraries, schools, childcare centers, etc. Campaign will continue in next months. Immunization audits, required for all schools and licensed childcare centers by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), have begun. Audit due date is normally on January 31st of fiscal year. Due to pandemic, that date was established to be extended, due to the pandemic; upon scheduling of audits, GCPH did not know due date so all audits were scheduled. Following scheduling, date from IDPH was determined to be in March of 2021. GCPH will keep scheduled dates for all audits.

Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) Grant: LifeSkills programming has begun in Dike Elementary School, working with 3rd graders for curriculum during reporting period. Thornton-Lang has met with a Coach through IDPH and has ideas going forward in lieu of programming directly in the schools, including video sharing and monthly newsletter re: LifeSkills lessons as topics to share with all students/families. Red Ribbon Week educational materials were ordered and delivered to all county elementary schools, reaching a total of 1277 students. Educational information and presentation options were also emailed to participating schools.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant: PHEP meetings have been held via zoom, including weekly meetings following COVID-19 LPH webinars. Orders have been placed from PHEP funding to purchase a POD cart and cooler. There is a 10% match and is our agency's to own. Stefl inquires about how low of a temperature it goes; VanDeest will check on that.

Medical Reserve Corps. (MRC): The Grundy County Medical Reserve Corps. (GC-MRC) continues to help at various community events. There are 27 active volunteers. Unit Activity Summary Report for reporting period September/October, 2020 (see attachment): 5 total number of activities; 2 total number of MRC participants; 4 total number of hours contributed; \$307.09 economic value of contribution.

Grundy County Safety Seat Program (GCCPSP): There was 1 installation & educational during reporting period. In-person inspections/installations/educational inquiries are allowed to be conducted, as of this report, with mitigation measures in place.

Healthy Habits All-Stars (HHAS): Handwashing programming through HHAS was given to 3 kindergarten classrooms in the community: Dike, Grundy Center, and BCLUW, reaching 121 students. Vaccine programming through HHAS was given to Grundy Center Elementary reaching 51 students. One student, when discussing different germs and diseases, mentioned Pylori; the first time I have ever had a kindergarten student state anything like that 😊.

Due to the pandemic, no additional grant searching is in plans to take place for the FY21 year.

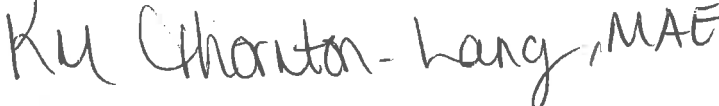
Social Media Stats: Reached 58,882 individuals for reporting period July/August, 2020 (Pinterest data was not available for the month of October. GCPH is active on the following social media sites: Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram. We also promote our county website on all social media platforms.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09am.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: Monday, January 11th, 2021, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Scheduled Meeting Topics:
Policy Updates (as needed)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE
Grundy County Public Health Program Coordinator

Chairperson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Steff". The signature is written in a cursive style.