

## Grundy County Board of Health

Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Called to Order: 6:58am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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.

Zoom/conference call attendance will still continue to be available to board members and to the public. Meetings will be recorded and uploaded onto Grundy County Public Health (GCPH) Google Drive, with links available in minutes. Meeting recordings will be deleted off of Drive after no less than 1-year-time but will continue to be available upon request on GCPH Administrator, Katie Thornton-Lang's, county computer drive.

Appointed board members present in person: Tom Boheman, BS, Chairperson; Lexie Hach, MA, Vice-Chairperson; Joan Blair, BSN, MPH. Also present in person: Thornton-Lang; Jordyn Beeghly, GCPH Program Coordinator; Carie Sparks, Grundy County Sanitarian; Barbara Smith, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS); Alan Tscherter, Grundy County Auditor. Appointed board members present virtually: Mike Nelsestuen, ARNP, Medical Provider; Julie Johnson, PsyD, LMHC.

The minutes from May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, regular meeting, were reviewed. Motion to approve all minutes by Blair; seconded by Hach; carried. The minutes were approved as written. Minutes were signed by Chair, Boheman, and will be submitted to [IowaGrants.gov](http://IowaGrants.gov) following meeting.

**Evaluation Updates:** Annual evaluations have been completed by board for GCPH Administrator, Thornton-Lang, and Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian, Sparks. A 6-month evaluation has been completed by GCPH Administrator for GCPH Program Coordinator, Beeghly. GCPH department employee evaluations have been submitted to Auditor's Office and are on file in GCPH department.

**Partner Presentation Updates:** – GCPH department reminds the board that a new procedure will be implemented this year for partner presentations. The scheduled lunch-&-learn will be Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm. While an agenda and posting will be made, this will be a no-action meeting and no quorum is needed. The zoom link has been distributed via email communications. This will be recorded and shared with board following presentations for any questions to be asked. A fiscal presentation is being worked on for later in FY25 by the Auditor's Office. Thornton-Lang has reached out to Grundy County Memorial Hospital (GCMH) regarding a Strategic Plan presentation which will take place later in FY25.

**Environmental Health Updates:** Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian, Sparks, updated board on environmental health matters. Sparks discussed updates to job descriptions she currently does at her job as Sanitarian, what is required, and needed to know if someone wants

to apply to position in future (i.e., health risks, job duties, time management, grant funding, etc.). Thornton-Lang suggests LBOH look closer at proposed description to approve changes after taking a closer look. Blair asks questions regarding part of Sanitarian job position and duties, including discussion of what Black Hawk County covers for certain inspections for Grundy County, as Sparks currently does not have the capacity to do so (i.e., tanning salons, restaurants, pools, new tattoo parlor coming to the county, etc.). Board discusses that a lot of hats are being worn for County Sanitarian position and Sparks suggested this to continue to be observed. Sparks discussed that when/if she leaves the position for things to be observed by county and if the three positions, she covers to still be covered by county sanitarian (DOT, Sanitarian, Zoning), as currently Grundy County is the only county where Sanitarian covers all three. Sparks wants to discuss with DOT supervisor to see what could be better by being open one more day a week, and not be covered by County Sanitarian. Hach discusses that we are not necessarily meeting needs for the people in Grundy County in its current capacity and that we don't want to sacrifice quality.) Sparks updated board on Lon's Plumbing & Heating matter, mentioning that the judge has not given an appeal to suspend the license until October. The POWTS ordinance was also discussed with next steps moving forward with the BOS.

**Landfill Commission:** Landfill Representative, Smith, updated board on landfill commission matters. Smith discussed that a new Facebook page is available, and a link can be found from the county website. If any changes needed are needed, contact Chad Brown to update. Smith states that the landfill stopped taking water-based paint, as it was too labor intensive; still takes oil-based paint. The annual meeting for the commission is scheduled for Thursday, 7/11, at the landfill to discuss rates as they have not been changed in years.

**Iowa Health and Human Services (IHHS) Merger/Alignment Updates:** GCPH updated board on updates from the IHHS merger/alignment, including emails previously sent to board. At a recent meeting with Dr. Kruse, it was mentioned that public health will not be on the legislative docket for 2025 as previously stated and that the intention is to keep a public health presence in every county in Iowa.

### **Public Health Report for May/June 2024:**

#### Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Grant

- GCPH continues to participate in community meetings/discussions including but not limited to Grundy County Community Partners (board), Grundy Center Wellness Committee (board), Child Passenger Safety State Advisory (board), Black Hawk Grundy Mental Health Center (board), NEI3A (board), LPHS Collaborative (board), and Grundy Family YMCA Advisory Board. For specific updates on any of these collaborative matters, please contact GCPH Administrator.
- Internships: No updates
- Disease Outbreak Updates

- 1 isolated of E.coli was reported on 5/20/24, with case closing on 5/23/24. Beeghly observed case investigation and now has access to Iowa Disease Surveillance System (IDSS) for future disease outbreak investigations.
- Long-Term Care Reported Outbreaks (determined by 3 or more patients confirmed with respiratory illness); 0 facilities reported outbreaks of COVID during reporting period; IHHS/GCPH worked with facility
- 2 cases of Campylobacter (campy) was identified during reporting period. The state is following up on these cases, but they are still being reported to GCPH. GCPH may be asked to follow-up on some cases.
- No 10% Absenteeism Reports from schools during reporting period. Schools are asked to report 10% absenteeism in each district building for respiratory, norovirus and other possible disease outbreaks each year.
- Diseases of Interest: Meningococcal Disease Cases Linked to Travel to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) in May, 2024; From Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC); No cases identified in Grundy County. HPAI in Humans ongoing throughout reporting; From CDC & IHHS; No cases identified in Grundy County; Thornton-Lang discusses what Avian Influenza (HPAI) is to LBOH and how it has crossed over into dairy cattle; Sparks discusses how a few counties in Iowa have cancelled dairy cattle exhibits at local fairs; Hach discusses milk pasteurization process and notes that IHHS is preparing for human transmission; It is currently viral and no antibiotics typically can be used; Hach reached out to Iowa State Extension regarding Grundy County fair exhibits and is waiting to hear back from them regarding such. Severe Illness Potentially Associated with Consuming Diamond Shruumz Brand Chocolate Bars, Cones, and Gummies in June, 2024; From CDC & IHHS; No cases identified in Grundy County; This became a temporary reportable disease IHHS from 6/25/24-12/31/24 and that information has been shared with local healthcare partners. Dengue increase in June, 2024; From CDC; No cases identified in Grundy County.
- Household Sharps Program
  - Received 5 containers during reporting period.
  - GCPH distributed information on new procedures via email communications to local partners/ stakeholders, as well as on social media.
- Grundy County Child Passenger Safety Program (GCCPSP): Individual fitting/installation/education with family 3 seats during reporting period.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): Concussion/Bike Safety presentations completed in kindergarten classrooms at BCLUW, Gladbrook-Reinbeck, and AGWSR during reporting period. Hand Hygiene & Concussion/Bike Safety Feedback survey distributed to participating teachers; attachment provided in packet.
- A Lead Clinic was held in the Grundy County Annex Building by Black Hawk County Health Department on May 16th. Due to lack of publicity, this was not attended by community members. However, it was discussed how that could be rectified in the future and another clinic will possibly take place.
- Grundy County Wellness Program
  - GCPH Program Coordinator, Beeghly, has been working with BOS on this program in various capacities including creating a Pinterest board on GCPH platform and

distributing monthly newsletters to county employees via email. Beeghly discussed specifics of program and membership with Grundy Family YMCA. Smith discussed that health premiums/claims and the importance of implementation of the program for the county.

- File of Life
  - Grundy County LBOH member presented on this community program last meeting.
  - GCPH has helped in promoting program.

#### Immunization (I4) Grant

- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS) – Vaccination/Staying Healthy
  - Feedback survey distributed to participating teachers; attachment provided in packet.
- Immunization Audits will take place in the fall and Beeghly will begin training in process during this time.

#### Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) Grant

- LifeSkills completed in Gladbrook-Reinbeck (4th grade) during reporting period.
- Feedback survey distributed to participating teachers; attachment provided in packet.
- Beeghly will begin training for programming and teaching in fall.

#### Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant

- FY25 Projected Funding: \$14,918.28 (\$10,000 in FY24)
- There are required deliverables for grant that are due in fall; Beeghly will orient with these deliverables as they come due:
  - National Incident Management System (NIMS): trainings completed by staff, training record, certificates uploaded to secure site, NIMSCAST
  - Point of Dispensing (POD) Workbook
  - Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)
  - Monthly Radio Checks
- PHEP meetings have been held via zoom.
- Medical Reserve Corps. (MRC)
  - The Grundy County Medical Reserve Corps. (GC-MRC) continues to help at various community events, as needed.
  - There are currently 23 volunteers.

#### Opioid Settlement Funding

- No updates

#### COVID Bridge Access Program

- No longer exists, as state is moving program towards a similar program to Vaccines for Children (VFC).
- Currently, GCPH has not identified ways it can utilize dollars and is working with IHHS on returning dollars to counties that can utilize.
- This funding was not included in FY25 budget revenue.

Social Media Stats

- Reporting period May/June 2024: 8783 individuals reached via Facebook, X/Twitter, and Instagram.
- FY24: 60,358 individuals reached via Facebook, X/Twitter, and Instagram.
- Beeghly now completes social media stats weekly, monthly and yearly.
- Discussion of importance of engagement with social media posts.

Other

- Thornton-Lang will be scheduled out of office 7/25 & 7/26 for family sick-leave; she will be able to work remotely in emergency and may have to at various times the following week.
- GCPH Newsletters in provided in packet
- Boheman discusses closing the Pioneer Trail; having a fundraiser event TBD September 28 and more details on involvement in near future.

Recorded Meeting available via zoom for future viewing on Google Drive:

- Video link: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j6bHALsBjDgVC8Pm-zXlfhtPas\\_8pr79/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j6bHALsBjDgVC8Pm-zXlfhtPas_8pr79/view?usp=sharing)
- Audio link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b8HoB-1ZzHW4ESdeD8gkOAYzYtIUe5ZU/view?usp=sharing>
- Chat link: not utilized
- File link: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1\\_muczSD11bH-xUI-nPGb9wRptlh2TQ-h?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_muczSD11bH-xUI-nPGb9wRptlh2TQ-h?usp=sharing)

Meeting adjourned at 8:03am; motion by Hach, second by Blair; carried.

**Next Regular Scheduled Meeting Date:** Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

**Scheduled Meeting Topics:**

- Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian Job Description Updates (Carie Sparks)
- Policy Updates (as needed)
- Environmental Health Matrix Updates (scheduled for November)

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE  
Grundy County Public Health Administrator



Tom Boheman, BS  
Grundy County Local Board of Health Chairperson