

Grundy County Board of Health

Tuesday, November 12th, 2024

Called to Order: 7:00am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Tuesday, November 12th, 2024, at 7:00am in the Conference Room at the Grundy County Annex Building in Grundy Center, IA. Per the Iowa Public Information Board, Chapter 21: Electronic Meetings for a Governmental Body will 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; Joan Blair, BSN, MPH. Also present in person: Katie Thornton-Lang, GCPH Administrator; Jordyn Beeghly, GCPH Program Coordinator; Carie Sparks, Grundy County Sanitarian; Barbara Smith, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS); Nick Buseman, County Conservation. Appointed board members present virtually: Lexie Hach, MA, Vice-Chairperson; Julie Johnson, PsyD, LMHC.

The minutes from September 10th, 2024, regular meeting, was 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 uploaded to public health portion of county website following meeting; it is no longer required to upload to IowaGrants.gov if meeting minutes are on public website.

Board Member Updates: Current board member, Johnson's term is scheduled to expire, and she has chosen not to stay on the board. She will be missed and the board and GCPH department wish her well with continuing to serve the community in various ways. Nick Buseman, Grundy County Conservation, has agreed to be nominated by LBOH to Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS) as a new member of the Grundy County LBOH. Boheman discusses Buseman being recommended for the LBOH. Thornton-Lang discussed Heather Bombei, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (IHHS) Community Health Consultant, getting connected for orientation.

Environmental Health Updates: Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian, Carie Sparks, updated board on environmental health matters including an annual report and updates on job description. Sparks states that she has not tested any foster homes in the area recently. If funding is not all utilized, the state takes 75% of the grant funding back; trying to change it as a lot of counties don't utilize it right away. Sparks discusses the Lon's Plumbing & Heating case, stating that he is able to get his license back with recertification. Sparks reports that she is still working on job description updates. Hach discusses details of job description of sanitarian; Sparks discusses rural counties wearing more hats vs larger counties. Discussion of how more specialists aren't applying for county positions; also finding someone with the right

qualifications and wearing multiple different hats can be factor (zoning, driver's license, etc.) Boheman recommends taking this to the BOS and discussing the position(s) with them that Sparks currently does. Sparks recommends the next individual to work as Grundy County sanitarian have a background/degree in zoning/planning/real estate/legal matters, not necessarily environmental health; or make it its own individual position. Sparks recommends driver's license position could be a full time position itself. Boheman inquiries about getting feedback from students to see if they would apply for the position or not with all of the hats to be worn.

Landfill Commission: Landfill Representative, Smith, provided no updates on landfill commission matters. Her replacement, Greg Melcher, will attend meetings and provide updates in the future

GCPH Department/Policy Updates: GCPH Administrator, Thornton-Lang, attended the Grundy County Memorial Hospital (GCMH) Dedication & Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the new hospital addition on 9/12/24, with other LBOH members in support of our continued collaboration in the county. Please see September and October newsletters attached, created by Beeghly and shared with local partners. Other policies/procedures are slated to be worked on in the upcoming year.

IHHS Merger/Alignment Updates: GCPH updated board on updates from the IHHS merger/alignment, including emails previously sent to board, as well as summer tour information and public health office hours Q&A's via attachments.

Public Health Report for September/October 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.
 - Thornton-Lang asked to serve additional 3-year term on NEI3A board; accepted.
 - Thornton-Lang asked to serve a 3rd year on state LPHS Collaborative board, accepted.
- Internships: no updates
- Disease Outbreak Updates
 - E. coli isolated case reported on 9/18/24, closed 9/24/24 (Beeghly completed case).
 - E. coli isolated case reported on 10/30/24, closed in next reporting period (Beeghly completed case).
 - Iowa Disease Surveillance System (IDSS) 2.0 is planning to go live in quarter 2 of 2025 by IHHS.

- Iowa Immunization Registry Information Services (IRIS) 2.0 is currently working on application with current testing and training for programming; timeline for implementation is quarter 1 or 2 of 2025 with webinars prior to usage by IHHS.
- 1 case of Campylobacter (campy) was identified during reporting period; Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (IHHS) is following up on these cases, but they are still being reported to GCPH. GCPH may be asked to follow-up on some cases.
- There was a Campy outbreak in the county which the state handled and did not require our assistance but made us aware of.
- Long-Term Care Reported Outbreaks (determined by 3 or more patients confirmed with respiratory illness). No facilities reported outbreaks during reporting period.
- 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 = information shared with local healthcare partners/stakeholders via email, as available:
 - Marburg outbreak from CDC/IHHS, 10/2024, in Rwanda; state is working on Local Public Health Agency (LPHA) procedures, as needed; very contagious, but not airborne; high mortality rate.
 - PD/IV Shortage due to facility damage from North Carolina hurricanes, CDC/IHHS, 10/2024.
 - Syphilis 800% increase over last 20 years from CDC/IHHS, 10/2024.
 - Lassa Fever case confirmed by IHHS/CDC in Iowa. Case deceased and IHHS is working with variety of partners on contact tracing/monitoring, including Illinois partners. As of November reporting period, IHHS monitoring/assessing/quarantining approximately 150 individuals related to case; 2 became symptomatic during assessment period, with one confirming negative and one presumptive negative. IHHS reports response is going smoothly and they are continuing to work through infectious period.
- Household Sharps Program: Received 6 containers during reporting period. Box in GCPH exam room was emptied and disposed of properly, according to policies and procedures, by county maintenance for third time since Fall 2022 program updates. 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): Education on seat specifics and installation for grandmother in September. Resource sharing for available seats for families in October.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): Hand Hygiene education offered in all Kindergarten classrooms and schedule is completed/presentations started, except programming will not be offered at AGWSR due to their kindergarten classrooms being moved to Ackley. No updates on concussion/bike safety.
- Grundy County Safety Action Plan Workshop: Thornton-Lang participated with Secondary Road/County Engineer and other county entities. Plans are updated and being sent to state parties, as needed.

Immunization (I4) Grant

- Immunization Audits
 - Schools required to be completed by 11/1/24; completed by GCPH on 10/29/24.
Preliminary numbers:
 - GCPH audited 2299 certificates
 - Grundy County had 99.48% valid certificates
 - All non-valid certificates were due to no signatures which is new requirement; GCPH working with school on process for obtaining signatures in the future.
 - Beeghly completed two audits on own.
 - Childcare centers to be completed by 1/31/25 and all are currently scheduled.
- Respiratory Virus Campaign: Formerly the Flu Campaign; adjusted to include COVID and RSV vaccines. Shared with local partners via email and on social media platforms.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): Vaccine importance education offered in all Kindergarten classrooms and schedule is completed/presentations started, except programming will not be offered at AGWSR due to their kindergarten classrooms being moved to Ackley and at Timothy Christian who only expressed interest in handwashing presentation.

Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) Grant

- Red Ribbon Week is no longer allowed in grant. GCPH let schools know of changes
- Beeghly has begun teaching Elementary LifeSkills and will continue to with Thornton-Lang for Dike-New Hartford 3rd graders, Grundy Center 4th graders and Gladbrook-Reinbeck 4th graders; Thornton-Lang is teaching Middle School LifeSkills for Timothy Christian 7th/8th graders, with goal to get Beeghly trained in program next fiscal year.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant

- Grant Required Deliverables:
 - Monthly Radio Checks
 - Completed in timely manner during reporting period
 - National Incident Management System (NIMS): trainings completed by staff, training record, certificates uploaded to secure site, NIMSCAST
 - Completed 8/15/24 (due date of 12/1/24)
 - Point of Dispensing (POD) Workbook
 - Completed 10/2/24 (due date of 10/31/24)
 - Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)
 - Due date of 12/1/24
- PHEP meetings have been held via zoom.
- Beeghly is working on updating PHERP plans for county/department
- 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

Social Media Stats

- Reporting period September/October 2024: 7395 individuals reached via Facebook and Instagram (X/Twitter stats not available).
- Beeghly completes social media stats weekly, monthly and yearly.

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

- Video link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TPyg_TuAlMTwgXDULkgvwSAwYdyEsq0/view?usp=sharing
- Audio link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hDSOT1FanqjPFhsZiJyt_8CnCiDNKHJj/view?usp=sharing
- Chat link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eOhAyl8cr-6cJNuDjgNZ0hgy87OJ2NPC/view?usp=sharing>
- File link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18supM0IILlc5qy_SF7h8Y8xzumeEli-K?usp=sharing

Meeting adjourned at 8:01am; motion by Blair, second by Johnson; carried.

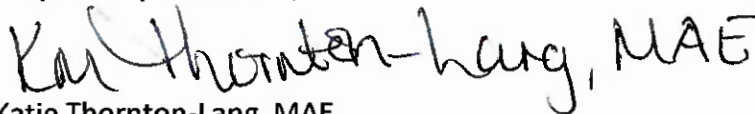
Annual Breakfast & Budget Meeting for FY26 Budget Discussion/Approval: Tuesday, December 3rd, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 14th, 2025, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Scheduled Meeting Topics:

- Annual Approvals
- Board Updates – New Chair/Vice-Chair Voting
- Grundy County Memorial Hospital Strategic Planning Presentation
- Auditor’s Budget Information Sharing (March Meeting)
- Policy Updates (as needed)

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE
Grundy County Public Health Administrator



NEWLY ELECTED
Grundy County Local Board of Health Chairperson