

Grundy County Board of Health

Tuesday, January 14th, 2025

Called to Order: 6:58am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Tuesday, January 14th, 2025, 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-years-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; Nick Buseman. Also present in person: Katie Thornton-Lang, GCPH Administrator; Jordyn Beeghly, GCPH Program Coordinator; Jeff Pabst, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS); Alan Tscherter, Grundy County Auditor's Office; Adam Scherling and Lynn Blythe, Grundy County Memorial Hospital. Appointed board members present virtually: Lexie Hach, MA; Mike Nelsestuen, ARNP.

The minutes from November 12th, 2024, regular meeting and December 3rd, 2024, FY26 budget meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve all minutes by Buseman; seconded by Hach; carried. The minutes were approved as written. Minutes were signed by Chair, Boheman, following the approval of continuing as chair, 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.

Introduction of New LBOH Member: Nick Buseman has been designated as the new LBOH member, recommended by previous board and approved by Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS).

Grundy County Memorial Hospital (GCMH) Strategic Planning Presentation: GCMH representatives presented on the hospital's strategic planning. Discussion of mental health care being implemented at GCMH and correlation between hospital and GCPH initiatives. Stated that there will be more development and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), pelvic floor therapy, urgent care services, med surg services, and safety fundamentals in the next strategic plan. Discussion of how well the county is doing with current Emergency Management Agency coordinator, Chase Babcock. Boheman states how impressed he is with the hospital and advancements being made. Scherling discusses how the people are what is important for Grundy County and it is important to continue to invest our people and improve our communities. Scherling inquires if GCPH will go-over the previous community health needs assessment in the upcoming months. Thornton-Lang and Hach discuss with the alignment and merger things might be different.

Annual Items for Discussion/Approval: The following were voted for approval by the board: board Chair and Vice-Chair, GCPH Administrator as signatory for LBOH matters, and Sanitarian Position Support. Conflict of Interest forms were distributed to current board members for completion and filing by GCPH. The December 2025, Breakfast & Budget date was discussed to present the FY27 budget for GCPH and Environmental Health departments. Motion for Boheman to stay on as Chair and Hach as Vice Chair by Nelsestuen; seconded by Buseman; carried. Signatory authority and Sanitarian support letter motioned by Buseman; seconded by Hach; carried. Information will be updated by GCPH Administrator for 2025.

Environmental Health Updates: Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian, Carie Sparks, was unable to attend the meeting. She states that she did present her budget to the county Board of Supervisors (BOS) with no questions being asked.

Landfill Commission: Greg Melcher has not officially been appointed as the Landfill Commissioner by the LBOH. Will vote on such at the March meeting.

GCPH Department/Policy Updates: GCPH Program Coordinator, Jordyn Beeghly, has upped the social media game by creating various posts, including GIFs/videos with her knowledge of technology/Canva usage. Please see the attached November newsletter, 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 November/December 2024:

Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Grant

- Grant survey required to be completed as part of grant deliverables by 11/22/24 was completed by GCPH on 11/4/24.
- 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, Northeast Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Alliance (participant). For specific updates on any of these collaborative matters, please contact GCPH Administrator.
 - Thornton-Lang was asked to serve another 3-year term on Black Hawk/Grundy Mental Health Center board, which she has accepted.
- Internships: Thornton-Lang met via zoom with a University of Northern Iowa College of Public Health student regarding the basics of local public health agencies in December.
- Disease Outbreak Updates

- Previous request for E.coli cases to be graphed for reporting will be completed by March meeting for sharing with board.
- Legionella isolated case reported at end of last reporting period and closed on 12/6/24 due to patient passing away from comorbidities. Final documentation is being collected with assistance from the state.
- No cases of Campylobacter (campy) were 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.
- Long-Term Care Reported Outbreaks (determined by 3 or more patients confirmed with respiratory illness). No facilities reported outbreaks during reporting period.
- 2 reports on 10% Absenteeism 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:
 - Lassa Fever previously confirmed diseased case contacts have all cleared quarantine period with no additional cases presented.
 - Mpox Clade 1 diagnosis in US in November.
 - HPAI confirmed case in human in Iowa in December.
 - Various Q&A's and fact forms have been made available from IHHS on matter and shared with healthcare partners.
 - Buseman discusses there has been some issues regarding HPAI. States a vet from the state will be presenting in February. Will send out info & details.
- Household Sharps Program: Received 2 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): Education and installation of new seat for father previously worked with.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): Hand Hygiene education completed in all Kindergarten classrooms except programming will not be offered at AGWSR due to their kindergarten classrooms being moved to Ackley. No updates on concussion/bike safety.

Immunization (I4) Grant

- Immunization Audits
 - Childcare centers to be completed by 1/31/25 and all were completed by 12/26/24.
 - Preliminary numbers for childcare centers:
 - Certificates audited: 655
 - Valid certificates: 98.17%
 - Preliminary Numbers for Schools and Licensed Childcare Centers (will confirm in future when finalized by state):
 - Certificates audited: 2954
 - Valid certificates: 98.83%

- Beeghly completed many of the school and childcare center audits and picked up on the process easily and quickly.
 - Thornton-Lang assisted Tama County nurse who shadowed 2 childcare audits in process and procedures as she is new to the audit role in Tama County.
 - Please see attached summary of data from 2025-2024 (preliminary and since Thornton-Lang began with auditing process).
 - Boheman inquired regarding the Religious Exemption process, which was briefly discussed by Thornton-Lang
 - Buseman inquired regarding out of county information about vaccine numbers and information about school districts which was answered.
- 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 completed in all Kindergarten classrooms except 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

- Elementary LifeSkills programming has completed with Dike-New Hartford 3rd graders and Grundy Center 4th graders. Teaching at Gladbrook-Reinbeck with 4th graders will begin next reporting period. Beeghly did a lot of the teaching for DNH.
- Thornton-Lang completed teaching Middle School LifeSkills for Timothy Christian 7th/8th graders, with goal to get Beeghly trained in program next fiscal year if this program will still be available to our department.
- Grant will be changing or going away next fiscal year due to the merger/alignment. We do not know, at this time, how this will impact LifeSkills programming.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant

- Grant Required Deliverables:
 - Monthly Radio Checks
 - Completed in timely manner during reporting period
 - National Incident Management System (NIMS):
 - 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)
 - Completed 11/25/24 (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

County Wellness Program

- Program Coordinator, Beeghly, has been working with county BOS on various wellness program activities for county employees, specifically through the county's ARPA funding.
- Beeghly will sign off on funds used with the support and assistance of BOS chair and GCPH Administrator.

Social Media Stats

- Reporting period November/December 2024: 7401 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/1ZzYm1hmrpNDdnekCtL6BsrclFljB3w/view?usp=sharing>
- Audio link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PUFsxG00lvX--2LCe7uiyFVut0eMx3RD/view?usp=sharing>
- Chat link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wh4vsVnkoENWxz0Tr3apLirLW1_3JTD/view?usp=sharing
- File link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LL4Evgp-XkTaTvwOBwLTBFd0csqovzrn?usp=sharing>

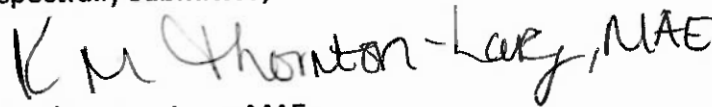
Meeting adjourned at 7:53am; motion by Buseman, second by Hach; carried.

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 11th, 2025, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Scheduled Meeting Topics:

Auditor's Budget Information Sharing
Policy Updates (as needed)

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE
Grundy County Public Health Administrator



Tom Boheman, BS
Grundy County Local Board of Health Chairperson