

Grundy County Board of Health

Tuesday, July 14th, 2026

Called to Order: 7:01am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Tuesday, May 12th, 2026, 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, Chairperson; Lexie Hach, MA, Vice-Chairperson; Joan Blair, BSN, MPH; Nick Buseman. Also present in person: Jordyn Beeghly, GCPH Program Coordinator; Carie Sparks, Grundy County Sanitarian; Jeff Pabst, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS); Alan Tschertter, Grundy County Auditor; Heidi Nederhoff, Grundy County BOS. Also present via zoom: Katie Thornton-Lang, GCPH Administrator.

The minutes from May 12th, 2026, regular meeting were reviewed. Blair suggested changes to minutes: include information regarding all options presented at May meeting for Driver's License/Environmental Health/Planning & Zoning positions and add "Grundy Center" to the Health Week initiative. Motion to approve minutes with suggestions by Blair; seconded by Hach; carried. The minutes were approved with suggestions to be included. Minutes signed by chairperson and will be uploaded to public health portion of county website following meeting.

Official Agenda Posting Location Discussion/Action: Board heard information on meeting agenda posting locations in accordance with HF2490 (sent to board prior to meeting). Currently, agendas are posted at Annex Building and Courthouse, as well as sent via email to those who request and on social media platforms (Facebook, X/Twitter, and Instagram). Motion to post paper copy at designated places of Annex Building and Courthouse and continue electronic sharing by Hach; seconded by Buseman; carried.

August Partner Discussion: Board discussed options for partner discussions in August, as in year's past, and will let GCPH Administrator pick date and set up presentations.

Driver's License/Environmental Health/Planning & Zoning Positions & Action: Board reviewed recommendations on updated job description for the administrator, created job description for the assistant, as well as updates on the 28E agreement with the Grundy County Board of Supervisor's (BOS). Blair inquires about how hours are split between positions and time; explained. Hach describes the updated positions and job descriptions on the 28 E agreement. Hach discusses possibly sending new assistant to shadow train with Butler County and or Erika. Motion to approve by Blair; seconded by Hach; carried.

Environmental Health Updates: Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian, Carie Sparks, updated board on environmental health matters including FY26, April-June, Quarterly Updates: septic systems inspected-8; septic systems permitted/not installed yet-13; water tests performed- 13 (2 needed follow up testing, 2 have been completed); continuing to hand out radon tests; helping a homeowner with a failed septic that backed up in her home. She needs a new system and is dealing with bad well. Hooking up to rural water with my assistance getting her in contact with IRUA; going through office right now and discarding old, outdated documents, pamphlets, etc.; will be moving to new office July 6 in the Annex; attended septic pumper training in Waukon on May15; assisting 2 well owners with possible rehabilitation and getting the well casing out of pits and to surface to meet state standards; preparing private well grant to submit to state for 4th quarter reimbursement. Buseman inquired about Holland residence; discussed, with court scheduled to be held August 24th.

Landfill Commission Updates: Grundy County BOS, Jeff Pabst, provided updates to the board, along with the May and June commission meeting minutes sent to board prior to meeting for perusal. Pabst states that there was a meeting held last Thursday and discussed how the building is well maintained. Also states that they are looking into water sensors for the wells out to check for water levels, and bills were paid.

GCPH Department/Policy Updates: CHA-CHIP Updates have been shared with the board for upcoming years and will be planned to complete in upcoming fiscal year. School survey results have been distributed (see attached) for LifeSkills and Healthy Habit All-Stars programming. Blair inquires what we discuss at the LifeSkills classes when we teach in county schools; department shared specifics. Hach inquires more about CHA-CHIP Updates and what we will be doing in our county; department shared specifics.

IHHS Merger/Alignment Updates: Information as received has been distributed to Board and BOS.

Public Health Report for May/June 2026:

Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Grant

- FY26 End-of-Year grant report completed and submitted 6/10/26 (due 7/10/26).
- Thornton-Lang completed LEAD training program through IHHS: Lead through Engagement, Activities and Discovery; purpose is to make better administrator in various ways.
- 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), Northeast Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Alliance (participant). For specific updates on any of these collaborative matters, please contact GCPH Administrator, Thornton-Lang. GCPH hosted a Wellness Walk with Board for Grundy Center Wellness Committee, Grundy Center Health Week, to which 2 additional community members attended.

- Internships:
 - Masters of Public Health student from University of Iowa College of Public Health (UofI/CPH) assisted with upcoming CHA-CHIP in Spring (former BA intern with GCPH).
 - Partnered with UofI/CPH on various initiatives.
 - UofI/CPH Intern reached out to do a variety of projects for experience (not required for school course).
 - Bremer County-led project with 6 other counties for various initiatives in Summer.
- Disease Outbreak Updates
 - Isolated case of Crypto opened on 4/23/26, closed on 5/19/26.
 - School 10% Absenteeism = no reports.
 - LTC Outbreaks = no reports.
 - Diseases of Interest = information shared with local healthcare partners/stakeholders via email, as available:
 - Hantavirus/Andes Strain identified in May
 - Strain is human-to-human spread
 - Identified on a cruise ship
 - Ebola/Bundibugyo Strain identified in May
 - Strain is not a typically identified one, so less is known about it
 - There has only been 2 previously identified outbreaks of this strain
 - There is no current treatment or vaccine for this strain
 - The situation in current outbreak areas are difficult to get accurate numbers/information from and help to
 - New World Screwworm identified in the US in June
 - Measles outbreak in US continues, as does planning and webinars/information sharing for such.
 - Please visit [Measles Cases and Outbreaks | Measles \(Rubeola\) | CDC](#) for updated national numbers/information.
 - Please visit [Disease Information | Health & Human Services](#) for updated state numbers/information.
 - Measles is the most transmissible disease of all known communicable diseases and prior to widespread immunization was responsible for 48,000 hospitalizations and 400-500 deaths per year, mostly among children (CDC).
- Household Sharps Program: Received 2 containers during reporting period. GCPH continues to distribute information on updated procedures via email communications to local partners/stakeholders, as well as on social media.
- Grundy County Child Passenger Safety Program (GCCPSP):
 - Assisted 2 families with education and installation during reporting period.
 - Technician, Thornton-Lang, attended a state-sponsored education day in Des Moines, attending various sessions to help with next year's scheduled recertification.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): Concussion and Bike Safety completed lessons in all county kindergarten classrooms.
- Bike Rodeos: Beeghly provided assistance for such to INRCOG at BCLUW Elementary.
- Progressive Agricultural Safety Day Fair: Beeghly provided Sun Safety lessons to local elementary students at fair.

Immunization (I4) Grant

- Respiratory Virus Campaign: No current updates.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): No current updates.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant

- Department has been working with EMA and other county entities to support RAGBRAI coming through county in July.
- Grant Required Deliverables:
 - Monthly Radio Checks: completed in timely manner during reporting period
 - Point of Dispensing (POD) Workbook: Due date of TBD; completed and submitted TBD
 - Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA): Due date TBD; completed/submitted TBD
 - National Incident Management System (NIMS): Due date/completion/submission TBD
 - Training Record
 - Certificates
 - NIMSCAST
 - PHEP meetings have been held via zoom.
 - Department is continually working on updating PHERP plans for county/department.

6-Year Emergency Response Grant (6yrH5N1)

- No current updates.

Opioid Settlement (COOP)

- No current updates.
- Will try to share funding form at September meeting, per board member request.

County Wellness Program

- No current updates on initiatives.

Social Media Stats

- Reporting period May/June 2026: 7237 individuals reached via Facebook and Instagram (X/Twitter stats not available).
- Reporting year 2025-2026: 51,151 individuals reached via Facebook and Instagram (X/Twitter stats not available).

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

- Video link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UpulxH1d6QMrdp0LB2EbqBGRadzW7V/view?usp=sharing>
- Audio link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uEeWUjvrSHcF9zWLEuzmmWmHXpL7ZGDh/view?usp=sharing>
- File link:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bKHEERdn0NsCqjypYHsdaZ5HxdWzOiYA?usp=sharing>

Meeting adjourned at 7:42am; motion by Buseman, second by Blair; carried.

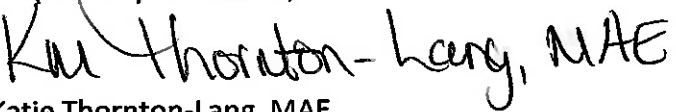
Partner Presentation Meeting Date: TBD by GCPH Administrator

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 8th, 2026, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Scheduled Upcoming Meeting Topics:

Policy Updates

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Katie Thornton-Lang in black ink.

Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE

Grundy County Public Health Administrator

Tom Boheman, BS

Grundy County Local Board of Health Chairperson

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