

# **Board of Health**

## **Minutes**

### **April 21, 2020**

Chairman Novotny called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. via Go to Meeting with Commissioner Greenough; Commissioner Perry; Dr. Mark Schueler, M.D.; Trisha Thompson, RN, Public Health; Dr. Christianson, DVM; Dr. Cotant, DDS; Bill Hawley, Prevention Specialist; Vicki Edelman, County Clerk and Sheila Newcomb, Commissioners Assistant

Commissioner Greenough moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2020 meeting and Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried.

Reports were presented:

#### **Dr. Christianson, DVM**

Since the shutdown nothing has been happening with the animals within Johnson County. No reports on rabies. There have been some reports that a few animals in China were tested and reported positive for the coronavirus. No reports here in the USA.

#### **Dr. Cotant, DDS**

All focus has been on the virus. Nothing reported about Medicaid. The dental offices in Johnson County have been closed since March 17, 2020. Emergency Only patients are being seen. They are anticipating opening the offices back up on May 1, 2020 with more protective gear for the office.

#### **Trisha Thompson, RN**

Testings are still being offered. Home visits are being done via Zoom along with Long Term Care visits. They are managing food distribution and the PPE supplies. No one is in isolation. There are some PPE supplies available at Public Health. They are making sure that the hospital is well equipped.

#### **Bill Hawley, Community Prevention Specialist**

A written report was provided. Most of the happenings have been placed on hold due to the coronavirus and the various businesses being shut down. WDH is anticipating that funding for JC Prevention Program will remain at its current level for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021).

#### **Dr. Schueler, MD**

Three businesses were reopened before the end of the month. Two (2) in Kaycee and one (1) in Buffalo. The state health officer said that Dr. Schueler has the authority to slowly open businesses within Johnson County though other counties are still following Governor Gordon's closure order. Several members of the board and callers discussed this issue. Dr. Schueler stated that everything should re-opened by May 1, 2020.

Several callers had questions and comments about the reopening and the potential contamination danger to the public.

Sheriff Odenbach asked Trisha Thompson about PPE supplies. He wanted to know if the public is privy to what and when supplies come in. Nurse Thompson says it is not public knowledge. Most PPE's went to the Hospital. There are currently 395 PPE's left over.

The Board of Health Statute 35-1 states that the board needs to have a deputy public health officer and a liaison to the board. Commissioner Greenough moved and Trisha Thompson, RN, seconded to appoint Dr. Ryan Ludwig as Deputy Public Health Officer and Dr. Tabb as Liaison. Motion carried.

Dr. Christianson moved and Trisha Thompson, RN, seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

(A recording of the meeting is available upon request)