

**GREENE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
August 26, 2024**

Charles Burrus, called the Board of Health Meeting to order on May 13, 2024, at 7:08 PM. Those in attendance were: Dr. Daniel Woodlock, President; Charles Burrus, Vice President; Tim Reif, Secretary; Catherine Williams, Carrie Janus, Molly Peters, Public Health Administrator; and Beth Tepen, Home Health Manager

A motion to accept the Minutes of the May 13, 2024, Board of Health meeting as given was made by Catherine and Carrie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The FY2023 audit was completed by Scheffel and we showed a loss of \$64,157.

We are currently showing a loss for January 1 – June 30, 2024 of approx. \$26,271.

Our checking account balance as of July 31 was \$573,890. This does not include the \$300,000 that we also have in CDs.

I have attached the proposed FY2025 budget for review. Similar to last year, we are requesting a 2.50% cost of living pay raise with a potential merit-based raise of an additional 1.50% for each individual. We are asking the Greene County Board for a 5% increase in our tax levy.

If no changes are requested to the proposed FY2025 budget, we need a motion stating, ***“Motion for approval of the FY2025 budget, which includes the Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland In-Home Respite and Access Assistance Grants”***.

Concerns from Board Members over the 2.5% cost of living plus increase and potentially the 1.5% increase, which could mean a 4% increase, when we were showing a loss in 2023 and are already showing a loss in 2024 were expressed. The main loss could be from having to start purchasing COVID vaccine in 2023 at about \$120 per dose. On average we received about \$130 for reimbursement for the COVID vaccine. Home Health is different also more people are now on Medicare Advantage which does not cover the cost of Home Health. In 2022 we had at least 20 Medicare patients that we had in 2023. We also haven't been able to take Medicaid patients due to Medicaid structure changes. Last year we made about \$20,000 on Medicaid. We are now taking Medicaid patients. We still have the Infrastructure Fund for the next 2 years. More discussion on the cost-of-living increase and budget approval which could be amended at next meeting.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

There has been several events including Mental Health Awareness Month, working with local first responders and law enforcement, NACCHO Summit, speaking at a Bright Futures Educators workshop and attending the SRLC meeting in Chicago, just to name a few.

The Health Department billboards are up. They are located near White Hall and Roodhouse.

(In regards to Ron Sprong) Contact has been made to all of the Grants that are currently ran through Community Health, there are no worries in regards to the next steps. There has also been communication with staff, there doesn't seem to be any concern about our next steps going forward.

All Grant Deliverables will be met for 2025.

HOME HEALTH REPORT

In May we had 15 admissions, in June we had 14 admissions and in July we had 15. As of today, we have at least 12-15 admissions to our services in August.

Cassandra Hillis RN and Kaylie Devlin RN both completed their yearly 3hr training on Alzheimer's Disease and other related Dementia Training. HH staff attended lunch and learn given by Calhoun Nursing and Rehab and White Hall Nursing and Rehab on admission requirements for nursing homes. Rachel Chapman attended training on Maternal and Child Health in Springfield 8/13-8/15.

IDPH State Survey for Home Health was 6/25-6/27/24 with no deficiencies identified.

Recent Chart Audits: 53 discharged charts were audited with the following findings: Discharge Notice was not signed and returned by 1 patient.

Infection Control: Since the last board meeting in May we have had 2 pts with urinary tract infections and one pt with infection to peritoneal fluid. We continue to monitor patients and instruct on proper handwashing and infection prevention and on COVID-19 symptoms and precautions/prevention and monitor patients closely for symptoms of infection.

QAPI program: We continue to work on our current performance improvement projects and to give our patients quality healthcare. Most recent report from CMS showed improvement in Dyspnea has increased to 94.5% (89.8% on last report), Improvement in Management of Oral Medications has increased from 85.8% to 91.9%, Acute Care Hospitalizations increased slightly from 9.4 to 9.6. Latest available data on Changes in

skin integrity decreased from 1.8% to .93% and no patient falls with major injury were noted on latest report. Our current Quality of Patient Care Star Rating = 4.0 Stars.

We need to do more promoting of Home Health.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT

CDP is up and running. Everything is working okay. Restaurant Inspections should now be available on our website for viewing.

50 mailings of the revised "No Smoking / No Vaping" placards were prepared and sent to a portion of the Greene County area businesses as required by the Tobacco Grant. This completed the mass mailings to meet one of the Tobacco Grant requirements.

The Retail Food Service Program performed the following inspections: 11 routines, 4 rechecks, 1 initial inspection (approved to open), 3 complaints and 98 food consults. The Department held an FPM course/exam with 19 attending and proctored 5 FPM exams after the applicants completed the online course training certification. 2 Retail Food permits, 2 Cottage Food permits and 2 Home Baked Goods permits were issued. Staff placed 2 FDA food safety education notices upon the Department's social media site including 1 recall to public and 1 recall to grocery store. 3 online meetings have been conducted for the FDA Mentoring Grant, assisting 2 out of state Health Department Food Inspection Programs. 1 notice to correct was issued to a food service's lessee and has been corrected.

The Private Sewage Disposal Program has approved 6 private sewage disposal system installations, performed 5 inspections, and 45 consultations were performed with contractors and property owners.

Activities in the Private Water Program: 31 consultations were completed with contractors and private water well owners regarding well history / water analysis results. 3 requests for sampling private wells and 3 other consultations involved contamination issues.

8 nuisance complaints were received. A total of 13 consultations were performed regarding nuisances within the County.

The Tanning / Body Art Programs performed 3 consults involving the operation of a tattoo shop or tanning facility.

In the Vector Program: 2 ticks were brought to the Department for identification and testing. One consultation was performed regarding bat exclusion (rabies), the Department has sorted and tested 552 Culex mosquitoes for West Nile Virus. 3 readings indicate the virus is likely present, but amounts do not meet the CDC's guideline. 18 Consultations were performed. Bats have been reported in a few homes.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Molly Peters, Public Health Administrator

The County Board has approved \$39,000 of ARPPA funds to be used on our building for tuckpointing. We are thankful that the Board coordinated this approval. Aaron Haverfield assisted in advocacy of the need for our building following a site visit. Sheriff McMillin (who is the contact for the County) is assisting with coordinating JUN Construction to complete the scope of work. There may be some additional costs related depending on brick and structure needs, but we will not know if there are extensive needs until they are actively working on the mortar. We have requested that JUN complete the tuckpointing by painting the building, but we have not seen a bid for that yet. Following the painting, Eric Juhl ordered a black awning to replace the current green; this will not be installed until the painting is complete by JUN; the awning was paid for in grant funds. Windows in the back of the building are rotting. Eric is supposed to put a quote together for us to present to the County Board in case there are more funds that they can help us with.

Through discussion with the County Board related to the health insurance of employees. We advocated for maintaining insurance with BlueCross due to hidden cost increases proposed with United Healthcare. I believe this advocacy was important to our staff and overall cost to the agency. It opened my eyes to how insurance companies such as United Health continue to gain while the consumers lose. Just this week, someone shared that United Healthcare had a \$4.2 billion profit in the second quarter (down 23%), Elevance Health at \$2.3 billion, and CVS Health at \$1.8 billion. These are huge gains that the consumer is not benefitting from. I do believe the County Board appreciated the perspective our staff shared, which helped maintain BlueCross as our staff insurance provider.

IDPH has requested that all local health departments complete a cost and capacity assessment as coordinated through grant funding with the University of Illinois Chicago. This assessment provides information that will be compiled for all health departments in hopes of demonstrating that there is a need for more foundational public health funds to support the growth and general capacity of our LHD facilities. Once it is analyzed, I will share the data, but this was submitted for both Greene and Scott County. Many health departments are finding the input very time-consuming and generally overwhelming. I'm hopeful we will be able to see data to point out strategic directions we could focus on if funding becomes less core public health specific. Utilizing Jamie for input on the budget years requested was an extreme advantage for us in completing this project.

The Local Health Protection Grant has been cut slightly this year. There was a discrepancy between legislators, IDPH, and the governor's office regarding what was allocated. I have sent letters and advocated for review with colleagues in the Illinois Public Health Administrators organizations. They are attempting to get it resolved before budget season but there was supposed to be a change in the minimum award for LHDs.

Staff have completely concluded onboarding for CDP in relation to PHS and CH. Coding systems are beginning to be in place for items we have never billed for

previously; we are expanding market payers and general private vaccine availability. Overall, this may slightly (very slightly) improve some income. At the same time, private vaccines can be expensive and may not be economical. We have had trouble billing United Health Care, and it seems they are the most unreasonable insurance company to work with as there is a lot of red tape and barriers to getting paid. They will likely not pay for about \$4,000 worth of billed costs from 2023. With CDP assisting us, we hope we do not see loss but continued gain as we navigate billing processes. In addition, with the setup of CDP, as it relates to community health, we are setting ourselves up to be able to bill for newer services related to community health work. We are navigating processes and potential test cases for billing with the Illinois Public Health Association and CDP.

As we update everything to better prepare for the future, Allison is beginning processes to identify new accounting software. Our current software is very outdated. After research with other Counties, we have found something we will be testing. The cost is \$1,600 per year. Implementation is about \$18,000 to set it up with our data and accounts. It is targeted to government entities and Health Departments. We would not be starting this until the new year. This is something that we may be able to utilize for Scott County as well, so Allison is researching possibilities. My only concern related to this is if Scott and Greene disband. I want to ensure a clear separation, as this software will be maintained for many years to come. We would not want Scott to buy into the processes and be left with nothing if we no longer assist.

Scott County was awarded a Teen Reach Grant due to contributions of my time writing and Allison's time in the budget. Although we are limitedly present on site, I believe they can agree that we have helped them make huge strides as administration. In the near future, we may need to discuss potential changes to the contract with Scott County. Allison and I have chatted and would like to brainstorm some possibilities for contract changes.

Angela Hoots from Scott County has agreed to assist with Halley's maternity leave so that we can maintain her caseload during her leave. We are also working on training Rachel Chapman in Home Health to help balance both division workloads.

Shoutout to Beth, who completed a CMS review and passed with no findings. She prepared everyone and everything, making the completion process look easy—we all know it is not.

Staff Fun:

We are planning a Christmas event this year. It's possible this will be on a Friday or even during the day. We want to ask the Board members to join us for a little fun and a change of our normal party style.

RN staff have new uniforms, and they look great!

Awareness:

Halley and Bre are both pregnant and are due sometime in December.

Three recent billboards were shared in White Hall and one in Roodhouse promoting Home Health, ROSC, and our team.

We are looking for Halloween décor just in case we do another event for truck or treat this year.

Staff Awards:

Their team members presented Kelli Angel and Halley Duba with the VIP award. They received this in recognition of their work and to demonstrate an understanding of their impact on the group.

BreAnna Buchanan received a PRIDE award for leadership that improves public health outcomes in the community for time demonstrated to show up for individuals, providing care, access, and support. She has mentored and led others in ways that can be seen and heard by so many in our community. She has assisted in implementing programs and processes that are deeply needed in the community. Recently, Bre has received her diploma and expanded her self-growth by taking on travel for vacation and the upcoming NACCHO 360 Conference. She is not stagnant and sitting; she is moving and shaking this community with passion and a drive to grow and innovate.

Congratulations to all staff for their hard work and continued success.

Motion to approve the Manager's Reports was made by Tim Rief and seconded by Catherine Williams. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Tuckpointing.

Once they do the tuckpointing, we asked if they would be able to paint the building. They will be providing a quote for that. Switching the awning to black, once the building is painted, is in the budget.

Policies and Procedures.

Most changes are clerical and organizational changes. Qualifications for each position must meet standards of IDPH (Page 3) was added back into policy. IDPH has specific standards for Home Health. Page 45, Letter E; Pre-employment physical needs to be done before they start their first day by a physician that we specify. Remove \$50 reimbursement. Hiring will be contingent on the results of the physical. Flu Shots/COVID Shots, add (L) any other recommended by IDPH. Page 60, General Safety. Add an alternate to notify of concern, Office Coordinator.

This can be approved as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion for approval of the FY2025 budget, which includes the Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland In-Home Respite and Access Assistance Grants made by Chuck Burrus and seconded by Catherine Williams. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Policies and Procedures as amended made by Catherine Williams and seconded by Chuck Burrus. Motion carried.

Tim Rief & Catherine Williams re-appointment to Board of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMENTS

No Public Comments

CLOSED SESSION

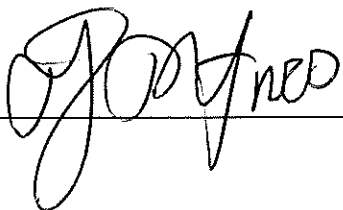
Motion to go into Closed Session made by Chuck Burrus and seconded by Catherine Williams. Motion carried.

Motion to go in to Open Session made by Catherine Williams and seconded by Tim Reif. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Chuck Burrus and seconded by Catherine Williams. Motion carried.

The next Board of Health meeting is on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



11-18-24

Date