

**GREENE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
February 3, 2025**

Charles Burrus, called the Board of Health Meeting to order on November 18, 2024, at 7:06 PM. Those in attendance were: Dr. Daniel Woodlock, President; Charles (Chuck) Burrus, Vice President; Tim Reif, Secretary; Karen Daum, Carrie Janus, Catherine Williams, Molly Peters, Public Health Administrator; Joshua Lawson (arrived at 7:45 pm), Greene County Board Representative; Allison Varble, Financial Services; and Beth Tepen, Home Health Manager.

A motion to accept the Minutes of the November 18, 2024, Board of Health meeting as given was made by Catherine and Karen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

We are currently showing a profit for January 1 – December 31, 2024 of \$8,012. Please note this is just the preliminary income statement and I won't have official numbers until after the audit is finalized.

Our checking account balance as of December 31, 2024 was \$662,794.18. This total does not include the additional \$300,000.00 that we have in CDs.

Scheffel Boyle CPA auditors will be here on February 4th to begin our portion of the County audit. I have been working on year-end reports and preparing for the audit.

Molly and I recently negotiated our Scott County contract with the Scott County Board of Health Members, and they agreed to increase our yearly contracted rate to \$62,743.00 per year (previously \$44,817.00/year). This is an increase of \$17,926.00 per year.

HOME HEALTH REPORT

In November we had 19 admissions and in December we had 12 admissions to our services. As of January 24th, we have had 19 admissions (13 Medicare and 6 private insurance) to our services and 1 resumption of care following hospitalization. In January we had a total of 26 admissions.

All HH staff continue to complete monthly compliance trainings. Susie completed educational training on Diabetes in January. I completed a dementia webinar "Mission Impossible: Transforming Challenges into Fun and Fulfillment" on 1/16.

Recent Chart Audits: 32 discharged charts were audited with the following findings: 3 orders were not back and signed by MD within 30 days, 2 charts had 1 medication that was not documented as taught on, 1 medication had no documentation showing the

patient had been taught on it, 1 chart had a medication that was not added to medication sheet and medication not verified with MD.

Infection Control: Since the last board meeting in November, we have had 3 patients with urinary tract infections and 2 patients with respiratory infections. We continue to monitor patients, offer vaccines 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. No new quality reports are available at this time. We plan to increase our focus on preventing hospitalizations and will increase our follow up phone calls to patients and possibly our visits and perform weekly team meetings on Thursday afternoons starting in February.

Patient surveys showed 3 new comments, "Department has excellent leadership that is reflected in the dedication of it's employees", "Received such excellent care from my nurses, Kaylie and Ashley and my therapist, Kathy. Were all kind and caring and answered all my questions." and "Professional group of people and helpful."

Suzie has started the Foot Clinic. She did a good job. January and February are already booked and March is starting to get full.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT

End of year inspections thru December are completed. Annual Assessments of Establishments will begin in January.

Several Private Sewage Disposal systems have been performed.

Liz is in the process of assisting to help train the Scott County Environmental Health Person. The plan is that she will end Scott County contract in June of this year. Her retirement plan is possibly May of 2026.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Big news! Kelli Angel has submitted her notice to retire as of April 4th. She has approximately 26 years of service. The Office Manager position along with an RN/LPN position has been posted.

We continue to work with United Health Care to address complaints submitted to the Department of Insurance. We have been in contact and hope we are on our way to resolving the issues. We have received one missing payment, but this is about a 60-day

process. We hope that by the next Board meeting, this will be complete. Terri Ringhausen has been instrumental in this process.

Recovery Corp contracted a new member, Nicole Smith, from the Jerseyville area. She will be assisting in the growth and connection of peers in the Carrollton/Jersey area. We are working to gain control of onboarding and start the process, as there were some initial uncertainties. We believe we are now on track with planning.

Jersey County Jail and Sheriff Manns have agreed to contract our time to integrate peer recovery services. We continue to work to improve implementation processes.

Lisa Jacobsen assisted us with an intern project that was shared with the Illinois Public Health Association. Materials are attached for your review. Lisa helped me navigate the Community Health Worker payment model and advocate for our needs as a rural health department. These materials will be discussed with statewide partners and will likely be considered in determining medical rules at the state level. Lisa's work helped illustrate the actual needs of rural communities versus Chicago and demonstrated how the proposed payment model may not be an effective strategy for those who truly need the service.

Contact from Boyd Healthcare regarding our Physical Therapy contract occurred through the requested amendment. Stace Holland stated that their insurance costs had skyrocketed and that they planned to offset some of the cost by doubling our mileage rate from \$0.70 to \$1.40. After investigation, we determined that with Home Health already operating at a loss, we could not sustain the program with this change, as it would result in a \$4.00 deficit per visit. An email was sent back to Stace noting that we would not agree to the amendment, as the current contract specifies that Boyd remains responsible for insurance costs related to their staff and entity. State's Attorney Craig Grummel was also consulted. On January 28, 2025, Stace confirmed that they would not proceed with the amendment request. The contract remains in place through 2027.

We hired RN staff for PHS in November and were confident that we had selected the right fit for the position. Annie Howerton completed a significant amount of training. During the holidays, the office was slightly sparse, and as I checked in with her, there was no indication that she wanted to leave. She had stated that she was a "lifer" or "here for the long haul." However, on Friday, December 27th, she packed her office, and on Monday, December 30th, I received a message that she would not be in that day. After limited communication, she finally stated that December 27th was her last day and that she was taking a new direction, indicating that nursing wasn't for her.

With Halley on maternity leave, Becky planning her departure, and Rachel covering, I held off on posting the position until January 28th, as there were too many moving parts to bring someone else in for training.

Transition continues to be an issue as Dana Longmeyer, the NP we were utilizing for Family Planning, resigned from both Greene and Madison County to take a position at Boyd. We followed up with Boyd regarding contracting Dana for the few clients we see, but Dana wanted to remain minimally involved. I am currently in discussions with JCH for

a contract for their providers to conduct visits. Family Planning continues to face barrier after barrier. I hope a position will help us maintain the program, but we need motivated and long-term staff to sustain it.

Allison and I met with Scott County regarding the upcoming contract renewal in March 2025. We discussed the need to plan long-term and sustain the health departments through turbulent public health futures. They have agreed to a 40% increase in the agreement. The plan is to cover 30% of Allison's and my wages overall. This is an offset that greatly benefits Greene. They also agreed to a 3% increase over the next three years of the contract. This is a great partnership and a result of our efforts over the last few years. Even with this increase, Scott County still couldn't hire a replacement Fiscal Manager and Administrator for what they are paying under this new agreement. This will start in March.

Personal Health

Halley Duba has been on maternity leave since December, should be back the end of February. We have been able to train Rachel Chapman to assist during that duration, and Angela Hoots from Scott County has also assisted. Becky Hoaglin has been instrumental in helping us maintain reporting needs and program goals.

There is a need to improve Family Case Management numbers. There is concern at the state level about potential cuts to this program due to lower caseloads since COVID and possibly before. We have been notified to improve these numbers and will be focusing on this in the coming months.

We had a Family Planning audit and are working on corrective actions. This was the first in-person audit of the program, and it was very helpful. Becky has agreed to assist with the transition as we hire new staff. She has also offered to come in on her off time to help train and complete corrective actions.

The clinic, along with Suzie and the home health team, has begun implementing a toenail clinic on Tuesdays. This is an excellent way to offset staffing costs when home health has a low census, as it covers Suzie's time. It is also a valuable community resource that does not currently exist elsewhere. Appointments are scheduled through March, with the first clinic held on January 28th.

Hats off to Emily Hart for managing this and ensuring schedules are maintained.

Community Health

We have been selected for a case study about our partnership with Recovery Corp (Ampact), which has supported the employment of Bre Buchanan and Rae Kirk, both dedicated Recovery Navigators. Those featured in the article will include Greene County Health Department Administrator Molly Peters, Greene County Judge Zach Schmidt, Chief of Roodhouse Kyle Robinson, Community Advocate Beth Burrus, ROSC

Coordinator Amanda Morrow, Peer Recovery Navigator Bre Buchanan, and Recovery Warrior Bob Krempasky. The article will be shared upon completion.

A visit-per-hour rate, which includes mileage costs, has been established with Jersey County Jail. Sheriff Nick Manns reached out to request our services to support individuals housed in the jail. This contract was developed to help sustain community health staff and reduce reliance on grant funds. We will continue to evaluate its effectiveness moving forward. In recent conversations with other services, there may be additional interest in contracting for other services as well.

Recent reports indicate one recent overdose, which was investigated. Staff were also able to utilize MAR services to connect an individual housed in the jail with appropriate resources and transport them to treatment. Our MAR grant partners recognized this as a major success story.

Recent donations for shelter assistance were used to purchase tents and blankets that can be easily carried by individuals in need. These items will also be shared with the probation department.

Currently conducting a hygiene drive, if you would like to donate materials. Colorectal Screen and Blood Pressure screening are upcoming in Roodhouse on January 30th.

Watch for stories shared on our Facebook page relating to stories of people impacted by our team.

THE MAN:

We would like to share this story to paint a bigger picture of some of the work we do here at the Health Department. Greene County Health Department staff work tirelessly together to provide love and care in our community and we hope to make a difference. Sometimes, we never know a person's life story unless we take the time to ask, help, or provide care at just the right time. We will start sharing our stories once a month and hope to build a picture of the kind of work we do at the department. They won't be all-encompassing, but we hope you treasure them as much as we do.

"THE MAN"

Hot days aren't unusual during Summer in Greene County, but this particular day it was blistering hot. Our work-day at the Greene County Health Department was well underway when we received a call from one of our own Greene County Health Department team members about a gentleman, who appeared to be transient, standing outside the doctor's office, by the road in town.

He appeared to be extremely sunburnt and dusty, and his clothing was stiff with dried sweat. He carried with him a duffle bag and another pouch bag. The caller asked if we thought we could help him. We decided that we would load up some water bottles and food to take to him and reach out and inquire if there was anything we could do for him.

When we got to him, we found that he was indeed a Veteran of the United States Armed Forces, on a mission to get to Iowa to a Veteran facility. He was traveling from California. He had taken a train to Missouri and could go no further, but on foot. Fate would bring him to us only by the ways that he could walk or hitch-hike. He was hungry and he was tired. We invited him to come to our Roodhouse GCHD office where he could eat, shower and launder his clothing.

We sat with him and talked about his situation and the goals that he had. Where he WANTED to be was important to us. After speaking to him and making a few phone calls to our agency partners, we all agreed that we could transport him to Jacksonville to shelter at New Directions for a couple of nights. It was a shelter located on his path. Once there, he was visibly nervous about the process. He expressed that he wasn't sure he trusted the decision to come. Soon, the Chaplain at the Jacksonville Police Department was able to consult with him, easing his fears. We stayed with him through the process. The Chaplain was able to tap other resources and arrange a bus ride the rest of the way to his destination. With the help of four agencies, he was on his way to the Veterans Center in Iowa.

The man still calls us periodically, to connect with us and to report on how he's doing, and every time he is sure to thank us for the role we have played in this positive outcome.

Out of all the hundreds of miles that this man traveled, our tiny stretch of highway is where he found compassion, dedication, and a community of people with the knowledge to help him the way he needed to be helped.

Staff Fun:

We are planning a pickleball tournament or learning session, please let us know if you might be interested in this.

Staff Awards:

Kaylie Devlin was awarded the staff VIP award. They received this in recognition of their work and to demonstrate an understanding of their impact on the group.

Rachel Chapman received a PRIDE award for demonstrating integrity for her assistance with WIC services and training conducted while Halley was on maternity leave. We could not have maintained the programs without her, and she has done exactly what she said she would do. She has shown up and been extremely helpful.

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

Motion to approve the Manager's Reports was made by Tim Reif and seconded by Carrie Janus. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Scott County Contract – Contract is officially done.

NEW BUSINESS

Re-appointment of Karen Daum.

Re-schedule March 24th Board of Health Meeting. We will be skipping the March 24th meeting. Next meeting will be on May 19, 2025.

Statement of Economic Interests

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMENTS

No Public Comments

CLOSED SESSION


Motion to go into Closed Session to discuss Molly's evaluation made by Chuck Burrus and seconded by Karen Daum. Motion carried.

Motion to go in to Open Session made by Tim Reif and seconded by Karen Daum. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Chuck Burrus and seconded by Josh Lawson. Motion carried.

The next Board of Health meeting is on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.



Tim Reif, Secretary

5.19-25

Date