

# **LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MINUTES**

12/16/2021

A meeting of the LaSalle County Board of Health was held on December 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order by President, Mr. Johnson at 9:00am. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Boaz seconded by Dr. Benavides to approve the agenda, omitting Stephanie Thompson's present until the January meeting.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Carretto seconded by Ms. Gallagher to accept the minutes as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

President's Report – Bill Johnson

There was no President's report.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gonzalo

After a discussion of the November 2021 bills, a motion was made by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Mr. Wayland to approve the payment of bills. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

Motion by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Ms. Carretto to approve the transfer of Covid funds. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS**

### Administration – Julie Kerestes

Ms. Kerestes informed the Board members the department is transitioning from non-union to union with payroll and benefits.

Covid issues are still on the rise with cases. The state of Illinois is looking to pivot from pandemic to an endemic. Contact tracing has been overwhelming. On December 28, 2021, the State will be Contact Tracing by the Surge Center, and the health department will focus on high-risk residents, with schools doing their own contact tracing. There has been outbreaks at both homeless shelters in the County.

The department is expanding Covid testing. We have been offering the Binax Now (rapid antigen) test free to clients. We will be adding 2 more tests, the MMC send out PCR, or the ID Now (rapid antigen) test for a fee of \$41.

The department has received a Contact Tracing Grant extension through March 31, 2022, and a Mass Vaccination Grant through December 2022. We are also working on a Covid Crisis Grant to help sustain staff. The department is also looking into purchasing a small shed for secured storing of medical waste material.

The County is at 17,641 Covid cases and 361 deaths.

### Health Education/Media Report – Leslie Dougherty and Jenny Barrie

Ms. Dougherty's and Ms. Barrie's November 2021 reports on the Health Education highlights are attached to these minutes.

### Personal Health Division – Debra Hart

Ms. Brooks November 2021 report on the Personal Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

### Environmental Health Division – Chris Pozzi

Ms. Pozzi's November 2021 report on the Environmental Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Boaz seconded by Ms. Carretto to go into executive session for reasons for personal. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

Motion by Ms. Gallagher seconded by Mr. Boaz to come out of executive session and back into regular session. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Dr. Benavides seconded by Ms. Gallagher to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion passed unanimously.

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Lou Anne Carretto  
Secretary  
LaSalle County Board of Health

# **LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MINUTES**

1/27/2022

A meeting of the LaSalle County Board of Health was held on January 27, 2022. The meeting was called to order by President, Mr. Johnson at 9:00am. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Boaz seconded by Dr. Benavides to approve the agenda as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Carretto seconded by Ms. Gallagher to accept the minutes as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Jensen, County Board Chairman, and Mike Kasap, County Board member attended the meeting. They discussed additional American Rescue Plan Act funding being available.

## **REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

President's Report – Bill Johnson

There was no President's report.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gonzalo

After a discussion of the December 2021 bills, a motion was made by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Ms. Gallagher to approve the payment of bills. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS**

Administration – Julie Kerestes

Ms. Kerestes informed the Board members in the area of media: January is "Cervical Cancer Awareness" month, and "National Radon Action" month. News release were sent out on both, and the department distributed radon kits to the public.

Ms. Barrie and Ms. Dougherty met with Community Health Program Managers at OSF in collaboration with our Community Health Needs Assessment.

The department received a \$10,000 MRC Grant to sponsor a convention for volunteers throughout the state.

Department of Human Services is conducting their fiscal audit this spring, the department is reviewing and updating relevant documentation.

In the area of Covid: last month the CDC changed isolation and quarantine guidelines, IDPH did adopt these new guidelines for Illinois and schools. The department tested approximately 10,000 citizens for Covid. The Department is following CMS rules on vaccine and/or exemption with testing. Stats: last month 9,000 new cases in LaSalle County, Vaccinations are over 150,000 doses given, over 60% one dose and 55% fully vaccinated, and 29,000 boosters. Since March 2021 there has been 1,493 breakthrough cases and 35 breakthrough deaths. Most cases are in the age of 20's, and most deaths in the age of 80's.

#### Health Education/Media Report – Leslie Dougherty and Jenny Barrie

Ms. Dougherty's and Ms. Barrie's December 2021 reports on the Health Education highlights are attached to these minutes.

#### Personal Health Division – Connie Brooks

Ms. Brooks December 2021 report on the Personal Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

#### Environmental Health Division – Chris Pozzi

Ms. Pozzi's December 2021 report on the Environmental Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Ms. Carretto seconded by Dr. Benavides to place the proposed Bylaws, for the LaSalle County Board of Health, on file for action next month.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Dr. Benavides to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Lou Anne Carretto  
Secretary  
LaSalle County Board of Health

# **LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MINUTES**

2/24/2022

A meeting of the LaSalle County Board of Health was held on February 24, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Mr. Wayland at 9:00am. A roll call was taken: Mr. Wayland – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **AGENDA**

Motion by Ms. Carretto seconded by Ms. Gallagher to approve the agenda as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **MINUTES**

Motion by Mr. Boaz seconded by Dr. Benavides to accept the minutes as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Jensen, County Board Chairman, attended the meeting.

## **REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

President's Report – Bill Johnson

There was no President's report.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gonzalo

After a discussion of the January 2022 bills, a motion was made by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Mr. Wayland to approve the payment of bills. A roll call was taken: Mr. Wayland – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Ms. Carretto – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS**

Administration – Julie Kerestes

Ms. Kerestes informed the Board members that February is "American Heart" month, a media release was sent out.

The department is setting up a locked storage shed on the east side of the building. The area will be used for storage of sharp containers.

Department staff have been working on the “Community Health Needs Assessment”, which is due in 2022. This Assessment is a requirement for Health Department certification, every five years. A survey has gone out to employees for this assessment.

Management has been updating personnel policies for the department, which will come to the Board of Health review and approval when finished.

Ms. Kerestes informed the Board of Health members there are huge changes pertaining to Covid. As of February 28, the Governor ends the mask mandate. Masks are optional in schools and most public places. There has been a large decrease for the need of Covid testing and Vaccinations. The positivity rate dropped from 16% last month to 4%, also with a decrease in hospital admittance. The contact tracers are now handling outbreaks only, all others are managed by the State surge center. The Contact Tracing Grant ends in March, and the Covid Response Grant has been applied for, but not yet received. The Covid Response Grant would continue funding for Covid testing and alternative housing.

#### Health Education/Media Report – Leslie Dougherty and Jenny Barrie

Ms. Dougherty’s and Ms. Barrie’s January 2022 reports on the Health Education highlights are attached to these minutes.

#### Personal Health Division – Connie Brooks

Ms. Brooks January 2022 report on the Personal Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

#### Environmental Health Division – Chris Pozzi

Ms. Pozzi’s January 2022 report on the Environmental Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Motion by Ms. Carretto seconded by Dr. Maguire to approve the existing LaSalle County Board of Health Bylaws until they need to be amended.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.



## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Dr. Benavides to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Lou Anne Carretto  
Secretary  
LaSalle County Board of Health

# **LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MINUTES**

3/24/2022

A meeting of the LaSalle County Board of Health was held on March 24, 2022. The meeting was called to order by President, Mr. Johnson at 9:00am. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Wayland seconded by Mr. Boaz to approve the agenda as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **MINUTES**

Motion by Dr. Maguire seconded by Wayland to accept the minutes as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Jensen, County Board Chairman, attended the meeting.

## **REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

President's Report – Bill Johnson

There was no President's report.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gonzalo

After a discussion of the February 2022 bills, a motion was made by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Mr. Wayland to approve the payment of bills. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

## **REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS**

Administration – Julie Kerestes

Ms. Kerestes informed the Board members that in the area of media: a news release was sent out on "World TB" day. When tuberculosis bacillus was discovered on March 24, 1882 in Germany, it was already responsible for the deaths of one out of seven individuals living in Europe and the U.S. The theme for this year's "World TB" day is, "Invest to end TB, Save lives". TB is still a pandemic in much of the world with death tolls that can reach to several million each year.

The department continues to send COVID media reports weekly with cases and deaths.

The department had several meetings with OSF, to set parameters for our community needs assessment collaboration. We are hosting a community meeting with (CHNA) Community Health Needs Assessment and our IPLAN, at OSF in Streator, on April 7.

A fiscal administrative audit with DHS is being conducted. This audit will conclude on May 24.

A waste water seminar was conducted with 146 attendees, at Senica's Oakridge in Utica.

Ms. Kerestes is reviewing the Pandemic flu plan revised after H1N1, along with the State plan. The department may present local data at a later date.

#### Health Education/Media Report – Leslie Dougherty and Jenny Barrie

Ms. Dougherty's and Ms. Barrie's February 2022 reports on the Health Education highlights are attached to these minutes.

#### Personal Health Division – Connie Brooks

Ms. Brooks February 2022 report on the Personal Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

#### Environmental Health Division – Chris Pozzi

Ms. Pozzi's February 2022 report on the Environmental Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Boaz seconded by Dr. Maguire to go into executive session . Motion by Mr. Wayland seconded by Dr. Maguire to come out of executive session and go back into regular session. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Dr. Maguire – Yes.

No action was taken.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Boaz seconded by Mr. Wayland to adjourn the meeting.

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Lou Anne Carretto  
Secretary  
LaSalle County Board of Health

# **LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MINUTES**

4/28/2022

A meeting of the LaSalle County Board of Health was held on April 28, 2022. The meeting was called to order by President, Mr. Johnson at 9:00am. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Carretto – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes.

## **AGENDA**

Motion by Dr. Benavides seconded by Ms. Gallagher to approve the agenda as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Carretto seconded by Mr. Boaz to accept the minutes as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Jensen, County Board Chairman, attended the meeting.

## **REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

President's Report – Bill Johnson

There was no President's report.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gonzalo

After a discussion of the March 2022 bills, a motion was made by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Ms. Gallagher to approve the payment of bills. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Carretto – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes.

## **REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS**

Administration – Julie Kerestes

There was no Administration report.

Health Education/Media Report – Leslie Dougherty and Jenny Barrie

Ms. Dougherty's and Ms. Barrie's March 2022 reports on the Health Education highlights are attached to these minutes.

Personal Health Division – Connie Brooks

Ms. Brooks March 2022 report on the Personal Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

Environmental Health Division – Chris Pozzi

Ms. Pozzi's March 2022 report on the Environmental Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Wayland seconded by Dr. Benavides to go into executive session . Motion by Mr. Boaz seconded by Dr. Benavides to come out of executive session and go back into regular session. A roll call was taken: Mr. Johnson – Yes, Mr. Wayland – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Carretto – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes.

No action was taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. Carretto seconded by Dr. Benavides to adjourn the meeting.

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Lou Anne Carretto  
Secretary  
LaSalle County Board of Health