

LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MINUTES

6/22/2023

A meeting of the LaSalle County Board of Health was held on June 22, 2023. The meeting was called to order by President, Ms. Carretto at 9:00am. A roll call was taken: Ms. Carretto – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Dr. Manigold – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Manigold 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 – LouAnne Carretto

There was no President's Report.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gonzalo

After a discussion of the May 2023 bills, a motion was made by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Dr. Manigold to approve the payment of bills. A roll call was taken: Ms. Carretto – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Dr. Manigold – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes.

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS

Administration – Chris Pozzi

Chris extended a welcome to our new staff: Mary Zamarripa, Program Assistant for WIC/FCM and Shue Ponce Diaz, Program Assistant – WIC/CD.

Chris advised the Board that the Health Department is completing a non-competitive grant application, from IDPH, for Strengthening Illinois Public Health Administration. The grant is to be utilized for recruiting, retaining and training public health workforce for the future. The grant awards \$350,000 (paid in advance), to be spent over a 4.5-year time frame. (July 1, 2023 through November 30, 2027).

Chris advised the board that on June 10, 2023, Health Department staff set up an educational booth at Pride Fest in Ottawa, and offered Covid and Monkeypox vaccines. Although no vaccines were given, staff reported that this was a great outreach event in the community and reported lots of traffic at our department table.

Chris advised the Board that the Health Department began running recruitment ads in an attempt to fill department vacancies.

Chris advised the Board that we will be moving our LaSalle WIC site. The majority of the facility will soon be rented to an alternative school that would greatly reduce our working office hours. We are currently searching for a new site in the LaSalle/Peru Area. Additionally, we will be temporarily halting off-site WIC services and serving all clients from the Ottawa Office. Continued staffing shortages and employee medical leaves have made operating multiple sites simultaneously impractical.

Chris advised the Board that staff reported that mosquitoes tested positive for West Nile Virus, on June 2nd, in Marseilles.

Chris advised the Board that on June 12, Department staff participated in an Active Shooting training taught by the Sherriff's office.

Chris advised the Board that staff have been fielding numerous calls, regarding potential bat exposures and dog bites, and reviewing cases to determine need for Post Exposure Prophylaxis.

Chris advised the board that with the recent closures of the Hygienic and St. Margaret's- Spring Valley, staff have been working with county residents to ensure residents can receive their back-to-school immunizations. Chris additionally advised the Board that a County Board member had concerns regarding healthcare access on the west end of the County.

In the area of Media and Social Media:

- Staff posted information on June being Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month
- Staff posted information on how to join our Medical Reserve Corps
- Staff posted information on June 7th being World Food Safety Day
- Staff posted information on West Nile Virus Activity in the County
- Staff posted information on Tick Drags conducted and Tick Bite Prevention

- Staff posted information on June 27 being National HIV Testing Day and advertised free HIV testing at the Department
- Staff posted information on Summer Food Safety
- Staff posted information on open positions at the Health Department

Health Education/Media Report – Leslie Dougherty and Jenny Barrie

Ms. Dougherty's and Ms. Barrie's May 2023 reports on the Health Education highlights are attached to these minutes.

Personal Health Division – Connie Brooks

Ms. Brooks May 2023 report on the Personal Health Division highlights is attached to these minutes.

Environmental Health Division – Jennifer Osborn

Ms. Osborn's May 2023 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

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Bruce Boaz
Secretary
LaSalle County Board of Health