

**CLAYTON CO. BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES**  
**November 15, 2023**

Members present: Dr. Michele Dikkers, Tina Nieland, Vicki Carolan, Dr. Forrest Whitford, Dr. Gary Bowden

Others present: Brittany Hubanks: VNA Manager, Patti Ruff: County Sanitarian, Adam Sadewasser: SASC, Becky Nowachek: Iowa Health and Human Services

Dr. Dikkers called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Minutes from September 13, 2023 reviewed by the board. Motion made by Ms. Carolan to approve the minutes; second made by Dr. Bowden. Motion carried unanimously.

**SASC—Adam Sadewasser**

- Mr. Sadewasser reported completed classes for Life Skills at MFL/Marmac and Alternative High School with the second and third sections for MFL/Marmac beginning in January.
- Worked with SODA (Students Off of Drugs and Alcohol) at MFL/Marmac for Red Ribbon Week on Field Day event with 4th-8th graders.
- Teamed with Helping Services on a prevention day at Camp Ewalu. MFL/Marmac had students there and topics covered including tobacco, vaping, and alcohol.
- Currently working on newspaper article with North Iowa Times that will go out to other surrounding papers and with the Family Resource Center and Food Banks on resources for their food baskets.

**IHHS Local Public Health Services—Becky Nowachek**

- Ms. Nowachek provided updates from the state HHS department. Updates included:
  - Iowa recently received Public Health Infrastructure Funds from the CDC. The state will be using funds to hire new state level staff to form support groups that can help local counties and local levels. Ms. Nowachek took one of the newly created positions as Population Health Advisor. She will serve as regional consultant until position is filled or state determines what that role will look like.
  - Local Public Health System Survey due from administrators by the end of the month

**Sanitarian Agenda—Patti Ruff**

- Ms. Ruff reported year-to-date permit data with 69 septic permits and 30 well permits being issued so far.
- Ms. Ruff reported grants-to-counties has \$38,230.29 remaining in grant funds. In FY24, Ms. Ruff has completed 96 water tests, 2 well renovations, 9 well pluggings, 1 cistern plugging, and 6 chlorine reimburse.

- Ms. Ruff has been invited to participate in the Hill Day Event 2024 in Washington D.C. as a delegate for the Iowa Environmental Health Association. She will be traveling to D.C. at the end of March with two other members of Iowa's legislative committee to attend.
- Septic waiver for Clayton Hills campground will need to be tabled. Ms. Ruff planned to meet on-site with Cory Frank from Iowa DNR at the campground; however, there were scheduling conflicts. The on-site visit is scheduled for Monday, 11/20. The owner's house is at the entrance of the campground and their leech field has failed which is compromising their public well. Current public well if it were to be drilled new would not meet standards and there is an issue with drilling depth due to distance requirements. Waiver would allow them to do away with an extra filtration system after the aeration tank. BOH will need to approve waiver; however, that was pushed back due to on-site meeting occurring on 11/20.

### **Public Health Agenda—Brittany Hubanks**

- Ms. Hubanks presented updates on VNA Family Planning Program including:
  - Program coordinator is in Washington D.C. this week attending the National Alliance for Reproductive Health's Family Planning Coordinator Convening. The conference/training was for new FP coordinators only and applications had to be submitted to attend. The Alliance also provided a stipend to cover the cost of travel and lodging; the conference/training itself was free to those accepted.
  - Working with the state on MOU template and standing order templates for medical director to sign (VP of Medical Affairs @ Finley)
  - Opening a 3rd VNA location which will be known as VNA West and is located in Dubuque near Finley Hospital. The location will house Ryan White Program with Telehealth and Family Planning Program once up and running.
  - Coordinator will begin surveying area providers in 8-county region to determine what reproductive health services are offered at each site for referral purposes.
- Ms. Hubanks Reviewed manager's report with the board, including Iowa Health and Human Services alignment updates and agency program updates.

Next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Clayton County Office Building with a weather make-up day of Thursday, February 1, 2024 if needed. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Submitted by:

Brittany Hubanks, BA  
Clayton Co. VNA