

**Bremer County Board of Health**  
**415 East Bremer Avenue**  
**Waverly, IA 50677**  
**(319) 352-0130**

The Bremer County Board of Health regular meeting was called to order by Chair Sally Yungtum at 6:28 PM on March 6, 2024. The meeting was held at the Bremer County Health Department located at 403 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE. in Waverly.

The present board of health members were Dr. Courtney Bochmann, Amanda Gesme, Dewey Hildebrandt, Dr. Joe Sampson, and Sally Yungtum. Also, in attendance was Roxanne Smith, Community Health Consultant, with the Environmental and Local Public Health Bureau of Iowa Health and Human Services.

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Dr. Bochmann, to approve the March 6, 2024, agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Dr. Sampson, to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2024, regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

No public comment was received.

Allison Martin, Waverly Health Center, presented an update on the Bremer County Tobacco Cessation contract. Martin shared that the Waverly Health Center was in the process of reviewing the Fiscal Year 2025 request for application for the tobacco cessation contract. Martin then highlighted some of the current Fiscal Year 2024 work under the contract such as teaching the Stanford Health You and Me, Vape-Free curriculum to elementary students in Bremer County, working with Bremer County school nurses to increase Bremer County school participation for tobacco cessation education, social media and radio ad campaigns for MyLife MyQuit, and also shared about Bremer County health fairs, community parades, and community health events that the tobacco contract staff would be participating in. Martin also shared that Quitline Iowa had rolled out a new text message enrollment system for Quitline Iowa. Martin ended the tobacco cessation update with Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and 2024 participation numbers for the Ask, Advise, Refer program stating that in FY2023 there had been 21 new enrollees and that in FY2024 there were 28 new enrollees so far.

Lindsey Koehler, Bremer County Building, Zoning, and Sanitation, gave a Grants to Counties Fiscal Year 2024 quarter two update. Koehler shared that the department was all caught up on water testing and shared expenditures for the contract. Board of Health members asked if the drought had affected water testing and how often well water testing was recommended. Koehler stated that the drought was not affecting testing, but that coliform levels were still higher than in previous years. Koehler also stated that it was recommended to have a well-tested once a year.

Lindley Sharp presented the Bremer County Health Department budget and finances for July 2023 through February 2024. Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Dr. Sampson, to accept the budget and finances as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Sharp stated that the Bremer County Board of Health contracts Signatory Authority Designation needed to be updated. Sharp requested that signatory authority be given to both her and Lindsey Koehler for their departments' respective contracts. Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Dr. Sampson to authorize Lindsey Koehler, Bremer County Building, Zoning, and Sanitation Administrator, as the Bremer County Board of Health Authorized Signatory for the Private Wells contract and authorize Lindley Sharp, Bremer County Health Department Administrator, as the Board of Health

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Authorized Signatory for all other Bremer County Board of Health contracts including the Immunization Services contract, Local Public Health Services contract, and the 6-Year Public Health Response Contract. The motion carried unanimously.

Sharp introduced Roxanne Smith, Community Health Consultant with Iowa Health and Human Services. Roxanne briefly introduced herself and gave an update on the changes to the Environmental and Local Public Health Bureau with the funding from the Public Health Infrastructure grant. Sharp then gave a department update for the period covering January 1<sup>st</sup> through February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, sharing on reportable communicable and infectious disease investigations conducted, shared about progress on goals for chronic disease and substance abuse and mental health in the community health improvement plan, and provided an update on public health emergency preparedness topics.

Sharp shared the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services Service Delivery Alignment Assessment from Health Management Associates that had been released after the last regular Board of Health meeting. The report covered service delivery recommendations for aging and disability services, behavioral health, community access, family well-being and protection, and public health. Sharp only shared the public health portion of the report stating that Health Management Associates recommend that Iowa Health and Human Services adopt 10-15 regions and then shared four different service delivery options ranging from a centralized governance model to a home rule model. According to the report, State statutes and regulatory changes that would need to be included with the recommendations in the report include Iowa Code Chapters 135 and 137 and 641 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 77 (Local Boards of Health), and Iowa Administrative Code 641-Chapter 80 Local Public Health Services. Sharp then shared that behavioral health services system alignment was currently underway with the introduction of new legislation for the service system. All board of health members expressed their concerns with the future delivery of health and human services systems feeling that system changes will negatively impact rural communities and expressed current frustrations from each of their professional perspectives.

The next regular Board of Health meeting will be held on May 8, 2024, at 6:30 PM at the Bremer County Health Department office located at 403 3<sup>rd</sup> St. SE, Waverly, IA 50677.

Motion by Gesme, second by Dr. Sampson, to adjourn the March 6, 2024, regular meeting at 7:39 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lindley Sharp*

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Lindley Sharp, Secretary