

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 6:27 PM on January 15, 2025. The meeting was held at the Bremer County Health Department located at 403 3rd Street SE. in Waverly.

The board of health members present were Dr. Courtney Bochmann, Amanda Gesme, Dewey Hildebrandt, Dr. Joe Sampson, and Sally Yungtum. Heidi Solheim and Lindley Sharp were also in attendance.

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Dr. Bochmann, to approve the January 15, 2025, agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dr. Bochmann, second by Dr. Sampson, to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2024, regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Yungtum opened the discussion for the election of the 2025 Board of Health Chair and Contingent Chair. Yungtum stated she would continue to serve as chair if no one was interested in serving in the Chair position. With no interest, Yungtum asked Dr. Bochmann if he was willing to continue as the Contingent Chair or if anyone else wanted to serve as the Contingent Chair for the year. With no interest, Dr. Bochmann agreed to continue in the role. Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Dr. Sampson to elect Yungtum as Bremer County Board of Health Chair and Dr. Bochmann as Contingent Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

No public comment was received.

Heidi Solheim with the Waverly Health Center (WHC) gave an update on the Tobacco Prevention and Control contract for Bremer County. Due to Iowa Health and Human Service realignment changes that would go into effect July 1, 2025, and due to staffing changes at WHC, Solheim stated the WHC would be ending work and giving up the Tobacco Prevention and Control contract effective January 2025. Solheim stated that WHC has and would continue to reach out to Iowa Health and Human Services contract contacts to ensure a transition of the contract to another agency. The board thanked Solheim and the WHC for their role in providing Tobacco Prevention and Control services through this contact and Solheim stated the WHC would be committed to tobacco prevention and control outside of this funding source. Solheim exited.

Lindley Sharp gave a department update for the period covering November 2024 through December 2024. This update primarily covered the fiscal year 2025 (FY25) contract and other department updates including Iowa Health and Human Services System Alignment progress for the behavioral health services system, the local public health informal wage survey conducted by Iowa Health and Human Services, and the department activities in the areas of assessment, policy development, and assurance.

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

Sharp stated that a new public health nurse had been hired and started on January 13, 2025. Sharp showed the board the new Public Health Nurse orientation period step increase plan for new

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employee Santana Leech, which included a 1.66% increase every 30 days taking Leech from \$29.50 to \$31.00 per hour over 90 days. Hildebrandt stated that he would be abstaining from voting on this agenda item due to a distant familial connection. Motion by Dr. Sampson, second by Dr. Bochmann to approve the public health nurse orientation period step plan pay increase. The motion carried unanimously by all other board members present, excluding Hildebrandt.

Sharp provided information on a new Iowa Health and Human Services (HHS) Iowa Vaccine for Adults (VFA) Program that aims to increase adult vaccination rates and decrease disparities in immunization coverage by providing no-cost vaccines for uninsured or underinsured adults 19 years of age and older. Sharp stated local public health agencies were the only providers currently eligible to participate in this program. Sharp shared the VFA Program Provider Agreement that would be submitted to Iowa HHS. Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Gesme for Dr. Bochmann to sign to Bremer County Health Department Iowa VFA program enrollment agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

Sharp presented the Fiscal Year 2026 Bremer County Health Department Budget. The budget included estimated expenses of \$244,761, which included \$156,201 in employee wages (allowing up to a 3% wage increase for the two department employees), \$54,580 in employee benefits, and \$33,980 in non-payroll expenses. The revenue portion of the budget included a \$122,764 request from the Bremer County general fund and \$121,997 in funding from State of Iowa grants. Motion by Dr. Bochmann and second by Dr. Sampson to recommend budget as presented to the Bremer County Board of Supervisors. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular Board of Health meeting will be held on March 26, 2025, at 6:30 PM at the Bremer County Health Department office located at 403 3rd St. SE, Waverly, IA 50677.

Motion by Dr. Bochmann, second by Gesme, to adjourn the January 15, 2025, regular meeting at 7:43 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lindley Sharp

Lindley Sharp, Secretary