

**Dubuque County Board of Health Meeting Minutes**  
**May 17, 2023**

Chairperson, Sandra Larson called the May 17, 2023, Dubuque County Board of Health regularly scheduled meeting to order at 4:30 pm, via in person and zoom.

**Members Present in Person:** Sandra Larson, Amy Crow Sunleaf, Adam Hoffman, Patricia Lehmkuhl, Mike Fidgeon

**Members Present via Zoom:** Hendrick Schultz, Jess Smith

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Ann McDonough, Allie White, Stacey Killian, Dekker Pfab, Bailey Avenarius, Ed Raber, Becky Nowachek, Deb Anglin, Evan Hudson, Stephanie Ells, Kevin Dragotto, Diane Heiken

**1. Roll Call** - A quorum was established.

**2. Public Comments**

None

**3. Chairperson Announcements**

- a. Sandra Larson acknowledged that there were no new announcements or updates.
- b. Sandra Larson gave thanks to Dr. Hendrick Schultz for the article that he sent to the board members concerning national trends on pediatric deaths from fentanyl between 1999 and 2021.
- c. Sandra Larson also acknowledged Mike Fidgeon's well written piece in the Telegraph Herald.
- d. Sandra Larson brought to attention that Dr. Lee Merritt would be speaking at the Peosta Community Center on June 3, 2023, regarding "The Bio War Against Humanity and How do We Win?" Dr. Merritt has a reputation among some for spreading misinformation about the Covid pandemic and vaccine.

**4. BOS/BOH Liaison Comments**

- a. Supervisor McDonough shared that the Supervisors had been individually briefed about the Iowa Sports Expo Group plans for a Soccer Complex.

**5. Approval of the Board of Health Meeting Agenda**

- a. Amy Crow Sunleaf motioned to approve the agenda for May 17, 2023; Patricia Lehmkuhl seconded the motion, and with 7 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion was passed.

**6. Approval of the Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

- a. Mike Fidgeon motioned to approve the minutes for April 19, 2023; Amy Crow Sunleaf seconded the motion, and with 7 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion was passed.

## **7. Presentations and Reports**

### **a. County Health Department Report**

- i.** Allie White addressed that Board of Health Report incorrectly stated the date for the “Strategic Planning Session.” The correct date was Friday, May 26, 2023.
- ii.** Allie White referenced the Board of Health report and highlighted the following events and tasks that have been completed by the health department since April 19, 2023:
  - KDTN voice of the Tri-States featured a segment promoting National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey opportunity for select Dubuque County residents.
  - Allie attended the Northeast Iowa Community College, Nursing Advisory Board meeting March 20, 2023.
  - Allie Attended the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Emergency Preparedness Summit, April 24-27 in Atlanta, GA.
  - Allie was the keynote speaker at the University of Dubuque Nurse Pinning Ceremony, April 28.
  - The Health Department held Town Hall discussions in Epworth on April 21 and Key West on May 5.
  - The Dubuque County Public Health Department was excited to welcome the Dubuque County Coalition team to their office on May 11, 2023, as in-person meetings resumed following a 2 year in-person hiatus.
  - Amy Crow Sunleaf attended the Food Policy Council meeting on May 8, 2023. They will meet next on August 7, 2023.
  - June 2023 Health Department quarterly newsletter will feature a list of Dubuque County food pantries.
  - DASAC Park cleanup days.
  - All Health Department staff have completed water analysis testing.
- iii.** Allie White referenced the Board of Health report and highlighted the following ongoing projects within the Health Department:
  - Strategic Planning Kickoff Day May 26 facilitated by Evident Analytics.
  - National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) staff will be in Dubuque through July 3. The mobile unit will be stationed at UnityPoint Clinic, 4170 Pennsylvania Ave.
  - Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHA & CHIP).
  - Continuation of Town Hall Discussions on Fridays.
- iv.** Allie White referenced the Board of Health report and highlighted the following future plans for the Health Department:
  - Possible summer intern- University of Iowa Public Health undergraduate.
  - Allie and Bailey will travel to Region County Sanitarian Workshop in Manchester, IA on May 23.
  - Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) Opioid Settlements Funds Strategic Planning Summit will be held May 24-25 in Des Moines, IA.

- Desire to obtain a card reader, along with continued acceptance of cash or check.
- My Ascension by Emma Benoit, regarding suicide help and awareness will be at the Clarke Atrium on June 16, 2023.
- Sandra Larson inquired about the status of the After Action Report. Allie answered, stating that is in its final stages and should be ready to share by next month.

**b. VNA Monthly Report**

- i. Stacey Killian addressed that the VNA added a new homecare aid thus increasing the number of County visits made, with 22% of homemaking in the county, while reducing the waiting list from 86 down to 61.
- ii. Members of the VNA staff attended the Brain Health Expo in Dyersville on May 13.
- iii. The VNA's "I Smile at School Oral Health Program" just finished their school year with the following results totaling nearly 47,000 dollars of oral health services for students done for free.
  - 683 Dental screenings
  - 684 Fluoride varnish treatments
  - 1,206 Sealings
- iv. The VNA aligned with two new offices who became new Vaccine's for Children (VFC) providers, Stacey clarified that VFC is an immunization program that offers vaccines for adolescents 0-18 years of age. In order to be eligible, you must be enrolled in Medicaid, uninsured, or underinsured.
- v. The Maternal Health Advisory Council hosted two meetings with 32 active community members.
- vi. The WIC program saw its highest amount of participation with 2,808 individuals in the month of April.
- vii. Stacey stated that the VNA was completing a budget change shift within the Public Health Services Grant, transferring 42,000 dollars from non-population health budget to population health budget.
- viii. The VNA's Marshallese Community Connector, Nicky as well as two other staff members were able to receive funding to go to Arkansas to complete Medical Genetics Specialty training for Marshallese Medical Interpretation at the University of Arkansas.
- ix. The VNA has expanded its Community Health Collaboration, now meeting with Mercy One Mobile Unit, The Dubuque City and County Health Departments, Crescent, and Hillcrest.
  - All units will be coming together to participate in the Back to School Bash in August, providing a variety of services including lead testing, brain health screenings, dental screenings, blood pressure and diabetes screenings, physicals, and immunizations.
  - On June 5, the Community Health Collaboration Units will be participating in Pride where they will be offering Mpox and Covid vaccines, HIV and STI testing, brain health screenings.

- x. The VNA started a breast-feeding support group in April, sessions will be held on the first and third Thursday of every month for one hour.
- xi. The VNA has submitted their grants.
  - The Local Public Health Grant- April 21
  - The Immunization Grant- April 20
  - Breast and Cervical Cancer Care Grant- May 12
  - Tobacco Prevention Control- April 12

## 8. Action Items

- a. Iowa Sports Expo Group
  - i. Allie White introduced Dekker Pfab, President of the Iowa Sports Expo Group
  - ii. Allie explains that the Dubuque Driving Range changed ownership to The Iowa Sports Expo Group, providing updates on zoning matters such as traffic flow and parking.
  - iii. Allie provided updates on health-related variables associated with the change in ownership:
    - Transition from a private to a public water supply, which requires quarterly water tests.
    - The new owners also introduced a bar and grill which has passed inspections and has been approved.
    - Dekker explains that the water and sewage use will be limited, with there being a men's and women's restroom, few dishes, all ice will be brought from Arctic Glacier, all tableware will be disposable.
    - Dekker makes aware that the only actual point of contact the public will have with the water will be for handwashing purposes.
    - Allie shares concerns about the septic system in place, noting part of the area is in a floodplain and a part of the property is in a floodway.
    - Dekker is working with an outside resource to come up with a topographic map.
    - Allie spoke with the DNR, who has reviewed the time of transfer report addressing several concerns with the current septic system not being able to meet the need of the intended traffic at the complex.
    - Dekker spoke with Cory Frank of the DNR and indicated that due to the property lying so low, there is concern brought forth with the high-water table. Cory explained the process to Dekker of a septic system redesign through the DNR engineers which is a three-month process.
    - Dekker expressed concern as to whether the new septic system would alleviate these issues, providing insight that no matter where you move the drain field you will still have the issue of a high-water table.
    - Dekker explains that he spoke with the County and found the most feasible solution would be to speak with the City of Dubuque about connecting to city utilities.
  - iv. Dekker shares about acting quickly for this project, if they were unable to find a property for 600+ youth soccer players it would be both detrimental to the program and to the City of Dubuque.
  - v. Amy Crow Sunleaf asks if the current well is of appropriate size for its intended use.
    - Dekker spoke about an email that he received from John Warren; they spoke about a public well becoming subject to quarterly water testing.

- a. John never mentioned anything regarding the capacity of the well.
  - b. John mentioned that with the type of well, there might be concerns passing water tests.
  - c. Dekker stated that Iowa Sports Expo Group took their own water test and have resubmitted another test to John Warren so that they have public record of passing a water test.
- vi. Amy Crow Sunleaf asks why the concern with not using water on the premises.
- Dekker explains that it does pass the water test, which tests for nitrates and bacteria.
- vii. Sandra asks Dekker what ideas he has in the short term.
  - Dekker made aware that the Iowa Sports Expo Group has been in contact with Tri-State Porta Pott.
  - They have porta potty's scheduled to be delivered, with 2 by the building and 2 by the soccer fields.
  - Dekker states that they will be performing precautionary pumps of the septic system.
  - The members and staff of the Iowa Sports Expo Group will be placing emphasis that the bathrooms connected to the septic are for people at the bar and grill and the porta potties are to be used by the players.
- viii. Pat Lehmkuhl asks if the events will occur only on weekends.
  - Dekker responds by saying that the soccer season for AYSO will take place on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays for 10 weeks.
  - Dekker makes note that Offside, is a neighborhood bar with many of the same regulars.
  - Dekker emphasizes that the facility is seasonal with increased traffic in the summer due to the soccer players.
  - Dekker makes clear that there will be no soccer being hosted on the premises on weekends.
- ix. Amy Crow Sunleaf asks if they will be supplying 4 porta potties or 8 and what the ratio should be of porta potties to participants.
  - Dekker responds that they have 4 porta potties.
  - Dekker is unsure of a specific ratio but notes that the old Dubuque Soccer Complex had 1 porta potty and 1 set of bathrooms which was useful in them deeming 4 to be enough.
- x. Sandra asks how many people the facility plans to have on any given evening.
  - Dekker responds that the max number of players they could handle on the soccer fields would be 166 players.
  - Sandra clarifies that these are typically children and would be accompanied by at least 1 adult, bringing the number to around 300 people.
- xi. Sandra asks if it would be possible to keep the bathrooms closed.
  - Dekker states that his concerns with closing the bathrooms are when will they reopen as it will be detrimental for business if they are closed for a year, along with the bathrooms being closed possibly affecting their food and liquor licenses.
- xii. Adam Hoffman asks if Corey Frank was worried about the size of the septic system? He noted that the septic was 2–3-person home size.
  - Dekker addresses this issue, noting that it is only a thousand-gallon system.

- Dekker states that Corey did offer solutions, the DNR offered a solution of a larger tank that would get pumped in order to prevent any adverse health effects if the drain field is unable to be used.
  - Sandra clarifies that it would be a temporary tank with temporary pumps until the facility is able to get attached to City utilities.
- xiii.** Amy Crow Sunleaf asks “even if you get hooked up to the city, you’re still not going to have bathrooms for the players, correct?”
- Dekker responds that because it is seasonal that use of porta potties would be sufficient, he also mentioned some sort of bathroom trailer that could be pumped regularly.
  - Amy Crow Sunleaf states that she thinks 4 porta potties will not be enough, she had kids play soccer and identified that the lines were typically far too long.
  - Dekker lets it be known that they just came up with the number and are open to adding more along with any other suggestions.
- xiv.** Allie White addressed that she has spoken with Corey Frank of the DNR.
- She states that it has been made abundantly clear to her that the current system in place is not acceptable and cannot be used.
  - She insists that the bathrooms must stay closed until there is a system in place that is approved and supported by the DNR.
  - Dekker responds by saying that Corey Frank recommended the temporary larger tank that would be able to keep the bathrooms open.
  - Dekker states that according to their septic professional they can add a 2,500-gallon holding tank within the next 30 days. If the concern is to stop the use of the septic drain field, he can come to the existing system and pump it out as well as capping off the drain field.
- xv.** Amy Crow Sunleaf asks if the drain field will impact parking for soccer families.
- Dekker states that they rented the neighboring property which gives them enough parking spaces for all of the soccer players.
  - Dekker also says that they are adding spots to their current lot.
  - Dekker states that the drain field is under the lot so capping it will not affect parking in any way.
- xvi.** Sandra notes that Environmental Specialist, Bailey Avenarius is present via zoom, wondering if she has any notes she would like to add.
- Bailey is unable to respond due to technical errors.
- xvii.** Sandra asks the board if they are ready for discussion. Everyone agrees.
- Patricia Lehmkuhl asks if the restrooms could be used if a larger storage tank were installed.
  - Allie states that this is the first time she has heard of this solution and emphasizes it as something they can look in to.
  - Dekker asks Allie what the public health approach to this will be.
    1. Allie responds stating that the local board of health has jurisdiction over private systems, since there was a time of transfer completed it shows that it is indeed a private system.

2. Given these facts Allie deemed it valid that the Board of Health would in fact have authority to determine whether the current system can or cannot be used.
- Allie added that another layer to this issue is that they are being told that a private system is not what they need, and a public system is necessary.
  - Allie states that because of this rather than following county code, chapter 69 we would rather follow chapter 64 which would transfer jurisdiction to the Iowa DNR.
  - Mike Fidgeon asks if private to public is happening through connection of utilities with the city.
    1. Allie responds stating that she believes what moves it from private to public would be the amount of use.
    2. Mike follows this up asking why it was private as Dubuque Driving Range, with Dekker stating that he assumes that it was not supposed to be private.
  - Mike Fidgeon asked Allie White if she had any recommendations on how to proceed.
    1. Allie's recommendation is that the current bathrooms are not used given the information that the current system is not acceptable.
    2. Allie also added that if the DNR has a solution, that the board entertain it. Following by saying that Dekker is the only one to hear said solution from the DNR.
  - Ann McDonough speaks on behalf of Bailey Avenarius, who is messaging in the zoom chat due to microphone problems. Bailey says, "I do believe the system needs to be permitted by the Iowa DNR which would make it public, if the system serves more than 16 people on a continual basis that would make it considered public."
  - Amy Crow Sunleaf asks if a restaurant can be open if they don't have properly working restrooms.
    1. Allie sees it fit that if the restrooms remain closed, The Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals would have to be notified and be the ones tasked with making the decision with the information they are given.
  - Amy brings up the point of two separate entities, one being the soccer program and the other being the bar and grill. She questions whether there are any detriments to the children playing soccer due to the current system.
    1. Dekker answers this question, saying that they are trying to construct a good image with the large change of location.
    2. His fear is that some people might become skeptical if the headlines read something such as "New Facility No Longer Has Working Bathrooms."
    3. Dekker believes that stopping the usage of the drainage field will eliminate any health concerns detrimental to the children of the soccer program.
  - Amy questions whether the restaurant closing will affect the AYSO soccer program.
    1. Dekker responds, stating that the bar and grill is owned by a non-profit organization and its proceeds go directly into the soccer program.
    2. Dekker states that if the restraint stays closed, they will have to raise prices.

3. Amy clarifies that AYSO is under the umbrella of The Iowa Sports Expo Group.
  4. Dekker explains that AYSO is a nation-wide organization held under one tax ID, essentially purchasing land under AYSO is not feasible. He further goes on to explain that The Iowa Sports Expo Group acted on behalf of AYSO to purchase the land.
  5. Dekker states that the entire business model of them providing the subsidized soccer program is contingent on the bar and grill being open for business.
- Mike Fidgeon mentions the capital campaign, wondering if it comes through AYSO.
    1. Dekker states that AYSO is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, and the capital profits come from the donors in and around the Dubuque area.
  - Amy Crow Sunleaf states that she believes the DNR is now driving the matter at hand, with Allie White seconding.
  - Sandra announced that Allie contacted the County Attorney for advice, he responded that he would like specific questions regarding this situation and legal issues.
    1. Sandra says that The Board of Health will contact the County Attorney as well as Corey Frank to verify their questions.
    2. Sandra states that the capping of the drain field, along with the larger storage tank to be pumped would provide more time to figure out operations while keeping the bar and grill open for business.
    3. Dekker emphasizes that he would like to receive confirmation that they are able to hook up to city utilities in order to get confirmation to Corey Frank that hooking up to the city is a go.
    4. Sandra recommended an upgrade to the restaurant's porta potties that might be more up to health code, advising Dekker to get in contact with The Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals.
  - Sandra says that the well should be okay since nobody is consuming the water from drinking fountains. She also states that for the time being the restrooms inside the restaurant should remain closed, asking Dekker if he will voluntarily leave the restrooms at Offside closed until they get the situation at hand settled.
    1. Dekker states that he would consider closing the bathrooms temporarily until a decision is made.
  - Ann again speaks on behalf of Bailey, who makes it aware that if there is to be a holding tank installed there must also be an alarm installed to alert when the tank needs to be pumped and the county will require the pumping records.
  - Sandra and Adam recommend that the bathroom be voluntarily closed until a further solution is reached.
  - Ed Raber weighs in, noting that Health Director Allie White has been very impactful in the moving forward of this project. He references that the Board of Health is being presented with information from the DNR that the time of transfer for this system did not pass. He questions whether it should be up to the client at hand or if it is subject to the discretion of the board to make the decision of whether they see fit the facility stays open under the given circumstances. He

states that it is clear this facility requires a new system, and they are waiting for the client to show a plan of what that would be. Ed makes note that the DNR has provided a path to follow along with public health guidelines to help the client achieve this goal without shutting them down for business. He states that once they receive a definite plan there will be a special meeting with the Board of Health for them to evaluate the plan.

- Amy Crow Sunleaf states that it might be prudent to make a motion to not allow the restroom to be open until it's certified by the DNR as a public septic.
- Dekker addressed that he has a question, first making note of his experience in residential real estate and in dealing with Time of Transfers. He notes that with residential properties you have 6 months after the Time of Transfer to make sure the correct pieces of the septic are in place, such as a proper drain field. This was noted due to Dekker's offering of the solution of capping off the drain field with him seeing it fit as a feasible solution.
- Amy Crow Sunleaf makes a motion that the bathrooms at Offside Bar and Grill be closed until proof of a capping of the drain field and proof of new public septic being installed.
  1. Sandra asked if they were also looking for the larger holding tank with Amy stating that they are.
  2. Sandra asks Amy to restate her motion.
- xviii.** Amy makes the motion that the restrooms at Offside Bar and Grill be closed until proof that the current septic tank is capped, and a new larger holding tank has been installed with an alarm and has been inspected and will continue to be inspected. Hendrik Schultz seconded the motion.
- xix.** Sandra asks if there is any further discussion and makes it clear what they will be voting on.
  - The soccer complex may remain open, everyone would suggest they add more porta potties, the bathroom connected to the restaurant has to remain closed until approved by The Board of Health and Corey Frank of the DNR. They are approving the temporary solution of capping the drain field, putting in a large holding tank, and pumping it frequently until connection to city sewer.
- xx.** The motion passed with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

## **9. Responses to Public Questions**

- a. Receipt of a letter from community members regarding us of opioid settlement funds, community members in attendance include Evan Hudson, Diane Heiken, and Stephanie Ells.
- b. Sandra Larson allots community member present in regards of opioid settlement funds 3 minutes to talk on the matter.
  - i. Evan starts by thanking the Board of Health for their responsiveness and appreciating their reaction to the issue. Evan then outlined the email, stating that he is under the impression that one potential avenue for use of the funds would be to put it into a type of endowment of investment where the interest and profits grown from that will be spent to fund a full-time position or some kind of smaller job.

- Evan gives his opinion, which is based on firsthand experience and lived experience as a recovering opioid addict. He also interacts daily with people suffering from addiction and mental health issues. Evan states that this is a pressing issue and says that the worst possible thing to do is what we have already been doing which is waiting. Evan also gives recognition to the people in the community such as Mike Fidgeon and Hillcrest, Crescent Community Health, among others that are working on the issue but addresses that it is in a fragmented manor and does not exactly address the systemic issues that has caused much suffering such as psychosis, overdose, daily risk, etc.
- Evan addresses that the letter was intended to promote a conversation with community stakeholders to create a dialogue about how the funds should be spent. Evan recommends an increase in Naloxone (a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose) access through vending machines. Evan states that this is an intervention that we have seen have success around other parts of the United States.
- Evan shares about different models that could be used such as Narcan libraries that are put in businesses that agree to support this cause, which would be an investment of under 5,000 dollars in perpetuity and the people that put the Narcan in such locations would fill them up. Evan says that his organization would volunteer to provide the Narcan, which he elaborates Diane can talk more on.
- Evan recommends that we seek consultation from other places where programs like these have been successfully implemented based on evidence that shows that health incomes have improved. He also shared that there is a vast body of evidence within the United States and other countries that these solutions have worked.
- In the short to medium term Evan would like to see the implementation of peer support from trained professionals that would give a better choice than a restricted in-patient psychiatric environment or the criminal justice system. These professionals in many cases have lived experience with opioids and addiction and can help individuals with deep seeded addiction issues in their lives.
- Evan explained that Dubuque Harm Reduction is working with Iowa Harm Reduction and The Iowa Department of Public Health and Human Services on a statewide peer support concept, which again they will draw ideas from other successful implementations around the U.S. and around the world.
- Evan shares that, Stephanie; Pastor at The Dubuque First Presbyterian Church has offered the church as a place to convene these community gatherings.
  - ii. Sandra asks Evan if the Narcan vending machines are legal in Iowa.
    - Evan responds stating that Narcan was just made over the counter, which was a huge step forward. Evan says that Diane would be a better person to ask regarding this question.
  - iii. Sandra follows up asking if Evan is currently aware of anywhere else that the vending machines have been put in Iowa.
    - Evan says that Cedar Rapids does, he also informs that it is best to have Narcan in a vestibule of a building so it can remain climate controlled as to not degrade the efficiency of the drug.
  - iv. Sandra confirms that Narcan will now be available over the counter, asking what the issue is with this method.

- Diane Heiken answers that when she attended the Board of Health meeting in February, they were waiting to hear whether the OTC medication was going to be approved. She informs the board that the difference between the over the counter and prescription versions of the medicine is not the medicine itself but rather the packaging. The hurdle has been getting the packages with appropriate drug facts that show how to administer the medicine and essentially takes the place of the pharmacist. The company that produces Narcan agreed to use the drug facts label and it is predicted to be out officially over the counter in June or July. Diane believes that cost will be an issue for people.
  - Diane talks about Gov. Kim Reynolds speaking about increased Naloxone access in her state address. At the time it was only available via prescription. Diane informs that House file 595 was signed which listed all kinds of entities that will now be legal to be secondary distributors of Naloxone. These entities include school districts, community service providers, and health departments. This is a large step in giving the public access to Naloxone.
- v. Sandra invites Pastor, Stephanie Ells to speak on the matter at hand.
- She speaks about her excitement revolving the collaboration of getting many community partners in a room to discuss, Stephanie speaks on her background in juvenile justice and child protective services.
  - Stephanie makes an analogy regarding all the hurdles in our system that is trying to do a good thing, saying that it is like a bunch of prop planes buzzing around the runway, but no one can take off because nobody is quite directing the traffic. She feels it would be instrumental if the groups could all get together and bounce ideas off one another to realize their common goals and speak on how to reach them.
  - She shares that a great model to follow within Dubuque would be the group working on food insecurity. They've all come together to discuss a plethora of questions including who's doing what, how are we doing it, and are we repeating ourselves. She wants to see more of a team to attack the issue of opioids and other drug use in Dubuque, in a more streamlined and effective way. She shares her value as a pastor that every person has a value no matter what they might be putting in their body. She feels sometimes there is a message or stigma out there that people are not valued as much just because of what they put in their body.
- vi. Sandra addresses that the board member has received the letter and the interested community members have now spoken. She opens discussion to the Board of Health regarding the issue.
- Sandra begins discussion by confirming with the concerned community members that the Board of Health nor the Dubuque County Health Office do not hold the Opioid Settlement Fund.

- Sandra announces that she would like to be an advocate for the group, stating that getting the Naloxone out to people should be priority number one.
  - Sandra acknowledges that Kevin Dragotto is present via zoom and may have something to offer on the matter.
- vii. Kevin Dragotto introduced himself, he is the Dubuque County Auditor and the administrator for the program. He addresses that he is not deciding how the funds for the program be spent. His role is to facilitate the movement of the funds, the reporting of the funds, to discuss allowable uses of the funds, and to offer any insight that the office has. Kevin states that he proposed the idea of entering some sort of endowment to a small group including Allie White, Sheriff Joe Kennedy, and Mae Hingtgen. The reason for this was due to the amount of funds that they will have at any given point versus what they will receive over the course of the settlement, which will range from 8 to 18 years. Kevin says they want to invest in programs which can be sustained.
- viii. Sandra asks Kevin if the group of Allie White, Sheriff Joe Kennedy, and Mae Hingtgen will be meeting again soon.
- Kevin responds, saying there is a statewide meeting coming up in a couple of weeks, unfortunately there is no zoom option for more people to attend. He says the gathering will be targeting applicable uses and not as much administrating the program. The intent is to meet again in June to take in some of the feedback and look at the funds. He lets it be known that by the end of the summer there will be nearly 570,000 dollars, they will sort out what exactly that will pay for and how do they sustain it. He acknowledges the idea of having larger community discussion. He states his goal is to invest these funds responsibly and sustainably.
- ix. Sandra asks Kevin “is it be a possibility, if a proposal came through to the small group, we would like to have 100,000 dollars to buy Naloxone and distribute it somehow?” Wondering if that is possible on a more immediate basis.
- Kevin states that the Board of Supervisors are the decision makers on the expenditure of the funds. Kevin states that Sheriff Kennedy, who is not currently present, should be an immense part of the conversation regarding Naloxone. He states that if that is a need of the county, at any point said need can be brought to the board of supervisors for their decision to be made.
  - Supervisor McDonough would like to see a plan created strategically by the group of Allie White, Sheriff Joe Kennedy, and Mae Hingtgen to bring to the Board of Health.
  - Amy Crow Sunleaf approves of Kevin’s idea of the endowment, which emphasizes a point to sustain the money over longer periods of time. She addresses that this is being talked about at every Friday meeting for the past month, she makes it known that part of the wait is for the two-day conference to see what steps other counties have

- taken. She apologizes that the action has not happened yet but assures that it is coming in a strategic fashion.
- x. Evan Hudson responds to the comments made by the Board of Health, thanking them for their concern with the fiscal health of the Dubuque community.
  - xi. Evan notes that he has been running Dubuque Harm Reduction for 5 years with a budget of 0 dollars. They have saved hundreds of lives of people who have no access to services because they've been shut out of the system. Evan felt as though everybody was "passing the buck", saying it's not exactly their problem. He wonders if they don't have the power to make decisions then who does. He states that it is learned helplessness.
    - Evan responds wondering why no community stakeholders have been invited to these conversations. Evan expects that in the future some of the signatories of the email including ASAC, Turning Point, Crescent Community Health, Diane Heiken, and Himself be involved in the next conversation.
    - Amy Crow Sunleaf assures that this is a topic of discussion.
    - Evan shares much of his frustration is due to having to deal with overdoses and psychosis daily. Acknowledging that sustainability and urgency of crises need to find a balance. He brings up that 20 to 30 people in Dubuque died of Covid while overdose is just as big of a crisis. Evan states that we must remove these barriers to access for people lower on the socioeconomic totem pole.
  - xii. Sandra and Amy assure Evan that they appreciate what he is saying. Sandra assures Evan that community stakeholders will be involved. Sandra states that if there is any way for a proposal for money and a plan to buying Naloxone right away, she for one would be in favor of it and would take it to the supervisors if the board approves it. She states there must first be a plan in place to ask for the money.
    - Diane gives the board Laura Book's contact information, who is the contact for the bill that would make the county Department of Health a secondary distributor. Diane lets it be known that she contacted Laura but has yet to hear back.
  - xiii. Mike Fidgeon makes a comment piggybacking on what Ann McDonough said confirming that it is a must to work together as a coalition of stakeholders everywhere from the Board of Health to the grass roots organizations. He says that there are many resources in Dubuque and creating that coalition will be critical. Someone at a Clarke convention stated that the BOH has the title and role to convene. Mike acknowledges this saying it is a public health problem and recognizes that it is important that they bring a recommendation to facilitate the coalition.
  - xiv. Amy brings up the importance of DASAC and possibly creating a subcommittee on opioid settlement funds.

## 10. Unfinished Business

- a. Board of Health enforcement ordinance and procedure status updates.
  - No updates.

- b. Job description for Assistant Director status update.
  - Tabled until the strategic plan and making sure Executive Director, Allie White is on board.
- c. The Board of Health governing body bylaws discussion and distribution.
  - The consensus is that Allie White may post the revised version on the website and email them to all members.

#### **11. New Business-**

None

#### **12. Board Communications and Report-**

- a. Hendrik Schultz informed that on May 11<sup>th</sup> the public health emergency has expired, stating that we are truly past that and it is time to focus on more important things such as putting emphasis on the opioid issue.
- b. Amy Crow Sunleaf volunteered to attend community health meetings by herself to help since there is an open position in the Health Department. She attended meetings such as the Maternal Health Council Meeting, Food Policy Council, and the Community Health Collaboration. She then lets Allie know what she must do from there. Amy also took over the Facebook page and has been posting for Mental health Awareness Month. Amy would also like to bring up possibly adding 988 to squad cars to help with suicide awareness. Amy would also like to see a canning instructor added to the Food Policy Council as there is nobody certified currently.
- c. Mike shares that he has been nominated, by the Governor, to be on the Mental Health Disability Service Commission, an 18 person commission.
- d. Adam shares that he has been working with the City of Dubuque to get both mobile and fixed air quality monitoring done, which the city is very close to buying. Crescent will have a fixed unit to monitor air quality and there will also be mobile units to take anywhere in the city and county.

#### **13. Next Scheduled Meeting is June 21, 2023, at 4:30pm**

#### **14. Public Comments**

- a. Carla Kasal asked why Sandra described Dr. Lee as misinformative.
  - i. Sandra responds that this is information that has been conveyed to her.
- b. Sandra introduces Becky Nowachek, Regional Consultant with Iowa Health and Human Services, showing appreciation for her attendance at the Board of Health meeting.

#### **15. Adjournment**

Pat Lehmkuhl motioned to adjourn; no second motion needed, and with 7 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion was passed.