



Board of Health

Sandra Larson, JD, BSN Amy Crow Sunleaf, MA, NCC, LMHC
Preeti Joseph, MD Jess Smith, PharmD, MPH
Pat Lehmkuhl, MSN, BSN, RN, CIC
Mike Fidgeon
Lynn “Tut” Fuller, MD
Dr. Kathryn Dolter Kathryn J. Dolter, RN, PhD,
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Army (Retired)

DUBUQUE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

December 18, at 4:30pm

Dubuque County West Campus Conference Room.

1225 Seippel Rd. Dubuque, IA

MEETING MINUTES

Chairperson Larson called the December 18, 2024, Dubuque County Board of Health regularly scheduled meeting to order at 4:30 p.m., in person.

Members Present in Person: Sandra Larson, Amy Crow Sunleaf, Dr. Preeti Joseph, Pat Lehmkuhl,

Members Present via Zoom: Jess Smith (arrived late), Mike Fidgeon

Members Absent: Lynn “Tut” Fuller, (unexcused)

Staff Present in Person: Allie White, Carissa Brown, Nicole Bertges

Staff Present via Zoom: Tina Daubenberger

Others Present in Person: Mary Rose Corrigan (arrived late)

Deb Anglin, Carla Kasal, Diane Pape Freiburger, Dr. Kathryn Dolter

Others Present via Zoom: Ann McDonough, Wayne Kenniker

1. Roll Call

- a. A quorum was established.

2. Public Comments

- a. Kasal inquired about the decision to include e-sports in health and wellness programs. Larson said it was not on the agenda but that the board would address it.
- b. Freiburger complimented the Health Department’s involvement in the vaccination efforts in the rural community and offered to provide contacts for farmers.

3. Chairperson Announcements & Updates

- a. Larson announced the Board of Supervisor’s reappointed Smith to the Board of Health and welcomed Dolter as a new member. Additionally, Larson spoke of the loss of Crow Sunleaf from the board of health and the many contributions gained from her membership.

4. BOS/BOH Liaison Comments

- a. Nothing from the Board of Supervisors, McDonough echoed Larsons sentiments of appreciation for the contributions of Crow Sunleaf.

5. Approval of Agenda

- a. Motioned by Smith to approve the agenda for the Regularly Scheduled Board of Health Meeting on December 18, 2024. Crow Sunleaf pointed out that the agenda did not include the Emergency Preparedness Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) consent item, which was previously noted in the minutes of the November 26, 2024 meeting as being scheduled for discussion at the December 18 meeting. Larson withdrew the item from the agenda. The motion to approve was seconded by Lehmkuhl. The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

6. Approval of Minutes

- a. Motioned by Fidgeon to approve the November 26, 2024, Regularly Scheduled Board of Health Meeting minutes; Crow Sunleaf reported a mistake on the minutes. Motion was made by Crow Sunleaf to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Joseph. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Presentations & Reports

- a. DCPH Monthly Report - White reported an increase in seasonal virus activity compared to the previous month, with infectious disease trends continuing to rise. She reported that the state is currently in the peak season for pertussis, and the peak period for norovirus is underway. Additionally, White noted the ongoing presence of these diseases within the state and emphasized the importance of preparedness for potential avian flu outbreaks. As a result, biosecurity training exercises focused on avian flu are in the planning stages. Updates were provided on the increase in cases of human parvovirus and mycoplasma pneumonia, and the Covid-19 Wastewater Surveillance initiative, which was provided to all cities in Dubuque County but only the City of Dubuque has expressed interest in participating. White also provided an update on the efforts of the Incident Management Team, which continues to work on revisions to the public health response plan. White updated the Board of Health on the Stop the Bleed training session that were conducted, the addition of health coaching apps to the Dubuque County Public Health webpage, the upcoming Parent Night event that is scheduled for January 30, 2025, from 5:30–6:30 p.m. at the Asbury Library, and quarterly webinars that would be available for the county sanitarian.
- b. VNA Monthly Report - Killian presented several updates related to funding loss of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Grant as of June 30, 2025, the Dairy Farmer Vaccination Program collaborative efforts with the upcoming clinic scheduled for December 28th, 2024, the ongoing efforts of the Immunization Grant, information on the Care for Yourself Grant, and the new collaborative Medical Interpreter Project between themselves, Dubuque County Public Health Department, and Better Together Community.
- c. DCPH Private Well Grant Update - White provided an update on the status of the grant. McDonough expressed the need for further analytical data regarding water testing trends and suggested exploring potential collaboration with the Watershed Department to enhance data collection and analysis.
- d. Get Healthy Initiative - Bertges presented the Get Healthy initiative as a strategic response to address community concerns related to physical activity and healthy eating. The presentation outlined the initiative's timeline, supported by relevant statistics on cardiovascular disease and community health needs, which served as a justification for the initiative's goals as a way to address community concerns based on

physical activity and healthy diets. The initiative's goals are to encourage healthier lifestyles through various actions that include organizing games and contests to engage the community, hosting community health meetings to promote awareness and education, increasing the initiative's visibility throughout the community, and providing resources to support individuals in making healthier choices.

- e. Opioid Settlement Fund Update- Brown updated on the Naloxone in the Jail Program, noting that training sessions have successfully taken place. Additionally, updates were given on the deployment of smaller Naloxone distribution boxes. Photographs were presented showcasing the newly installed Naloxone distribution machines, which are now operational.

8. Action Item

- a. Request for Funds - Private Well Water Testing- White reported that, due to the recommendation against testing during the winter months, there was no perceived need to request additional funding and that some funds have been retained for well remediation.
- b. FY26 Budget Proposal - White explained the format of the budget template and provided an overview of the predicted annual revenue. It was suggested that the predicted revenue be rounded up for budgeting purposes. White presented capital fund requests for \$35,000 for the addition to the Humane Society, \$75,000 for the next year's budget for the Humane Society, \$4,000 for statistical software, \$1,500 for a matching standing desk, \$46,000 for the purchase of a new truck, \$10,000 for outreach efforts, and funding for an additional environmental employee. Lehmkuhl requested clarification on the handling of leftover funds, specifically where they are retained. White reported that an investigation into fee increases revealed that the current fees are aligned with those of other counties. Additionally, significant changes include the conclusion of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Grant and an explanation of the funding process for the Public Health Emergency Grant. McDonough suggested exploring alternative revenue sources to address the increased operational funding request for the Humane Society and the additional employee.
- c. 2025 Board of Health Regularly Scheduled Meeting Schedule- Larson proposed keeping it on the 3rd Wednesday at 4:30 PM.

9. Response to public questions- None

10. Board Communication & Reports: None

11. Unfinished Business –

- a. Opioid Fund Proposal- White reported that the request from Turning Point is being rewritten to address financial details before being presented to the Board of Health. McDonough inquired whether there is an established procedure for the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. It was noted that the January meeting will include a working group focused on refining this process. The request has been withdrawn on a permanent basis pending the rewrite.
- b. LUST New Well Proposal: White updated the Board of Health on the proposal of 1000ft between leaking tank and new well and reported that the county attorney expressed concerns about adopting the proposal. As a result, the proposal has been withdrawn in order to gather more information before proceeding further.

12. New Business – Crow Sunleaf requested to amend bylaws to extend board service from three

to five years and suggested convening a bylaws subcommittee. Lehmkuhl and Dolter volunteered for this subcommittee.

13. **Next Meeting** – January 15, 2024 @ 4:30 p.m.

14. **Public Comment** – None.

15. **Work Session** –City of Dubuque Health - Corrigan provided an update regarding the work of the City of Dubuque Public Health Department, which employs a total of seven staff members, including the department head, animal control personnel, a food inspector, and three sanitarians. These staff members are responsible for conducting inspections related to food safety, tattoo services, pool testing, and emergency management, with one sanitarian specifically handling public emergency management. Corrigan reported improvements in areas such as pet licensing, nuisance complaints, and food safety services. Additionally, Corrigan highlighted various partnerships with the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) and County Public Health. Corrigan reported that the department is actively enforcing nuisance complaints, pet licenses, and animal control ordinance. The Urban Deer Management Program was also discussed as part of the enforcement efforts, as well as the ongoing partnership with Crescent Health Center and the future expansion of dental services.

16. **Adjournment** –Lehmkuhl motioned for adjournment, Larson adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes by: Nicole Bertges