

Board of Health Minutes

BOH08122026

The regular scheduled meeting of the Hancock County Board of Health was held on August 12th, 2026, at the Hancock County Health Department.

Chair Ronnie Jones called the meeting to order. Those attending were Ronnie Jones, Lisa Ludovici, Tamara Pettit, Judy Raveaux and Leslie Fields by phone.

Staff of the Health Department present were Dr. Rhody, Health Officer, Ami Arneault, Administrator, Michelle Berneburg, Becky Weekly and Carolyne Baker.

Motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by Judy Raveaux, seconded by Tamara Pettit, which passed.

Motion to approve the financials was made by Lisa Ludovici and seconded by Tamara Pettit, which passed. All certificates of deposit (CD's) are current until early 2027 and available on the financial report.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: Infrastructure damage. The Board discussed the most recent water damage to the Health Department building. Currently, we are waiting to hear from John Klee, County Administrator, who will contact the Insurance Company and discuss with the city, County and State a resolution to prevent further water damage.

Communications and public comments: Michelle Berneburg discussed Audit Performance. The Health Department achieved an overall score of 97.4% with 100% scores on Community Health needs, immunizations, and emergency preparedness. It was noted that the state is increasing audit scrutiny, moving from 10% to a 20% review of cases. The passing threshold has been raised from 75% to 90%.

Carolyne Baker discussed recent outbreaks and investigations.

Michelle also discussed a recent uptick in Cyclosporiasis, Campylobacter and Norovirus cases as well as vaccines being discussed at the Federal level. A rabies bait drop was conducted between August 15th and September 4th.

Ami Arneault discussed the WVLHA conference. DOP came to discuss all programs they offer which will be utilized by the Health Department ie. Pay increases and HR. Garage has been completed.

Becky Weekley did a tour of the new garage for the Board.

Tamara Pettit gave the Board information concerning Virtual Ethics Training.

The Board then went into executive session to discuss pay increases. The discussion was tabled to a later date so they can gather more information on evaluations and past increases for each employee.

The next meeting will be held on October 14th, 2026, at the Health Department.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Judy Raveaux and seconded by Lisa Ludovici. Which passed.

Submitted respectfully for Dr. Rhody