

BOH12142021

The regularly scheduled meeting of Hancock County Board of Health was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 4:00PM, via conference call. Chair, John Plesa called the meeting to order and proceeded with roll call. Anthony Palavis, Nicole Glass, Sam DeCapio and Sandy Haspel all members were all present at the meeting. Staff present were Dr. Chris Rhody, Health Officer, Jackie Huff, Administrator and Carolyne Baker, RS. Commissioner Paul Cowey was present.

Jackie Huff submitted the minutes and financials from the October meeting. Chair Plesa asked all members if they had reviewed the documents and were there any objections or changes needed. Hearing none from the members the minutes were approved, and financials were filed for audit.

Public comments: None in attendance.

Old Business: Jackie Huff provided updates on COVID-19. The voicemail system on the phones are updated as needed with the clinic dates and times per Commissioner Chek suggestion. This is in addition to the media and social media information releases. Extra clinics were held in the beginning of December to address the mis dosed patients that got their vaccine at Davis Brother Pharmacy. The numbers were not large with the information to the Pharmacy's patients getting out late. The department will continue to offer the Thursday vaccination clinics at the Harv 10-12 and by appointment on other days at the Health Department. Testing is ongoing at the Health Department. The patient remains in their cars and phones to say they are in the lot and then the nursing staff goes to the car. This hopefully reduces the spread factor. Chair Plesa asked about the schools and in general the numbers and how the county is doing. Jackie stated that the cases are still coming in and it increases and reduces in waves. Commissioner Cowey asked how the impact of the Davis Brother Pharmacy error affected the department. The department was effective with the state asking the Health Department to revaccinate all those patients that were not given sufficient vaccine and needed to be revaccinated. The error occurred in a 7-month timeframe from April 2021 through November 2021, according to the press release and letter sent on behalf of the Davis Brother Pharmacy by the state pharmacy board.

ELC ED Grant Building; The grant has been approved and signed by the State. Jackie stated she is connecting with persons to help find a contractor and is working on budgetary numbers. Chair Plesa asked what the Boards involvement would be with the process and what the Commissions involvement would be for the building. Jackie stated that the commission had discussed the land for the proposed building location next to the magistrates. The land is owned by the county. As far as the scope of the Commission on the Board is as a new regulatory approval. Commissioner Cowey acknowledged that was his understanding.

The audit for the fiscal year of 2021 is completed and submitted and there were no findings.

New Business: Nominations of Officers. Anthony Palavis nominated John Plesa as Chair. Sandy Haspel seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the nomination and Chair Plesa will serve as Chairman of the Hancock County Board of Health.

Anthony Palavis nominated Nicole Glass for the Vice Chair position. John Plesa seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the nomination and Nicole Glass will serve as the Vice Chair.

John Plesa thanked Anthony Palavis for his service over his term as Vice Chair.

Attached was the list of proposed meeting dates for the 2022 year. The Board approved the presented dates and times. The Chair also stated that the place will be determined based on the pandemic's situation at that time. It will continue as virtual as long as the numbers are high, and the infection rate is high. The dates and times will be posted on the Health Departments webpage.

Chair Plesa then addressed the Increment Pay Policy/Cost of Living. He made a motion to proceed with the increments stating that the financials supported the increment increase. Sam DeCapio seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor of the increment pay. The motion was approved. The pay policy is filed for audit.

Jackie stated that she had received another grant to get assistance with work for COVID-19 the grant runs through June 2023. She asked that the Board consider the contractual hire of Donna Gialluco for sanitarian and to help through the pandemic. She will be per diem and cover inspections and assist with all other

work associated with the response. Donna completed training and certification as sanitarian. Jackie confirmed the proper steps to bring her on as SIT with the state. If approved will start at the first of the year. John Plesa moved to approve Donna in the position for the grant cycle. Sam DeCapio seconded the motion. All members voted and approved by quorum.

Staff reports: Clinical and Environmental reports were provided. Jackie stated that we are moving along on all programs and that the department was further along this year in comparison to last year.

Jackie stated that there is a septic issue in Newell of failing systems. Carolyne Baker with the department has dye tested several properties all showing failing systems. The only option to the residents is to connect to the public sewage system. The properties do not have space to do modifications. The process is ongoing.

Anthony Palavis and the Board wished to express sympathy to the family of Chuck Wright, Clerk of Courts who had passed away on December 11, 2021.

Chair asked if any other business to discuss. Hearing none he proceeded to wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday. The next meeting will be in the new year on February 8th, 2022.

The Chair then moved to adjourn. Sam DeCapio seconded the motion. The meeting stands adjourned.

Respectfully submitted for Dr Rhody