

JEFFERSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
405 Main Street, Hillsboro, MO 63050
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February 23, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Diehl called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jefferson County Health Department to order at 4:00pm .

ROLL CALL

Dennis Diehl, Chairman - Present

Dr. Amber Henry, Vice-Chairman – Excused

James Prater, Secretary-Treasurer – Present

Tim Pigg, Member – Present

Susan (Suzy) Davis, Member – Present

OTHERS ATTENDING

- Kelley Vollmar, Executive Director
- Steve Sikes, Deputy Director Operations
- Jennifer Pinkley, Deputy Director Admin.
- Christi Coleman, Legal Counsel

Others in attendance:

Brianne Zwiener, Public Communications Officer Melissa Parmeley, Clinical Services Manager Alan Liederbran
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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Prater made a motion to amend the agenda to add termination of lease of the High Ridge office and the Jefferson County Library System under old business. Mr. Pigg seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion, the motion carried to amend the agenda with Ms. Davis being the only dissenting vote and Chairperson Diehl announced the motion had passed.

Mr. Prater moved to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Pigg seconded. Hearing no discussion, the motion carried, and Chairperson Diehl announced the motion had passed.

Approval of January 26, 2023, Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2023, meeting minutes were tabled until next meeting.

January 2023 APPROVAL EXPENDITURES

Mr. Prater moved to approve the January 2023 expenditures of \$275,163.60. Mr. Pigg seconded. Ms. Davis questioned the legal bills and ASPEN; Ms. Coleman clarified the purposes for the legal bills. Hearing no further discussion, the motion carried with Ms. Davis being the only dissenting vote and Chairperson Diehl announced the motion had passed.

January 2023 APPROVAL ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Mr. Prater motioned to approve the electronic payments for January 2023 of \$471,640.52. Mrs. Davis seconded. Hearing no discussion, the motion carried and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

March 2023 PRE-APPROVAL ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

The list of vendors for pre-approved electronic payments for March 2023 was presented to the board with an estimated amount of \$604,837.25. Mr. Prater motioned to pre-approve the March 2023 Electronic Payments. Mrs. Davis seconded. Hearing no discussion. Motion carried and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – KELLEY VOLLMAR

Update on Strategic Plan:

Onuka Ibe and Arielle Donelan from La Piana Consulting shared a brief overview of the work they will be doing with Jefferson County Health Department over the next few months as part of the strategic plan process. They will be working with the Department to develop a strategic plan that allows it to develop a strength-based strategy and a detailed set of action plans to allow the agency to provide positive outcomes to the community and be resilient as an organization. It is important to have strategic clarity throughout the entire agency from the board including all the staff as well as the work that you all do in partnership with other organizations that you will be able to make sure that your decisions, your people, your funding, and resources are all aligned towards

those efforts that lead to the greatest impact. A clear strategy will also make sure that the agency is able not just to decide what it will do but also to have the clarity to understand when something is either not worth doing or when an existing activity is no longer having enough value to continue to be prioritized.

Discussion ensued on the strategic plan purpose, price, and process. Ms. Davis questioned why current staff could not develop the strategic plan in-house, and was reminded that the hiring of the consultants had already been approved. Ms. Davis also questioned whether additional funds would have to be spent on the development of the plan, beyond the contracted amount the Board already approved, and La Piana stated that the contracted price was the only cost to the Board for the service.

Clinical Services Report – Ms. Melissa Parmeley, Clinic Services Manager

Ms. Parmeley explained the restructure of the monthly report, she separated the clinical programs and sections and tied them to Foundational Public Health Services - Missouri's current model for how health departments should be providing the minimum set of fundamental Public Health Services and capabilities.

The Title 10 Equity Funding that our clinical team sought and received for the purpose of period poverty kits. This year Title 10 had some funds that they were able to focus on equity specific projects and our family planning team wrote for this additional funding to be able to put together period poverty kits to supply to our clients, it was a significant project for them to undertake to move that forward and we are proud that they received that additional funding. The TB program has moved under Clinical Services, and we are training staff.

When we implemented CureMD in August one of the benefits of this new electronic medical record system that we did not have before is the reporting capabilities and this is my first go at this dashboard, we just got access to this reports module in December and got trained. Ms. Parmeley reviewed the dashboard and asked the Board to give feedback to other information that would like to see on the dashboard.

ASPEN Update – Ms. Jaclyn Brown, ASPEN Coordinator

Ms. Brown reviewed the grant funding, gave an update and brief history of ASPEN.

Ms. Davis questioned why the funds weren't being spent on providing mental healthcare for residents and suggested that a fire station which is for sale be used to provide

mental health care. Ms. Vollmar explained that the provision of health care is not the purview of the Health Department, and this is the difference between Public Health and Health Care. ASPEN is to provide resources to the types of services Ms. Davis described.

Mr. Pigg made a motion to adjourn the meeting, as Ms. Davis and Ms. Vollmar were talking over each other. No one seconded the motion, so it failed.

Ms. Brown continued and explained that ASPEN also has a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and a website that can be accessed at [Jefferson County Health Network \(jchnetwork.org\)](http://Jefferson County Health Network (jchnetwork.org)). Ms. Brown encouraged the Board and the public to consult the FAQ to learn more about the program.

Communications Report – Ms. Brianne Zwiener

Ms. Zwiener presented questions that have been asked in various emails and responded to them.

Ms. Zwiener stated that one such inquiry was: “The Health Department Board Reports on the JCHD website are as follows: September, October, and November 2022. No other reports are available to the public. I have requested several times for all past and current reports to be published and available for public transparency.” In response, Ms. Zwiener explained that We started providing those in September of 2022 on the website. The December 2022 files still need to be combined and uploaded on the website and our communications team is working on that. The January 2023 report has also been added. To publish program board reports prior to September 2022, we must go back into meeting files and scan in the selected reports. This takes internal staff and time which has not yet been assigned.

Ms. Zwiener stated that another inquiry was: “The JCHD website has not been updated with treasury reports. There have been specific requests about funds that the JCHD receives and how the money is spent. There are grants issued to the JCHD for the ASPEN program, lead programs, Covid funds, etc. On the website, there is no documentation regarding the amounts of all grants and incoming funds and how they are spent. When can we expect those to be published on the website?” Ms. Zwiener responded that the information regarding agency funds can be found in the yearly annual report published on the website and sent into the county each year. The treasury reports are not reports that are (nor have ever been) published on the health department website. The agency has an independent audit conducted annually and has received clean audits each time. In addition to the annual audit, part of most grant and

contract funding streams are monthly/quarterly/annual financial reporting for quality control. JCHD has never had any issues with federal, state, or local funders or auditors.

Regarding the ASPEN program, another inquiry was: "There is no update on what schools are participating. How many children are involved? The waiver states those who are authorized access to collected data are as follows: authorized officials, counselors, social workers, staff, parents, guardians, certain personnel at the Jefferson County Health Department, law enforcement officials, regulators, other agencies, third parties only is required to comply with legal or regulatory obligations, crisis counselors, and professionals. To my understanding, by reading the waivers, all of these individuals have access to participants' data. The ASPEN program has a contract with a software company called Architect Now. Can you please disclose how much this company is paid monthly for the ASPEN program?" Ms. Zwiener responded that as of the publication of the 2022 JCHD Annual Report on January 31, 2023, there were 8 schools that have completed agreements and intend to utilize the ASPEN tool.

The waiver provides individuals such as identified school personnel access to the information a student voluntarily provides to assist them as a school guidance counselor usually would. The waiver also states that certain third parties will receive certain information only when necessary to provide services or comply with the law.

The work completed for the ASPEN tool was invoiced as pieces were completed so there is no monthly payment to Architect Now.

Another inquiry was: "Would the JCHD Board clarify how the Maximus contract tracing is being used in Jefferson County? Is there a report that can be published regarding personal names and information that is being collected? How many have been contacted, how many hang-ups, and any other data that has been collected?" Ms. Zwiener responded that Maximus was a company that we contracted with during COVID19 contact tracing and case investigations. We have not worked with that agency since February of 2021. This contract provided JCHD communicable disease team with contact tracing support staff to assist in completing contact tracing for COVID-19 exposures per state guidelines.

Per the final report we received from Maximus, 4,955 contacts were successfully traced and 5,452 were attempted.

There is no report of names or personal information that can be published due to HIPPA just as none of our other patient information can be published.

Another inquiry was: "Would the JCHD Board explain and address Resolution 22-01-27-01? The Resolution continues to state the power of the Health Department Director to

determine quarantine options and decisions. I request a reevaluation of this Resolution as soon as possible. This is definitely unconstitutional to our county." Ms. Zwiener responded that the resolution allows the JCHD Communicable Disease team to continue case investigations and mitigation measures for reportable conditions under Missouri State statutes excluding COVID which this board voted to exclude from the list.

The implementation of this resolution simply allows JCHD to continue protecting public health from communicable disease transmission through evidence-based methods which is exactly what the state requires, except for the JCHD resolution does not include COVID. There is nothing in this resolution that gives the agency or the director any power or authority that is not already part of the required mitigations per Missouri state statute.

Regarding the Covid-19 page on the JCHD website, the inquiry was: "I have requested an update to this page. Currently, the website states for How to Protect Yourself and Others the following information: get vaccinated against Covid-19 and wear a mask - these are number 1 and number 2 These are very, very old suggestions. Please remove this from the website. Please remove all suggestions on the website for the covid 19 shots, especially for young children. May I please suggest that the JCHD do recent research on vaccinations? There are plenty of resources that are not government funded. The VAERS website is part of the Health and Human Services division. I have included a recent report. VAERS is the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System put in place in 1990. It is a voluntary reporting system that has been estimated to account for only 1% of vaccine injuries. The following is an update from <https://openvaers.com/covid-data/states-summary> for Missouri for the covid shot." Ms. Zwiener responded that as a public health department and health care provider, we follow CDC and MODHSS guidance and recommendations for all health topics including COVID. Vaccination is the best prevention method available to prevent COVID-19 infection and/or severity of disease. Per CDC and MDHSS guidance JCHD recommends and provides COVID vaccination for residents who are eligible.

Further, VAERS or other vaccine safety monitoring systems are often used incorrectly, sometimes deliberately, in order to spread misinformation and disinformation. VAERS and similar systems allow anyone to submit reports of vaccine injury or side effects; these claims do not have to be verified. After claims are made, government health experts perform investigations to determine whether reported injuries or side effects were due to vaccines. This is why only official government reports and peer-reviewed scientific studies should be trusted.

OLD BUSINESS

Act on Board member request to discuss investments:

Ms. Davis made a motion to move any investments that are not performing to certificates at 4 percent at a local bank. Ms. Coleman advised this is not an appropriate motion because it does not actually give specific action to be taken. Mr. Prater amended the motion to establish a financing committee consisting of two sitting board members to discuss the topic further. Ms. Davis amended the motion to move money into 4 percent one-year certificates. No second on the motion, motion fails.

Termination of High Ridge Office lease with Jefferson County Library:

Ms. Vollmar stated that the Board already approved the decision to terminate the lease at High Ridge, we just need a motion to authorize the Chairperson to execute the lease termination agreement.

Mr. Prater made a motion to authorize the Chairperson to sign the lease termination agreement for the High Ridge office. Mr. Pigg seconded the motion. Ms. Davis questioned why JCHD is abandoning that area of the county, Ms. Coleman stated that the Board already voted to close the High Ridge office - this motion is simply because we have now received the actual document from the facility for the Board to sign. Chairperson Diehl explained that JCHD will still be that portion of the County with our mobile unit and Mr. Prater explained that you can find where the mobile vans are located on the JCHD app.

NEW BUSINESS

Act on Board member request to amend the approved budget for legal expenses:

Ms. Davis made a motion to amend the budget for legal expenses to \$15,000.00 a year going forward. No second on the motion, motion fails.

Act on Board member request to change all approved regular meeting times:

Ms. Davis made a motion to start Board meetings at 6:30 pm, and that once a month the staff would come in later in the day to accommodate staying late for the meeting. Mr. Prater seconded the motion so that discussion could be had. Ms. Davis stated that we received a letter from the Attorney General's office in December 2021 to make the meetings at a more convenient time for the public, which she stated must mean after the work day. Mr. Prater stated that letter was an opinion letter, not a violation letter. Chairman Diehl reminded Ms. Davis that the meetings are recorded live and are available online for the public to view them at any time. Discussion ensued and the

motion was called. Ms. Davis yea, Chairman Diehl, Mr. Prater, and Mr. Pigg nay. Chairman Diehl announced the motion failed.

ADJOURN

Mr. Prater motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Pigg seconded.

Ms. Davis asked about the issues she sent regarding herself, Ms. Vollmar, Chairman Diehl, and Mr. Pigg and that it has never been referred to a third party for investigation. Ms. Coleman asked Ms. Davis if she wanted to talk about this in the open session and she said yes, she does. Ms. Coleman replied that it was sent to a third party for investigation and there was no violation of policy found.

Motion carried unanimously and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm



Secretary-Treasurer