

**JEFFERSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**Physical Location 405 Main Street, Hillsboro, MO 63050**  
**Recorded Broadcast available VIA: YouTube**  
**@<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCACuytmq2kUAI65z3AYsmYw>**  
**June 24, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Diehl called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jefferson County Health Department to order at 3:04 pm .

**ROLL CALL**

Dennis Diehl, Chairman - Present  
Dr. Amber Henry, Vice-Chairman – Present  
James Prater, Secretary-Treasurer – Present  
Tim Pigg, Member – Present  
Susan (Suzy) Davis, Member – Present

**OTHERS ATTENDING** (x indicates present)

- Kelley Vollmar, Executive Director
- Steve Sikes, Deputy Director, Agency Operations
- Jennifer Pinkley, Deputy Director, Agency Administration
- Christi Coleman, Counsel

Others in attendance:

Kate Wagner, Family Nurse Practitioner  
Kourtney Evans, Public Health Nurse

**VISITORS AND GUEST REMARKS**

None

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Prater made a motion to amend the agenda to move item IX Closed Session before New Business. Mr. Pigg seconded. After hearing no discussion, it passed unanimously. Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

Mr. Pigg motioned to approve the amended agenda. Dr. Prater seconded. After hearing no discussion, it passed unanimously. Chairman Diehl announced the amended agenda was approved.

## **May 27, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

Dr. Henry made a motion to approve the 5/27/2021 minutes. Mr. Prater seconded. Hearing no discussion, The motion carried Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed and the minutes were approved.

## **May 28, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Pigg made a motion to approve the 5/28/2021 minutes. Mr. Prater seconded. Hearing no discussion, The motion carried. Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed and the minutes were approved. Dr. Henry abstained from voting as she was absent for that meeting.

## **May 2021 EXPENDITURES**

Mr. Prater motioned to approve the May 2021 expenditures for \$969,588.64. Dr. Henry seconded. The motion carried unanimously and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

## **May 2021 APPROVAL ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS**

Mr. Prater motioned to approve the electronic payments for May 2021 for \$412,646.97. Mr. Pigg seconded. The motion carried unanimously and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

## **July 2021 PRE-APPROVAL ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS**

The list of vendors for pre-approved electronic payments for July 2021 presented to the board with an estimated amount of \$561,637.25. Mr. Pigg motioned to pre-approve the July 2021 Electronic Payments. Dr. Henry seconded. The motion carried unanimously and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

## **DIRECTORS REPORT – KELLEY VOLLMAR**

**Family Planning and TRT Update** – Kate Wagner, Family Nurse Practitioner and Kourtney Evans, Public Health Nurse

Kate and Kourtney provided an overview of the Family Planning and The Right Time (TRT) that is provided at JCHD. Title X was established in 1970 and is the nation's first and only federal program dedicated to providing reproductive and sexual healthcare. Title X primarily serves lower-income populations with low – to no – cost, confidential, culturally sensitive healthcare services. Services include birth control counseling, education and supplies, testing and treatment for sexual transmitted disease (STD), cervical and breast cancer screening, pregnancy testing and counseling and well person exams. Funding comes from The Missouri Family Health Council and is the state's sole Title X grantee. The Right Time is also lead by MFHC and is funded through a six-year initiative by Missouri Foundation for Health. This program seeks to address persistent health disparities in unintended pregnancy and inspire individuals to take control of their own health by providing low – to – no- cost contraception to all who need it. Kate gave a shout-out to the medical assistants, maintenance staff and office support staff, said we couldn't do what we do without them. Mr. Pigg asked what the Board could do to help, Kate just getting the word out that we are here offering services, so we can serve more patients.

Mrs. Davis arrived at 3:21 pm.

#### **Recognition of Retirement of Richard Tufts**

Mrs. Vollmar recognized Mr. Tufts for his 18 years of dedicated service, he served in many positions, Emergency Response Manager, Nursing Administration and Assistant Director. We wish him well on his new journey of retirement.

#### **Re-Opening JCHD Facility Services**

Clinical programs that continued throughout the pandemic response were family planning, vital records, immunizations, and curbside services. Our Hillsboro office has been open providing services throughout the pandemic. JCHD added COVID-19 testing, COVID-19 vaccinations, case management and Telehealth visits with Nurse Practitioners during the pandemic. Expansion of clinical services are immunizations in the Arnold office, end of month inventory was required before an audit could be scheduled, that audit was completed June 17<sup>th</sup> by Vaccines for Children (VFC), High Ridge immunization will be provided once the VFC audit is complete and Family Planning in Arnold our request has been approved by Afaxys (340B medication provider) and we are hoping to get approval from Afaxys for High Ridge in June. Mobile Wellness has partnered with Food Pantries and COVID-19 vans have begun community rotations. Senior Dental van is already back at Long Term Care Facilities providing dental services.

Mrs. Davis stated that she received some phone calls complaining that people were unable to receive a TB test or birth control. Ms. Davis inquired whether they could have been going to the Hillsboro office, and Mrs. Vollmar replied in the affirmative, since that office was open the entire time during the pandemic.

Mrs. Davis questioned that since the request for vaccine is down, why have we not opened the High Ridge office? Mrs. Vollmar explained it is a process that involves both federal and state partners. Mrs. Davis inquired about the wait time to get in for a Well Woman appointment

Mrs. Davis asked, “for the record,” how long we have been in yellow? Mrs. Vollmar replied that this information is in the weekly reports Ms. Vollmar sends to the Board members. Mrs. Davis replied that, “for the record,” we have been in yellow for several weeks and under 4 positive cases a week per 100,000 population. At this point, Mr. Figg called a Point of Order.

Mrs. Davis continued, asking why mitigation measures were still in place in the community, specifically why if anyone comes into the health department, they are asked to wear a mask unless they show proof of vaccine. Mrs. Vollmar stated that is a recommendation of CDC that all medical facilities are to have mandatory masking. Therefore, we are asking clients to come to wear a mask, if they would like to voluntarily show proof of vaccine they can be in the non-clinic area without a mask. If an individual does not want to wear a mask or show proof of vaccination, they will be accommodated by being provided curbside or telehealth services.

Chairman Diehl asked the Director to continue with her report. However, Mrs. Davis continued to speak out of order. Mrs. Vollmar asked the Chairman if she could have the floor to finish her report. Chairperson Diehl briefly recessed the meeting when Ms. Davis would not allow Ms. Vollmar the floor to continue her report.

### **PDMP Update**

On May 12, 2021, the Missouri Legislature passed SB 63, which modifies provisions to monitoring certain controlled substances, this allows Missouri to establish a statewide Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). JCHD participates in the St. Louis County PDMP and they will continue to operate until a statewide program is available and fully operational for utilization by healthcare providers. We have renewed our User Agreement with St. Louis County.

### **COVID Delta Variant Update**

The concern regarding the delta variant the delta variant is the newest variation of the coronavirus that is coming, and Missouri has just become the number one state in the nation for cases per a hundred thousand residents and delta variant is playing a very large role in that. The World Health Organization and The Center for Disease Control have both considered the delta variant as a variant of concern due to its more transmittable than the alpha variant by up to 50 percent and our preliminary data is suggesting that it is more virulent as well causing more serious infections and higher rates of hospitalizations things that we are seeing currently within the state of

Missouri which give rise for concern are the significant increase in cases within the Springfield, Joplin and Branson communities as well as in the northern counties of Missouri. Basically, we have seen the hospitalizations have reached levels where they are looking at Cox Health out of Springfield to start diverting patients to the St. Louis and Kansas City areas. The difference with the number of individuals who are hospitalized is that they are seeing significant numbers of individuals in their 20s 30s and 40s with this strain who are being hospitalized rather than older adults right now. What they are looking at is the fact that this particular virus is seeking out those basically who are not immunized so those who are who are immunized are showing better resistance to this than those who even may have had the disease and have recovered from it. So one of the things that they have found is in particular with the Washington University study is that though some individuals may show that they have longer term immunization and antibodies resulting from the having an earlier version of the coronavirus some of them are showing none and so it is extremely important whether or not an individual has had the coronavirus to go ahead and to get the vaccine as protection against this particular variant with the speed and the transmissibility of it. As far as looking at what our concerns are we have already seen a large increase in the Lincoln County area, our concern is when the first coronavirus started spreading across the state of Missouri it went along the pathways of the highways and the major cities and so if you think about it in terms of people traveling it will move city to city. I have a very big concern with the fact that both locations Springfield and Branson are tourist locations and a lot of individuals within our area particularly frequent them for weekend destinations. We definitely need to increase our push for vaccinations within the community. There are four sewer systems that are part of the sewer shed analysis with the state two of our four have started showing the delta variant as part of their analysis, basically what they are saying is usually within about a month after that you'll start to see the human cases with the delta variant, I do know that a couple of our regional partners have started to see human delta cases. So again, encouraging individuals if you have not received your vaccination at this point, please do get your vaccination if you are able otherwise, please do utilize the prevention services or prevention methods in terms of wearing a mask extra hand washing.

Mrs. Davis stated there is always going to be a variant of a virus. She claimed that this particular variant hasn't been determined to be a pandemic. She also stated to Mrs. Vollmar, "You know you're always asking people to get vaccinated but you know all the people that want a vaccination have already gotten it and we're still looking at a good forty percent more that don't. We are not going to achieve a 70 vaccinated community; you are not going to make it happen no matter what you do. We have herd immunity now because our cases are low." Mr. Diehl called Ms. Davis out of order.

Mrs. Vollmar responded to Mrs. Davis's statements that, as Ms. Davis has consistently pointed out that this is an "80 plus virus," however, the individuals that we are seeing in the hospital at this moment in time are in their 20s, 30s and 40s - we even have a reported case of COVID in a one-year-old in the hospital at this point in time. This this virus can attack anyone and so we must do what we can to ensure that everybody who can be can get immunized has the opportunity, so that we can protect those who cannot. The immunizations are not foolproof and people who receive the vaccine are still getting COVID, but those vaccinated are better off that those who haven't been vaccinated.

With this, Mrs. Vollmar concluded her report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Pigg made a motion to go into closed session in accordance with the Sunshine Law Statute 610.021 Section(s)1, 2, 3, and 14. Mr. Prater seconded. Mrs. Davis called point of order and stated she did not want to go into closed session. No further discussion the motion carried with the following votes:

Chairman Diehl—Aye  
Dr. Henry—Aye  
Mr. Prater—Aye  
Mr. Pigg—Aye  
Mrs. Davis—Nay

### **RE-OPEN SESSION**

Mr. Prater motioned to re-open open session; Dr. Henry seconded. Hearing no discussion, the motion carried unanimously, and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed with the following votes:

Chairman Diehl—Aye  
Dr. Henry—Aye  
Mr. Prater—Aye  
Mr. Pigg—Aye  
Mrs. Davis—Nay

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Action on Recommendation Director Contract**

Chairman Diehl stated the board had revised the bylaws of the health department which changed the employment status of the director to a contractual employee, and we have been working with a committee

and our legal representative since January to develop a contract for the director. We have worked out all the details among the members of the board and at this point we will take a vote to approve the director's appointment agreement as it is currently written which would be effective as of July 1, 2021.

Dr. Henry made a motion to approve the contract for the director. Mr. Pigg seconded. Mrs. Davis complained that she had not had a chance to review the contract because she could not print it out, due to the fact that she was camping. She requested that the vote on the contract be tabled. She also complained that she had just found out a committee had been set up for the director's contract. Mr. Pigg stated he would like to refute everything Ms. Davis said, because the contract had been emailed to Ms. Davis, along with all Board members, prior to the meeting and it was her responsibility to open it up, look at it, digest it, understand it, comprehend it, and come with some solidified answers to the Board meeting - none of which Ms. Davis had done. Mr. Pigg stated that, "All you have done is question and badger everybody here about delaying pushing it back not wanting to do it. We are going to move on." He then called the question on the motion on the floor.

Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed by a majority of the board with the following votes:

Chairman Diehl—Aye  
Dr. Henry—Aye  
Mr. Prater—Aye  
Mr. Pigg—Aye  
Mrs. Davis—Nay

Mrs. Davis stated we did not even read it out loud the people do not even know what this contract is. Mrs. Coleman stated she had gone through the entire contract paragraph-by-paragraph, line by line, in closed session so the Board could ask questions. Ms. Coleman notes that Ms. Davis was in the closed session the entire time, she did ask questions, and her questions were all answered in that session. Ms. Coleman also stated that the Board members had received a detailed summary of the contract terms at 11:03 that morning, prior to the meeting.

#### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Pigg motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Prater seconded. Hearing no discussion, The motion carried the motion unanimously and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right. The signature is positioned above the text "Secretary-Treasurer".

Secretary-Treasurer