

JEFFERSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
405 Main Street, Hillsboro, MO 63050
November 19, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Diehl called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jefferson County Health Department to order at 3:05pm.

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 via Phone

OTHERS ATTENDING

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

Others in attendance:

Katelyn Mary Skaggs, Leader
Publications

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Henry made a motion to amend the agenda to change item 3 under New Business Act on Personnel Committee request instead of Act on Director request for holiday schedule for JCHC staff. Chairman Diehl also had an amendment to the agenda item 2 under New Business is Resolution 21-05-28-01. Mr. Pigg seconded. Hearing no discussion, the motion carried unanimously. Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

Mr. Prater made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Dr. Henry seconded. Mrs. Davis asked why the agenda was being amended, to which Mr. Pigg explained there where two scribe errors. Hearing no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously. Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Act on Director request to adopt Resolution 21-11-19-01, pertaining to quarantine and isolation procedures, in collaboration with Jefferson County Schools.

Mrs. Vollmar read Resolution 21-11-19-01

At a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jefferson County Health Center (JCHC) held on the 19th day of November, 2021, at which a quorum was present, the following resolution was adopted,

WHEREAS, Chapter 19 CSR 20-20 of the Missouri Code of State Regulations establish the JCHD Executive Director to act as the local health authority, to “establish and maintain quarantine, isolation and other measures as required” in response to a communicable disease; and

WHEREAS, the Chapter 19 CSR 20-20.040 provides “The Health Director shall use the legal means necessary to control, investigate, or both, any disease or condition listed in 19 CSR 20-20.020 which is a threat to the public health,” and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of this Board provide that is “shall exercise full legislative rule and management authority for the Center by adopting policy and directing all procedures necessary for the governance of Center responsibilities;” and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of this Board provide, “Members shall work with other Board members to establish effective Board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the Center’s facilities to the Director. Members shall not attempt to by-pass, undermine, or usurp the Director’s authority and responsibility for the daily operation of the Center;” and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of this Board provide that the Executive Director of the JCHC is responsible for, “Enforcing all provisions of applicable municipal, state and federal laws, policies and regulations of the Board, make recommendations for any changes of policy or regulation which may be needed;” and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director has carried out her duties regarding communication of guidance to Jefferson County schools in an effective and cooperative manner and this Board is appreciative of her continued efforts to do so; and

WHEREAS, in further effort to clarify the role of this Organization in the community, the Executive Director has requested this Board’s support of recently prepared updated guidance to Jefferson County schools and an updated Quarantine Order.

THEREFORE, this Board hereby approves and adopts the guidance prepared by the Executive Director for dissemination to Jefferson County schools, attached hereto as Exhibit A. Further, this Board hereby approves and adopts the updated Notice of Quarantine Order, attached hereto as Exhibit B, and authorizes the Executive Director to employ same immediately.

Dr. Henry made a motion to adopt Resolution 21-11-18-01. Mr. Pigg seconded.

Ms. Coleman updated the Board on the TRO, the court did affirm that we could continue to use the guidance that we disseminated to the schools in August and September, but we just simply needed to remind them that it was guidance, and it was not a directive, so we did that. However, the court did direct us to ask schools to no longer use our notice of quarantine because the Court stated it was uncertain whose responsibility quarantine vs exclusion was. We complied with this and asked the schools to cease using our form. However, we also updated what we sent to the schools, to clarify that when parents have questions about exclusions, they need to contact the school, and if they question about the quarantine itself, they contact us. It also explains that if your child attends a school that is a that is eligible for modified quarantine (and we are the only entity who has the ability to modify quarantine), the form indicates and explains very clearly with color coding as to whether or not their child's school is eligible for the modified quarantine procedures. The updated form is now 2 pages instead of 4.

Mrs. Vollmar reminded the Board the strategies were brought before the Board August 26, 2021, Dr. Henry asked if that guidance had changed. Mrs. Vollmar stated we worked in collaboration with the schools for the September 9th update.

Ms. Coleman stated that the judge did not find there was anything wrong with that the guidance that we put out; the Court just wanted to make sure that the schools were clear it was our guidance and not orders of the health department. Mrs. Davis replied that the judge said that we never had any authority to tell the schools to quarantine. Ms. Coleman informed Ms. Davis this was not an accurate reading of the Order, and that it was up to the schools if they wanted to adopt policies themselves. We actually provided information in our briefing that says that we do not exclude students from schools that is the school's responsibility to do so. We cannot require that they do so, all we have the ability to do is to quarantine.

Chairman Diehl called the motion to question. Mr. Prater asked if the Resolution number should be 21-11-19-01, Chairman Diehl stated yes. Hearing no further discussion, the motion carried with Mrs. Davis being the only dissented vote. Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed.

Act on request from Board Member to rescind Resolution 21-05-28-01, which requires all visitors to the JCHC to wear a face mask.

Chairman Diehl asked for a motion. Mrs. Davis stated that we should not be requiring masks in the health department to which Mr. Pigg stated that we are a health care facility. Ms. Coleman warned the Board not to have premature discussion before the motion could be made and seconded.

Mrs. Davis made a motion that people should not be masked - weather they are employees or public coming into our building, regardless of vaccination status. Ms. Coleman reminded Mrs. Davis that this specific item on the agenda refers to a specific resolution. At that point, Mrs. Davis made a motion to rescind Resolution 21-05-28-01. However, the motion did not get a second, and therefore died for want of a second.

Act on Personnel Committee for holiday schedule for JCHC staff

The Personnel Committee is recommending that we allow staff December 27th, 28th, and 29th the week after Christmas off. They have put in so many hours and so much stress over the last year and half and we think it would be a nice benefit for them to have a mental health break.

Dr. Henry made a motion for holiday schedule for JCHC staff on December 27th, 28th and 29th. Mr. Pigg seconded.

Chairman Diehl asked about December 30th, to which Dr. Henry said staff are already off for the New Year's holiday that day. Chairman Diehl asked what about programs and services that week. Mrs. Vollmar stated the time period between Christmas and New Year has traditionally been extremely slow and we generally operate with a skeleton crew. If approved today it would give ample time to be able to schedule all appointments around that week, as well as any individuals who would require vital records to be able to acquire them from any of our partner agencies. As long as you are resident from Missouri you can go to any health department to receive a birth or death certificate. Mrs. Davis replied if other health departments are open on those dates, then we need to be open, because we are not special. Mrs. Vollmar state we are going through a tremendous amount of stress with our staff. We have significant reports that have come out from many of the national organizations as well as local organizations in terms of the mental health needs and stress that has become the public health workforce who have been living with COVID both at work and at home and experiencing the same things that individuals are within the community. Which has created numerous physical and emotional stress, as far as our staff are concerned, I think that it would be very supportive of the motion like this just because I feel that our staff need a break. Chairman Diehl asked what if a true emergency arises to which Mrs. Vollmar replied all supervisors have cell phones and we also a 24/7 emergency line for interaction with the public.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion carried with Mrs. Davis being the only dissenting vote. Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed

Mr. Prater motioned to go into closed session citing Sunshine Law Statute 610.021 Section 1. Dr. Henry seconded the motion. Chairman Diehl requested a roll call vote with the results as follows:

Chairman Diehl—Approve

Dr. Henry— Approve

Mr. Prater— Approve

Mr. Pigg— Oppose

Mrs. Davis— Oppose

Chairman Diehl announced the motion carried and they were now in closed session.


Mr. Pigg made a motion to re-open Open session. Dr. Henry seconded. Chairman Diehl requested a roll call vote with the results as follows:

Chairman Diehl—Approve
Dr. Henry— Approve
Mr. Prater— Approve
Mr. Pigg— Approve
Mrs. Davis— Approve

Chairman Diehl stated at the next Board meeting he would be appointing a Legal subcommittee.

ADJOURN

Mr. Pigg motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Henry seconded. Motion carried unanimously and Chairman Diehl announced the motion had passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:39 PM.


Secretary-Treasurer