Minutes for Guthrie County Board of Health

Guthrie County Health Services

October 5, 2022 Regular Meeting

**Present**

1. Board Members: Jan Mueller, Peg Snyder, Dr. Bascom, Bill McDermott
2. Director: Jotham Arber
3. Staff member: Jo Rasmussen
4. Guest: Paula Spies with New Opportunities

**Call to Order -**  Dr. Steven Bascom, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Board minutes**

* September 7, 2022 minutes were reviewed.
  + Motion by McDermott second by Snyder to approve the September 7, 2022 minutes. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

* Financial reports for both departments were reviewed.
  + Environmental Health
* Arber reviewed the financial report.
  + Public Health
* Arber reviewed the financial report.

**Department Activity Report**

* Activities for Environmental Health and Public Health
  + Monthly reports of services provided for public health and environmental health were reviewed.
  + Downing has about three weeks left for perc tests.
* Activities for Social Worker
  + A report was shared by Jenny Jessen, MSW, for the month of September 2022.
  + As of October 1, Jessen will supervise the HOPES program and employee. Her goal will be to have thirty-five families in the program for both Counties by next year.
* Epidemiology Report (including COVID activity)
  + Arber gave an update on the current number of COVID cases.
  + Arber noted that we are doing clinics in Guthrie Center, Audubon, Casey, Stuart, Panora and possibly Bayard/Bagley.
  + There has been a shortage for Moderna booster shots. We do have plenty of Pfizer vaccine. No boosters under the age of 12 years are available at this time.

**Old Business**

1. Sliding Fee Scale for Mental Health Therapy
   * Arber shared with the board a sliding fee scale for Mental Health Therapy. The current rate is $165.00 per counseling session. Arber noted that the sliding fee is based on income.
   * Motion by Snyder seconded by McDermott to accept the Mental Health Therapy counseling sliding fee. Motion carried.
2. Environmental Health First Quarter Radon Results
   * Arber gave a report of radon levels in Guthrie County for the 1st quarter for FY23. This report will help to educate the community on the importance of radon testing and mitigation plans.
3. Environmental Health First Quarter Water Test Results
   * Arber gave a report for water test results for Guthrie County for the 1st quarter for FY23.
4. Emergency Preparedness Ford Explorer Shared Vehicle
   * Arber noted that we did get the Ford Explorer purchased with the ARPA Funds. The vehicle will be shared between Guthrie/Adair EMA and Public Health.

**New Business**

1. Year End Report for FY22 Presentation
   * Arber gave a presentation of the Annual Report for FY21-22 for Public and Environmental Health department activities. Arber would like to publish the report for the public to make it aware of what we have done this last year. Arber will give a copy of the Annual report to the Board of Supervisors.
2. Bed Bug Eradication Plan
   * Arber reported that the agency has received questions from the community and providers on bed bug eradication. The most common issue from the community is that those affected can’t afford the cost of eradication. Arber noted that there is no state funding to assist families to eradicate bed bugs. Arber would like to see if there could be funding through Our Communities Foundation from donations from the community. Arber noted that the foundation wouldn’t pay for the whole cost and would expect the family to pay a portion as well. Arber will do some research and have additional information for the November meeting. Consensus by the board was for Arber to proceed gathering additional information.
3. Outbreak Training Investigation Plan for Emergency Preparedness
   * Arber shared the plan that Kent Irwin has been working.
4. Partnership with Crawford County Public Health for Community Based Services
   * Arber explained that the administrator from Crawford County Public Health has contacted our agency to subcontract with Crawford County. Funding will come from the Family Development Grant through the State of Iowa.
   * Consensus from the board members is to proceed with developing a plan and rates for services.

**Policy Review**

* None for this meeting.

**Guest**

* Paula Spies with New Opportunities gave an update on activities.

**Other**

* None at this time

**Next Schedule meeting dates**

* November 2, 2022
* December 7, 2022

Meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.

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Representative of Board of Health Board Secretary