



Lincoln County Health Department
Dr. Raaj Ruparel, M.D. - Health Officer

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Lincoln County Health Department
Board of Health Minutes
September 18, 2023

The meeting was held in the Lincoln County Commissioners Chambers with Zoom conference call/video.

Members Present:

Commissioner Hutsell
Commissioner Coffman
Commissioner Gilchrist
Danita Hammond – community member
Dave Rettkowski – consumer
Jace Angelly – healthcare

Dr. Raaj Ruparel – absent

Members Absent:

With all members present, a quorum was present.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hutsell, at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Agenda was shared with no additions or deletions.

Approval of Minutes:

July 17th meeting minutes were reviewed with Danita Hammond making a motion to approve, with a second by Jace Angelly. Minutes approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

No public comment was received.

New Business:

DOH Consolidated Contract Amendment #14 was reviewed. DOH Consolidated Contract Amendment #14 was reviewed. The amendment provides \$863,431: \$806,000 to support FPHS activities, \$1,000 to support WIC training, \$173.00 to support WIC Farmers Market Check distribution, \$20,398 to support Public Health Emergency Preparedness, \$560 to support Vaccines promotion, \$35,300 to support Maternal Child Health Program.

This funding supports two new positions in the Health Department: Emergency Planning and Response Coordinator and an Environmental Health Specialist. Both positions were approved by the Board of Lincoln County Commissioners on 9/19/2023

A contract was reviewed for a WIC Registered Dietician. The contract was updated to raise salary to \$38.50 with equates to \$36.00 per month as well as paying the R.D. federal per diem mileage to and from her home to our office.

Jolene Erickson, Community Health Director provided an update on the transition in the covid vaccine program. The covid vaccine is now a commercial distribution program through healthcare providers and pharmacies and not a Federally provided vaccine any longer. The New vaccine was approved for use by FDA and all other covid vaccines were unauthorized for use. This new vaccine will be managed like flu and contain the predominant covid strain annually. There is a commercial cost yet to be determined and it is still to be determined what insurance will cover. Odessa Clinic will make covid vaccine available and North Basin Clinics is still considering if they will provide it.

Old Business:

BHT Health Equity Project:

- Jolene provided an update to the fall immunization outreach program. Program will provide children's vaccines and flu vaccines in partnership with DOH Care-A-Van for child vaccines and Lincoln Hospital and Clinic's and school districts to provide flu vaccine at 5 school locations and two flus clinics at the Fairgrounds in September and October. Health Equity funding will cover the cost of flu shots for uninsured individuals.
- Carey provided an update on the prevention screening outreach program. This program will focus on health screenings based on priority health issues in Lincoln County including cardiac/heart disease and some cancers.

Kim Heinz, Environmental Health Director provide an update on environmental health programs, including plans for initiation of the School Health and Safety program.

Abby Withers, Prevention Specialist provided an update on the HEPA air filter distribution program. Of the 22 HEPA filters received, 14 have been distributed to low-income individuals with health complications.

Abby Withers informed the board that the Health Department has distributed 149 of 202 marijuana lock boxes to prevent youth access in the home.

Reports:

Dr. Ruparel – Health Officer - No reports currently.

Commissioner Hutsell - No reports currently.

Board Members – No reports currently.

Ed Dzedzy, Director – No report currently

Board of Health Meeting Schedule:

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2023.

With no further business – the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.