

Minutes of the Health Committee

The Health Committee of the McLean County Board met on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 404 of the Government Center Building 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, IL.

Members Present: Chairman Susan Schafer, Members: Carlo Robustelli, George Gordon, Randall Martin, Catherine Metsker George Wendt and Sharon Chung (all via remote attendance)

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present:

Staff Present: Ms. Camille Rodriguez, County Administrator; Ms. Cassy Taylor, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Cathy Dreyer, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary; Ms. Samantha Vazquez, Assistant State's Attorney – Civil Division

Department Heads/

Elected Officials Present: Ms. Jessica McKnight, Health Department Administrator; Ms. Terri Edens, Nursing Home Administrator; Michelle Welch, Adult Detention, Jason Tabb, Juvenile Detention; Mr. Jon Sandage, McLean County Sheriff

Others Present:

Chairman Schafer called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and declared a quorum.

Chairman Schafer presented the minutes from the, July 6, 2020 regular meeting for approval.

Motion by Chung/Robustelli to approve the minutes from the July 6, 2020 regular meeting.

Motion carried. Roll Call Vote – all present voted yes including the Chairman

Chairman Schafer confirmed there were no members of the public to appear.

Ms. Terri Edens, Director of the McLean County Nursing Home presented the Nursing Home monthly report. She indicated family visits are being allowed and went over restrictions for those visits. She indicated regular COVID testing for residents and staff is occurring. She stated in her first thirty days she has been getting to know staff and residents and processes. Mr. Robustelli asked her to confirm new clients testing procedures. Ms. Edens indicated clients are tested prior to coming and then quarantined for 14 days. Mr. Robustelli asked if testing staff was to help with asymptomatic spread. Ms. Edens confirmed and said it would be done regularly. Mr. Robustelli asked who was performing testing. Ms. Edens stated a doctor comes to the facility to test the residents, but the staff goes to the interstate center. Mr. Robustelli asked if staff members are allowed to come to work before they get the results of the tests to keep the facility staffed. Ms. Edens indicated test results are received within 24 hours so we know should know before their next shift.

Ms. Schafer asked about revenue from the CARES Act. Ms. Rodriguez indicated many long-term care facilities who utilize Medicaid are receiving funding. She indicated they are researching any restrictions but are utilizing CARES Act funds for work already done in response to COVID such as preparing the empty wing in case there is an outbreak. Mr. Wendt asked them to confirm these were federal funds and asked about the restrictions. Ms. Rodriguez confirmed federal funds and confirmed they are still researching restrictions and are only applying funds to expenses incurred in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Chairman Schafer asked if there were any other questions for Ms. Edens; hearing none, she thanked her.

Ms. Michelle Welch of the Adult Detention Facility presented for action a request to approve a reclassification of Nursing Positions in the Adult Jail Medical Department. Ms. Welch indicated this is to make wages more competitive with the hopes of getting more applicants. Mr. Robustelli asked about the number of vacant positions and total number of FTE budgeted for nurses in the detention facility. Ms. Welch confirmed they are budgeted for 9.25 FTE, but only have 6.4 and she would be retiring at the end of the month. Mr. Robustelli asked her to confirm they cannot utilize agency staffing. Ms. Welch confirmed. He asked how fast they would be able to fill if this increase passes. Ms. Welch indicated they would try to fill as quickly as possible but would be a minimum of 4-6 weeks for background checks. Ms. Metsker asked about compression issues. Ms. Rodriguez indicated they would be looking at the current nursing work force and making adjustments.

Motion by Robustelli/Martin to recommend approval of the reclassification of Nursing Positions in the Adult Jail Medical Department.

Roll Call Vote: All present voted yes including the Chairman.

Motion Carried.

Ms. Welch presented her monthly report. Sheriff Sandage was recognized to provide updates in the jail regarding COVID. Mr. Sandage stated they have three positive inmate cases with mild symptoms and two staff members with mild symptoms. He said jail and medical staff had done a wonderful job up to this point keeping things clean to keep the virus from the jail. He stated that all inmates and staff who have tested negative will be tested every 5 days until there are no further positive cases in the jail. Mr. Wendt thanked the Sheriff and asked if those who have the virus are ones that should have gone to the State facility. Mr. Sandage indicated one should have been in the Illinois Department of Corrections. He indicated they just received a ruling in that lawsuit against Governor Pritzker where the judge said the Governor did not have the authority to turn away inmates. Mr. Sandage stated of the other two, one has been convicted and not sentenced and one is awaiting trial. Mr. Wendt asked if the one waiting to be sentenced would be sent to the State facility. Mr. Sandage confirmed.

Mr. Robustelli thanked him for the information and agreed he felt testing every five days would help with spread. He asked about steps they would put in place once all tests come back negative and if they would be similar procedures as the nursing home. Mr. Sandage indicated they do not test all new inmates but put all new inmates in quarantine for 14 days. He said they only test if exhibit symptoms. Mr. Robustelli stated he felt testing might be a necessary procedure and hoped if the Sheriff needed additional funding he would come to the Justice and Finance Committees and ask for that funding. Mr. Robustelli stated because of the

contagiousness of the virus it probably was inevitable we would have a case in the jail but wanted to make sure we take precautions to limit future cases. Mr. Sandage indicated he was not opposed to testing. He also stated he had just received that afternoon new guidelines and ideas for correctional facilities.

Ms. Welch indicated they have been working with the Health Department on this and would look to them for guidance on next steps. Ms. Metsker asked about the pregnant inmate and precautions being taken. Ms. Welch indicated she was tested and has been quarantined. Ms. Chung stated she had heard people had seen people and staff at the detention facility without PPE so wanted to see if guidelines were being enforced. Mr. Sandage said he was curious where she had heard that as they are enforcing guidelines, and everyone is diligent about it. He said there is a lot of misinformation about what is happening in the facility right now. He stated he had not received any complaints but would be happy to hear any of those complaints as he felt they have done a good job with PPE and limiting exposure. Mr. Robustelli asked Ms. Welch and Mr. Sandage if they were comfortable with the amount of PPE supplies. Mr. Sandage indicated they have enough, but cost is about 3 times what it was. Ms. Welch said she had just ordered about 1,000 mask and felt they were good on PPE. Mr. Wendt stated if they needed funding, they should bring requests to the Committees.

Mr. Jason Tabb of the Juvenile Detention Facility presented his monthly reports to the Committee. Ms. Schafer asked him to provide updates on precautions at their facility. Mr. Tabb indicated they are quarantining new juveniles when they come in the door for 14 days and all staff and juveniles are utilizing PPEs. He said they have plenty of supplies and have added extra cleaning. Ms. Metsker asked how education was being handled at the JDC facility. Mr. Tabb indicated they are currently on the summer break, but education provider would be returning to the facility and would go through same procedures as the other staff. Mr. Robustelli asked about testing for the employees. Mr. Tabb indicated staff has been made aware of testing site but are not being required to test unless they show signs or symptoms. Mr. Robustelli asked if juveniles are allowed to have in-person visitors. Mr. Tabb indicated they are doing non-contact visiting by appointment and everything is cleaned between each visit. Chairman Schafer asked if there were any other questions; hearing none, she thanked both Michelle Welch and Jason Tabb.

Ms. Jessica McKnight Health Department Administrator presented the Health Department's monthly reports to the Committee. Ms. McKnight indicated they have been interviewing for contract tracing personnel that would be paid for through their contact tracing grant. She stated she would bring an FTE amendment to stand up for those positions. She also stated they would be purchasing, through IT, technology for the contact tracing personnel. Mr. Robustelli thanked her for the information and asked if there had been any update from the testing provider on their ability to share information with the health department. Ms. McKnight indicated she had been told the request would be forwarded to the CEO of the company. He asked her who the Company shares the data with. Ms. McKnight indicated she was not aware of all groups might share it with. Mr. Robustelli stated that across the service area there had been some delays and asked if she had a sense of how many may have been impacted in McLean County. Ms. McKnight indicated backlogs in labs are a nationwide problem right now, so she was not sure of the numbers in McLean County. Mr. Robustelli said there are

statements on social media from individuals who say they have not been tested but are being contacted and told they are positive; he asked if there have been reports in our area. Ms. McKnight indicated they have cautioned the public about calls they get as her staff will always identify themselves as the Health Department. He asked if the Health Department and EMA is still helping individuals get results that are delayed. Ms. McKnight indicated that EMA might, but the Health Department is referring individuals back to the company, so the company is aware of the issue. Mr. Robustelli asked about guidance they would give Ms. Welch in Jail Medical. Ms. McKnight indicated Ms. Welch has been working with the Communicable Disease Department and guidance would be given based on Communicable Disease Department and the Illinois Department of Public Health recommendations.

Mr. Robustelli said he hoped the Health Department would advise the jail about to increase monitoring in the adult detention center. He said he felt the Nursing Home procedures should be a model for the other facilities. Mr. Robustelli stated he thought we had eight consecutive days with increased positive cases which is one of the matrix the governor has set and asked if we would be defaulting to the Illinois Department of Public Health or if there were triggers her staff were looking at in terms of making recommendations to the County and Mayors regarding bars and other high spread businesses. Ms. McKnight said they are looking at county wide matrix not just the region and right now the County has been hovering around or below 2%. She indicated that she is also looking at hospital matrix and while across the state there is a slight increase it is not like we were a couple of months ago. She also stated that IDPH would have a regional call before they issued a warning.

Ms. Schafer indicated that Board of Health members have discussed possible responses. Ms. Chung said she agreed with Mr. Robustelli about testing staff regularly to try to prevent it from coming in at points of entry. Ms. Chung asked about plans for the return of College students. Ms. McKnight stated they have been communicating with them about contact tracing and planning ahead. Ms. Schafer asked if they would have their own contact tracers. Ms. McKnight indicated they are working on details, but plan is that contact tracers would be Health Department employees and the Health Department would handle investigations. Mr. Gordon asked about turn-around time on test results and how delays affect contact tracing. Ms. McKnight indicated that on average they receive positive results in a timely manner. Mr. Gordon said he was concerned about delays that could occur with the additional university populations. Mr. Gordon asked what an individual could do to get in touch with the Health Department regarding businesses that might not be meeting guidelines. Ms. McKnight stated environmental health is following up on all complaints they receive, and she provided phone number and email information. Mr. Gordon asked if Health Department has had trouble keeping up with those complaints. Ms. McKnight indicated they have not to this point as they tend to get voluntary compliance, so they have not had to issue any cease and desist orders. Mr. Gordon asked if the Health Department has that authority and she confirmed they can seek that.

Ms. Schafer asked for an update on their remote testing. Ms. McKnight indicated they had good reception in two sites so far (Colfax and LeRoy), were able to get results and information back out quickly. She said they have learned better ways for set up, registration and processes.

Ms. Camille Rodriguez, County Administrator presented her recent employment activities report. Chairman Schafer asked if there were any questions, hearing none she thanked her.

Chairman Schafer confirmed there was no other business and noted the next meeting would be Monday August 31, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. because of the Labor Day Holiday.

Chairman Schafer then presented for approval the Nursing Home bills with a prepaid total \$232,439.65.

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AS OF 8/2/2020

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee - Nursing Home

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0401	NURSING HOME		\$232,353.66	\$232,353.66
0403	NURSING HOME CRAFT FUND		\$85.99	\$85.99
			<hr/>	
			\$232,439.65	\$232,439.65


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Chung/Metsker to approve prepaid bills for the Nursing Home as presented.

Motion carried. Roll Call Vote - all present voted yes including the Chairman.

Chairman Schafer presented the bills for the Developmental Disability Board with a prepaid total of \$56,501.18.

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AS OF 8/2/2020

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee - Dev. Disability Board

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0110	PERSONS/DEV.DISABILITY		\$56,501.18	\$56,501.18
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			\$56,501.18	\$56,501.18


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Metsker/Gordon to approve prepaid bills for the Developmental Disability Board as presented.

Motion carried. Roll Call Vote. All present voted yes including the Chairman.

Chairman Schafer presented for approval bills for Jail Medical and JDC Medical with a prepaid total of \$49,402.12.

MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

AS OF 8/2/2020

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee - Jail Med & JDC Med

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0135	TORT JUDGEMENT		\$49,402.12	\$49,402.12
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			\$49,402.12	\$49,402.12

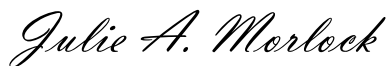

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Martin/Chung to approve prepaid bills for Jail Medical and JDC Medical as presented.

Motion carried. Roll Call Vote - all present voted yes including the Chairman

Chairman Schafer asked if there was any additional business to come before the Committee; hearing nothing, she adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie A. Morlock
Recording Secretary