

LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MINUTES

2/23/2023

A meeting of the LaSalle County Board of Health was held on February 23, 2023. The meeting was called to order by President, Ms. Carretto at 9:00am. A roll call was taken: Ms. Carretto – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Dr. Manigold – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Dr. Maguire -Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes.

AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Dr. Maguire to approve the agenda as written.
Motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Manigold seconded by Dr. Benavides to accept the minutes as written.
Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Jensen, County Board Chairman, attended the meeting.

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS

President's Report – LouAnne Carretto

There was no President's Report.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gonzalo

After a discussion of the January 2023 bills, a motion was made by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Dr. Manigold to approve the payment of bills. A roll call was taken: Ms. Carretto – Yes, Dr. Benavides – Yes, Dr. Manigold – Yes, Ms. Gallagher – Yes, Dr. Maguire -Yes, Mr. Gonzalo – Yes, Mr. Boaz – Yes.

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS

Administration – Chris Pozzi

Effective February 6th, the LCHD has a full management team. Introductions for the management team:

Connie Brooks, Director of Personal Health
Julie Keating, Supervisor of Personal Health

Erica Zednick and Bethanie Albrecht, Personal Health Coordinators
Jennifer Osborn, Director of Environmental Health
Dea Keith, Environmental Health Supervisor
Jason Lafferty, Environmental Health Coordinator
Lora Alexander and Elaine Roemer, Administrative Managers

Construction Update: Cameras are installed, walls and doors are in place, but still need fobs installed. Security glass is being installed today. Hoping next month's meeting could potentially be held at Health Department

Staff learned that the National and State Emergency Orders regarding COVID, will be allowed to expire on May 11, 2023. This will mean:

- The government will no longer be purchasing vaccines. The manufacturers will be selling the vaccines.
- The end of free covid test kits.
- Individuals who no longer qualify for Medicaid will lose coverage. All other Medicaid recipients must start renewing their benefits annually again.
- Removes the additional food packages that were awarded to SNAP recipients.
- Telehealth allowances with Medicaid billing have been extended through 2024.
- Statewide, all WIC offices will be required to move back to in person visits with clients, within 90 days, of the end of the declaration.

Our Streator WIC office reopened January 10, 2023. WIC/FCM Staff worked this month to ensure the Mendota WIC site will reopen on February 24th. LaSalle WIC is expected to reopen by the end of March.

Staff continue to work with IDPH, IEPA and Carus Chemical regarding the cleanup at the Carus site. IDPH and LCHD are working to generate letters regarding surface samples, that were taken by EPA, shortly after the incident. We have also requested EPA conduct follow-up sampling now that surfaces have been cleaned.

Staff are working on creating a new Community Referral Guide. Many of our grants are requiring that we have a list of referral agencies for our staff and for the public to use.

Staff shared information on social media on February Holiday closures, Super Bowl Food Safety tips, and National Wear Red Day, on February 3, to raise awareness on cardiovascular disease in women.

Chris Pozzi gave a presentation on the 2022 Annual Report, A Year in Review.....

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Pozzi included the unaudited 2022 Annual Report in the packet. Motion by Mr. Gonzalo seconded by Ms. Gallagher to approve the 2022 unaudited Annual Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Dr. Benavides seconded by Dr. Manigold to go into executive session for review and approval to release executive session minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Ms. Gallagher seconded by Dr. Benavides to come out of executive session and go back into regular session.

Motion by Dr. Manigold seconded by Mr. Gonzalo to release minutes from all executive session minutes except March 2001, November 2002 special meeting, and December 2002. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Benavides seconded by Ms. Gallagher to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Bruce Boaz
Secretary
LaSalle County Board of Health