

**Minutes – Clinton County Board of Health
Public Meeting held
March 3rd, 2022 – 7:30 a.m.
Clinton County Satellite Office, large conference room and Via ZOOM**

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| <u>Board Members</u> | Dr. Mary Malcom | Absent |
| | Jean Morgan, RN, BSN, MSED | Present |
| | Don Thiltgen | Present |
| | Chelsea Sullens, DPT | Present |
| | Jenna Lovaas | Present |

Staff Present Shane McClintock, Director to the Board of Health
Kelli Eggers, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Health

Others Present

Peggy Sellnau, Early Childhood Iowa
Nancy Burns, Emergency Management
Cynthia Kaczinski, Hillcrest/WIC
Heather Montgomery, Women’s Health and Family Services
Michele Cullen, Genesis VNA/Public Health
Reva Johnson, MercyOne MAT Clinic
Nicky Stansell, IDPH
Jim Irwin, Board of Supervisors
Kristin Huisenga, CSAC
Lauren Schwandt, Camanche/DeWitt Coalition

Thiltgen called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was held with the option of in person or via ZOOM for social distancing purposes. Roll call showed members 4 present. It was **moved** by **Sullens**, seconded by **Morgan**, to **APPROVE** the January 6th 2022 minutes as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

AGENDA ITEM III – BOARD OF HEALTH

New member, **Jenna Lovaas** was introduced. **Thiltgen** noted she has very good credentials. **Lovaas** stated that she is the former director for Public Health in Jones County where she worked for 6 years. She has a master of science in epidemiology and a master of public health. She is also a volunteer for the Peace Corp and lives in Clinton with her family. She was very excited when the chair seat came open. **Morgan** extended a warm welcome to **Lovaas** and said she was pleased to have her on the board. **Eggers** noted that a renewal of the Non Congregate Sheltering Order for the months of April to June is warranted. The order was approved unanimously. **Thiltgen** mentioned that **Malcom** submitted the 2021 Clinton County Medical Examiner’s Report. **Thiltgen** read the report and it is available as an attachment to the minutes.

AGENDA ITEM IV – COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **Finance** – No updates.
- B. **Personnel** – **Thiltgen** noted that **McClintock's** yearly review was completed and it is on file for viewing if necessary. **Thiltgen** noted **McClintock** is doing an excellent job.
- C. **Total Quality Management** – No updates.

AGENDA ITEM V – DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. **Environmental Services- McClintock** noted there was recently a pretty vicious animal bite report case in the unincorporated area of the county. There is a lack of what we can do regarding the animal. In the past, they had tried to get an ordinance approved, but the Farm Bureau didn't want it passed. **McClintock** would like to work with the Sheriff's office and try to get something put into place for at least the unincorporated parts of the county. The Sheriff's office personnel had stated that the most dangerous bites have previously been out in the rural county. Currently all we can do is to make sure the animal goes thru a 10 day quarantine and that the owner submits rabies records to our office to be filed.
- B. **Genesis VNA & Hospice**– Report submitted. **Cullen** noted they are trying to get back to a new normal. The Community Health Needs Assessment planning meeting was in February with about 30 attending. They are using some data that MercyOne previously put together. They will meet again in April to go over their priorities. Mental health is popping up now more than ever. The current Health Improvement Plan doesn't have a lot of movement. The community garden will be head up by the Iowa State University Extension Office in DeWitt. The Move More group was finished up prior to Covid. The Feel Better ASIS group continues with first responders doing trauma informed care. Covid numbers are down. There were 27 reported cases in the last 7 days and 10 in the last 3. We hold steady at a 56% vaccinated rate. Emergency Preparedness currently just finished up working on an amendment with next year's budget. The audit results for childcare were very good and they have not yet received one back yet for the elementary children. That should be available by the next meeting. **Cullen** requested approval to apply for public health grant applications and extensions in Iowa Grants that will be coming in soon. **Lovaas** motioned to **APPROVE** said applications and extensions, seconded by **Sullens**. Motion carried 4-0. **Eggers** inquired how Covid-19 vaccination clinics would continue after the month of March. **Cullen** replied they will see how many people show up to clinics. They may incorporate some of them with regular immunization clinics in the future. Some of the February clinics only had 10 people where January clinics had 100-150 people. **Lovaas** asked if those would include the youth when they are approved, and **Cullen** said they would. **Thiltgen** noted that Covid has gone down but not gone away. He noted to use extreme caution. The tests are still available at the federal level and Walmart is giving out N95 masks. **Cullen** noted that Test Iowa kits are available for no charge at Genesis VNA/Public Health. There is a current 24 hour turnaround time. Some of the kids have used them recently to test

prior to trips.

- C. Hillcrest Family Services/WIC– Kaczinski** said they have been dealing with the recent formula recall. The company is Abbott which is who the state has a contract with for supplying infant formulas. Most of them are Similac brands. The state has applied for waivers with the USDA regarding voiding the current Similac contract so they may provide other formula options for the participants. Those waivers have been approved. For the last few weeks, all infant food packages have been changed so they can see other options. Hyvee has some Similac in stock that is not part of the recall. There have been supply issues because there are so many infants needing to be fed. The stores have been notified and they are trying to increase their stock. They hope by April 1st, the stock will be reestablished.
- D. Early Childhood Iowa/DECAT– Sellnau** wanted to inform the board that they completed their site visits with their contractors this month and everything went well. They will be issuing an RFP for second shift childcare. The YWCA currently provides it, but if anyone else is interested, they can inquire about that. They have completed the state designation review and passed that without issues.
- E. Clinton Substance Abuse Council (GIC & CDC)- Huisenga and Schwandt** were both in attendance. They wanted to update that last week they took 12 kids to Day on the Hill so they could meet the legislators. The Camanche DeWitt Coalition has been working on encouraging parents to talk to their kids about marijuana and other drugs. They have a commercial playing at local movie theaters and would love any feedback on it. The Coalition is looking to expand regarding addressing marijuana and youth. The Clean out Your Medicine Cabinet event is coming up soon. There are always drop boxes in the county that are being utilized. There is a definite problem with vape pens in the area especially because lithium batteries and other unknown substances are in them and they need to be disposed of properly. They have also been looking to get Narcan in as many places as possible in the community. The issues recently in the North Scott school district lately have caused a lot of concern. A vape pen was discovered in a school and field tested positive for Fentanyl but later tested negative at the state lab. Fentanyl is now the leading cause of death ages 18 to 45. They have been partnering with Clinton County to provide connections for the Recourse Center. **Thiltgen** noted there is a lot of fentanyl in Clinton County. **Morgan** questioned the number of death of opioids in 2021 in Iowa. **Huisenga** noted they may not be available yet. 11 overdoses were noted last year but that was on a website and not the Medical Examiner's report. **Thiltgen** noted that on the Day on the Hill he learned that vaping devices contain metal. **Irwin** chimed in and thanked **Huisenga** with the JAG Grant and other volunteers for the county's Resource Center. **Huisenga** noted that volunteers at the center are always welcome and that it is a great asset for the community. **Morgan** noted an article in the paper today that concerns her regarding the state limiting mask use and social distancing. She feels that those measures really limited Covid-19.
- F. Women's Health and Family Services– Montgomery** noted that **Cheek** has been doing

great in the schools with the Pregnancy Prevention Program. She has been in 13 schools in Clinton and Jackson counties. They continue with rapid HIV testing and have had a few positive cases. They have new staff and those staff members are willing to work weekend events. They have seen more male patients with their recent name change to include family services. They still offer Covid-19 testing and use two labs for results. Schools have also reached out to them for mass testing prior to events.

- G. **Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC)/New Directions-** Not in attendance.
 - H. **Bridgeview Community Mental Health Center–** Unable to attend.
 - I. **Center for Alcohol & Drug Services, Inc. (CADS)-** Not in attendance.
 - J. **Emergency Management– Malcom** previously submitted the Clinton County Medical Examiner’s Report for 2021 along with the 2021 IOSME Report. **Burns** said they have been working on budgets in recent months and also hiring an Operations Officer to replace **Dan Howard** who will retire at the end of the year. They were notified that some of the gloves issued by the state that they helped distribute were being recalled. They reached out to those entities and worked with the state to get them replaced. A volunteer picked those up and deliver the new ones. They also got test kits for a long term care facility that was in outbreak status. Now that Governor Reynolds has ended the Proclamation, they will not be able to get PPE from the state as in the past. EMA has maintained their own emergency supply in their office in case of an emergency situation. The number of CERT volunteers totaled to be 1727 hours in 2021. They worked on trainings, firework events, and public outreach events. Anyone wanting to volunteer or take the class can reach out to **Burns** for an application. It is limited to 21 people. This is April 1st-3rd. They are also getting ready for upcoming trainings at Constellation (formerly Exelon). **Burns** said regarding the spring flooding outlook in our area, the chances look good and low. There is a bird influenza outbreak happening across the nation. It may not impact our counties like others as we don’t have many large poultry farms.
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- K. **Community Health Care, Inc-** Not in attendance.
- L. **EveryStep/MCAH-** Not in attendance.
- M. **MercyOne MAT Clinic- Reva Johnson** has taken over for **Norris** who has moved on to another position elsewhere. They currently have 22 patients. One new one came in yesterday and they had 3 heroin overdoses come into the emergency room over the weekend.

AGENDA ITEM VI – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Irwin stated the Board of Supervisors has finished up with budget season. They are putting in grant applications for the Recourse Center and will have a conversation Monday regarding masks and vaccinations.

AGENDA ITEM VII – PUBLIC COMMENT

Nicky Stansell of the IDPH gave an overview of the Rural Outreach Program for HIV Special Projects (etc.). She noted that people with HIV live in Iowa and so does stigma. People living with HIV can live anywhere. **Stansell** gave a video presentation on the topic. Many of these people have issues with depression, mental health, and anxiety. They may not seek treatment or may stop treatment due to the stigma. In 2019, an assessment was done on those living with HIV in Iowa. 78% say they worry about discrimination and 27% wait to be tested. She noted that we need to do better and make people feel comfortable and not to exclude them. Studies also show that people living with HIV care more about how they are treated than their actual health outcome. She says we need to create an environment that is welcoming to all and to use people first language. The IDPH gives out condoms for free to any entity that needs them. They hope by 2030 there will be a 90% reduction in Iowa regarding HIV positives. Any questions on the matter, feel free to reach out to **Stansell**. Her phone is 515-201-4348 and email contact is nicky.stansell@idph.iowa.gov. She also noted a syphilis outbreak in Clinton County. **Thiltgen** inquired if she is based in Des Moines. She is based in Cedar Rapids and covers Region 4.

AGENDA ITEM VIII – OLD BUSINESS

None.

AGENDA ITEM IX – NEW BUSINESS

None.

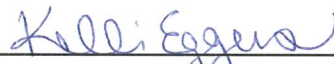
AGENDA ITEM X – NEXT MEETING DATE

April 28th, 2022 and June 23rd, 2022 at 7:30 am at the Clinton County Satellite Building, large conference room. Meeting also available via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM XI – ADJOURNMENT

Motion by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Thiltgen**, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelli Eggers, Administrative Assistant to
the Board of Health

Approved



Dr. Malcom, Chairperson, Board of Health

Attachments can be viewed by contacting the Board of Health at the Clinton County Satellite offices.

CLINTON COUNTY



MEDICAL EXAMINER

CLINTON COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

Dr. Mary Malcom – Medical Examiner

Clinton County Law Center

241 7th Ave N

P.O. Box 2957

Clinton, IA 52733-2957

Phone: (563)242-5712

Fax: (563)242-3095

Email: medicalexaminer@clintoncounty-ia.gov

CLINTON COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S REPORT 2021

Total number of deaths in Clinton County for 2021 is 517.

Of these deaths, 485 (94%) are due to natural causes; 23 (4.4%) are due to accident; three (0.6%) are due to homicide; one (0.2%) is due to suicide; the cause of four deaths (0.8%) could not be determined; one is pending further investigation.

Total number of violent deaths (homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention and deaths of undetermined intent) is nine (1.7%).

In 2021, 163 deaths (32%) came to the attention of the county medical examiner.

The Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner has a goal of >20% of deaths reported to the county medical examiner. Within the state of Iowa, 30% of all deaths in 2020 were reported to the county medical examiner.

In 2021, Clinton County requested an autopsy on 34 decedents. This is 21% of those whose death was reported to the medical examiner, and 6.6% of all decedents.

For comparison, in the state of Iowa in 2020, a total 1,966 autopsies were performed. There were 35,669 total deaths, of which 10,893 were reported to a medical examiner. Autopsy was performed in 18% of deaths brought to the attention of a medical examiner, and 5.5% of all deaths.

National guidelines are for 10% of all deaths to have an autopsy.

In 2021, Clinton County Medical Examiner's Office made 30 referrals to Iowa Donor Network.

For comparison:

| Clinton County | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| Total number of deaths | 437 | 523 | 517 |
| Natural Causes | 407 | 480 | 485 |
| Accident | 22 | 23 | 23 |
| Homicide | | | 3 |
| Suicide | 7 | 13 | 1 |
| Undetermined | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Pending | | 1 | 1 |

Comments:

Clinton County Medical Examiner's Office is aware of 27 deaths in Clinton County during 2021 due to Covid-19. This is almost certainly an undercount.