

4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

Boone County Courthouse

- I. **Call Meeting to Order:** by Shawn Bryant at 5:30 pm
- II. **Attendance:** Present: Shawn Bryant, Kristine Johansen, Erich Hodges, via zoom.  
**Absent:** Dr Brian Mehlhaus, Gary Nystrom.  
  
**Additional Attendees:**  
  
Lydia Billings, Public Health Administrator.  
  
Ed Tharp, Code Enforcement Officer.
- III. **Changes & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (03/16/2026).**
  - Motion by Kristine Johansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shawn Bryant to approve the 03/16/2026 minutes. The vote was unanimous, Motion carried.
- IV. **Changes & Approval of Meeting Agenda**
  - Motion by Kristine Johansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shawn Bryant to approve the agenda. The vote was unanimous, Motion carried.
- V. **Open Public Hearing(s) and Consideration of Request(s)**
  - A. None.
- VI. **Unfinished (Old) Business**
  - A. None.
- VII. **New Business.**

- A. Welcome New Board of Health member –Dr Erich Hodges. The present board members welcomed Erich Hodges to the Board of Health. Dr Erich Hodges told the board members about his background and what he is currently doing with his veterinarian practice and the Dairy that he is running.
- B. Signatory Authority for Public Health Dept. – Lydia Billings. Lydia went over the signatory authority for the Local Public Health Dept. and how it works and what it pays for. The chairman of the Board of Health needs to sign off on this. This will give Lydia Billings, the Public Health Administrator, the authority to sign for the Board of Health. Motion by Erich Hodges, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristine Johansen to have Shawn Bryant sign off on the signatory authority. The vote was unanimous, Motion carried.
- C. FY 27 Local Public Health Services – LPHS Contract. Review & Sign. – Lydia Billings. Lydia went over the Local Public Health Services contract with the board members. She explained where the money is going and how it is spent. She went over the funding amount, and how it differed from last year. Each board member received a copy of the funding agreement form for the LPHS contract. The funding amount for the year is 65,420.00.

## **VIII. Department Update**

- A. Public Health Department Report – Lydia Billings, Public Health Administrator.

Lydia talked about Ann Breeding from Steps of Hope. They have all the Narcan distribution boxes ready to be installed. She said that they are going to start at Boone Impact at 10:00am on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Then they would go to Ogden and install that one at the Ogden Clinic. After that, they

would go to Madrid and install that one at Madrid City Hall. She said that she was trying to get a couple of positions filled. The public nurse and the public health works positions. She then talked about the presentation she made to the Board of Supervisors for public health. The Board of Supervisors in the past has allocated 88,000.00 to our home care department. Now that the home care part of the public health is closing, she asked the Board of Supervisors to allocate 44,000.00 in addition to what they are currently allocating to broaden the scope of the health department to reach as many people as they can. Shawn Bryant spoke up and said that the presentation that they gave was very good and it was a big ask for such a small department. He called it a win. The 44,000.00 is a lot but it is going into the community, and they would be getting the money back anyway. She also talked about Cancer and Cancer trends. April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, at Central Iowa Administration Building this meeting will be held from 5pm to 6pm and it will also be available via zoom. The people from the 99 Counties project will be there to talk about Cancer rates specific to Boone County. She talked about a couple of grants that they could possibly use some of the money to buy Radon kits and distribute them out for little to no cost to homeowners that need to test for Radon.

**B. Health and Sanitation Department Report.**

Ed Tharp, Code Enforcement Officer.

Gave an update on what has been happening in the county. He talked about how many septic systems they have been installing around the county. At the time of the meeting, he said that they had 20 septic systems installed since the first of the year. He talked about the complaints that he was working on. He also handed out an information sheet on the Opioid Fund amount and emailed it to each board member also. He talked about the increases in permit prices in his department. He talked about changing the price of a septic permit for the homeowners who want to do their own

septic systems. He asked the board's opinion before he went any further. He said that he would have information on well testing in the county at the next meeting.

Shawn Bryant asked Erich Hodges if he had heard anything about the Bird Flu. He said that he had not heard anything. He then commented on the homeowner wanting to do their own septic system.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Shawn Bryant entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion by Kristine Johansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shawn Bryant to adjourn the meeting at 6:04pm. The vote was unanimous, Motion carried.

**Next Meeting May 18th, 2026, 5:30 p.m. at the Boone County Courthouse: 4th Floor Conference Room.**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Ed Tharp, Secretary.**