The work session meeting of the Black Hawk County Board of Health was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair, Rev. Dr. Mary Robinson, in Room 420 of the Pinecrest Building, 1407 Independence Avenue, Waterloo, Iowa. Members present: Chair, Rev. Dr. Mary Robinson, Vice-Chair, Dr. Catherine Zeman, Beth Knipp, Dr. Adam Roise and Attorney, Michael Treinen. A quorum was met.

Absent: Dr. Wesley Pilkington

Others present: Dr. Nafissa Cisse Egibuonye, Eileen Daley, Eric Heinen, Megan Olmstead, and Jared Parmater.

I. Approve Agenda – For Vote

Discussion: Dr. Rev. Robinson requested to amend the agenda to add item II.A to address the recent happenings with COVID-19.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Zeman seconded to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

II. Public Comments: No public comments.

A. COVID-19 Update and Questions on process and procedures for the Board of Health

Rev. Dr. Robinson inquired if we should be recommending canceling events with a larger number of people and are there efforts being made to communicate with different organizations within the community and should the Board come out with a statement.

Dr. Zeman has been receiving several requests for guidance in reference to the COVID-19 at the University of Northern Iowa and there is not enough information to provide answers to specific situations.

Dr. Roise added that that Iowa Department of Public Health has been posting state guidelines and believes that is what the Board should follow their guidance and preparedness.

Dr. Cisse Egibuonye stated that the Health Department and Board of Health should be very consistent with communication. There is a lot of fear of the unknown and there has been several press events with KWVL and the Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier to keep the public informed. The Black Hawk County Health Department’s message aligns with recommendations and guidance from Iowa Department of Public Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Mike Treinen added that any one Board member could contact the Health Department at any time with questions on how to address public questions.

The Board agreed that the Director of Black Hawk County Health Department should present all public communications.

III. Review PHAB (Public Health Accreditation Board) Standard 6.1 – Review existing laws and work with governing entities and elected/appointed officials to update as needed

Dr. Cisse Egibuonye reviewed the Standard 6.1 for PHAB. This is significant as all of the laws/ordinances should be up to date with the most recent public health knowledge. The health department can be experts on public health laws and it is important that the Board be responsible for the development/review and updates to existing public health laws.

IV. Board of Health System of Local Public Health Laws and Policy*

Dr. Cisse Egibuonye reviewed the policy and procedure that was approved at the last Board meeting. The Board was provided a copy of the policy and procedure in their packets.
V. Inventory of Black Hawk County Board of Health Laws*

Mr. Treinen and Ms. Daley summarized all inventory of existing Black Hawk County Health Laws/Ordinances. The Board was given a handout with all ordinances included.

   
   Discussion: Ms. Daley stated that the template will need to be updated. Mr. Treinen asked if there are hazardous waste guidelines. Mr. Parmater said there are regulations for hazardous materials and the health department does not regulate hazardous waste. Other governmental agencies are regulating hazardous waste.

   
   Discussion: Ms. Daley stated this ordinance applies to parts of the county that do not have a municipal ordinance. Incorporated rule of Black Hawk County.

3. Isolation & Quarantine – Revisions needed.
   
   Discussion: Mr. Treinen reviewed the history of the Board’s actions on rules that are no longer in place. The last action the Board has taken was in 2005 that adopted model Iowa code Chapter 641. In 2015, Chapter 1 was revised by IDPH, and our Board had an opportunity to provide input. The question is how it was incorporated, and it is unclear if the most updated version is actually in place, depending on what the language was used in the ordinance.

   Dr. Roise asked if this law will need to be updated.

   Mr. Treinen suggested that the Board of Health adopt updates as they come into effect by the state. Generally, it comes down to who issues the quarantine. Most of the time the local Boards are working with the state and would prefer to work together, but good to have in place for certain situations. Communication from the Health Department in working with multiple partners coming from the Director and the Board of Health would support that.

4. Lead – Will need new ordinance-higher priority
   
   Discussion: Mr. Treinen suggested that this model ordinance is very outdated and is not available on the website. Ms. Daley stated this is a complex ordinance and it would require collaboration with community partners. Mr. Parmater stated there are two agencies that have lead programs, Healthy Homes and the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Mr. Parmater added that there are model ordinances to review, including best practices to incorporate into a new lead ordinance for Black Hawk County.

   Rev. Dr. Robinson inquired why there are not any mold ordinances here in Black Hawk County. Mr. Parmater said that without an air quality lab and no public health laws to address, this is handled through code enforcement (rental property) or information on how to mitigate as provided to homeowners.

5. Litter Control- Review only.
   
   Discussion: Mr. Treinen stated that there are no updates needed and there are not any new concerns. Mr. Parmater stated that there is a new task force in the community for both Waterloo and Cedar Falls to address hoarding homes, which slightly aligns with this ordinance. This task force is new in its development.

   
   Discussion: Mr. Treinen stated that there is no updates needed and there are not any new concerns.

   
   Discussion: Mr. Treinen stated no apparent issues with this ordinance. Mr. Parmater stated only procedure updates are needed.
8. Tanning – New ordinance developed.

Discussion: Mr. Treinen stated that the Iowa Administrative Code addresses tanning facilities. The state terminated the 28E with the local Boards of health within the last year. There is no local law for tanning facilities. A new (local) ordinance will need to be developed to provide local authority to enforce.

Dr. Roise stated that there are no age restrictions in the state of Iowa on tanning.

Mr. Parmater stated that the current tanning inspections involve reviewing the cleanliness and a review of records to determine that tanning customers are not tanning more often than allowed by the guidelines of that particular tanning bed/machine.

Dr. Zeman asked if they are required to have a permit. Mr. Parmater stated yes, a license is required and they are mandated to take an exam and pass every five years.

The Board agreed the popularity of tanning has decreased significantly over the last couple of years.

9. Water Wells – Revise

Discussion: Mr. Treinen stated that this ordinance is from 1999 and it is not determined as of yet if this is up to date. Guidelines for well water testing, grants to counties programs allows for testing of three different toxins but does not include manganese. Also work with SHL and University of Iowa to test for heavy metals and pesticides. Mr. Parmater states that this ordinance will need some updates to add in all of the different well water screenings. Department of Natural Resources is willing to work with us on some of the variances requested.

VI. Priority Recommendations for Revision and Development of Local Public Health Laws

The Board decided the priority ordinances to be updated/revised during the first year:

1. Isolation & Quarantine
2. Commercial Garbage and Trash Haulers

In subsequent years, priority ordinances include:

1. Lead
2. Wastewater
3. Water Wells
4. Tanning

Rev. Dr. Robinson expressed concern again for the mold issues in homes and asked the Board to start a process for a mold ordinance.

Dr. Roise asked about what other counties have in place for mold ordinances. Dr. Zeman asked about creating an ordinance possibly with Healthy Homes. Mr. Parmater stated it should work around air quality.

Dr. Roise asked if that would be a local law. Mr. Parmater said it may need to start with a position statement, then move forward with the rentals and homeowners for unhealthy mold levels. Mr. Treinen stated that a starting point should be a position statement, and then work on creating an ordinance from that platform. Mr. Treinen added that there should be evidence-based data collected and evaluated from healthcare workers, contractors and property owners. Mr. Treinen confirmed that the Board does have the authority to create new public health laws.

Rev. Dr. Robinson stated that the mold issue should be a Board priority going forward.
VII. March Board of Health Agenda items

Ms. Daley stated the reviewed ordinances could be added as a vote to the agenda for March.

VIII. Next Meeting: Work Session, Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 1pm-3pm – Pinecrest Building, Room 420, 1407 Independence Ave., Waterloo, IA 50703

Dr. Cisse Egbruonye stated the next work session will be about the Community Health Needs Assessment results and there is an online survey available to obtain feedback from the community on the results of the survey results.

IX. Adjournment: The Board of Health Work Session ended at 9:46 a.m.

Action: Ms. Knipp moved and Dr. Roise seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Olmstead, Secretary

Rev. Dr. Mary C. Robinson
Board of Health, Chair Person