

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of the Madison County Board of Health Advisory Committee was held via teleconference on September 7, 2021.

Members Present: Raymond Weber, M.D., Dorothy Droste, R. N., B.S.N., Jean Schram, M.A., Loren Hughes, M.D., MaryAnn Niemeyer, Ph.D., Rebecca Dunn, D.M.D., Laura DeLuca, R.N., and Paul Hoover, D.C.

Members Absent: Paul Malcherek, M.D., and David Yablonsky, DO.

Others Present: Toni M. Corona, B.S., L.E.H.P., Director Public Health, Stacey Counton, Office Manager, and Mark McGranahan, M.D., FAAP, Medical Consultant.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Dorothy Droste and seconded by Dr. Hughes to approve the August 3, 2021 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment/Announcements: Dorothy attended a luncheon/meeting on Mental Health. The Mental Health Alliance has continued to meet and have a virtual conference, “IMPACT Suicide” scheduled for this Friday, September 10, 2021.

Laura DeLuca asked about the use of Monoclonal Antibody treatment on positive COVID-19 cases. Discussion.

Public Health Administrator’s Report: Schools have been operating in person for the last several weeks. We are very busy working closely with all the school districts as well as private schools.

We are currently working 14 outbreaks. The majority of our cases that we are seeing are the Delta Variants. Out of the thousands and thousands of cases we have had, we have seen just over 600 breakthrough cases (people who are fully vaccinated). The majority of cases are in unvaccinated individuals. Vaccination clinics continue through September. We have not received any direction on booster doses yet. Discussions that we will know more by end of September. Third doses are available to only individuals with moderately to severely compromised immune systems. A full list of these conditions can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>. We are starting to see a slight decline in our case rate, but are still in high transmission mode.

Contact Tracing – this year we are doing more work with less people. At one point we had 30 contact tracers and we only have 12 full time contact tracers plus 7 that have taken other positions within the health department but are also working primarily in contact tracing. The staff have been remarkable. To debrief from the stress, we have had therapy dogs make visits to staff and also had EAP Staff provide some good tips and tools for self-care to staff.

Madison County Health Department Certification was due April 2021. An IPLAN (Illinois Project for Local Assessment of Needs) extension was requested and granted from IDPH until April 2022.

Budget for Health Department has been submitted.

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Dr. McGranahan: The Collaborate among local providers has been fantastic. Just before the Governor mandated the mask requirement in schools, Dr. Hughes and I attended a meeting with Dr. Shelton, Superintendent of District 7, along with other providers. Received some good collaboration for Collinsville's Superintendent and was very receptive. Several local pediatric providers banded together and wrote a letter to school officials about concern of mask exemptions. Some of these schools have now changed their mask exemption forms to have to identify who your primary provider is and much more detailed documentation of the medical diagnosis.

We did see a bump in our request for numbers of 12-17 yr. old kids who were going to get the COVID vaccine after the school year started. The school year may have made the parents reassess risk for their child. Far too many families choosing not to immunize their kids.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Nominating Committee: The nominating committee, Dr. Hughes and Dr. Hoover, will work together to identify a 2022 HAC slate of officers (Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary). These are one year terms. The new officers will start their positions at the January 2022 meeting.

The next scheduled meeting for this committee is **Tuesday, October 5, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**, via GoToMeeting.

A motion was made by Dorothy Droste and seconded by Dr. Hughes to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Rebecca Dunn, Secretary