



Clark County Health Department

Dr. Eric B. Yazel, Health Officer

1201 Wall Street | Jeffersonville, IN 47130 | (812)282-7521
www.clarkhealth.net

CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2, 2021

Board members present: Denny Hill, Dr. Howard, Dr. Martin, Dr. Thaker, Teresa Natterman, & Fay Allen.

Staff members present: Eric Yazel, Health Officer; Zach Stewart, Atty; Doug Bentfield, Administrator; Idannia Portugal.

Dr. Howard called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

Fay Allen made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2021 meeting. Dr. Thaker seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

There were no public comments.

Old Business:

COVID-19 Response:

Dr. Yazel first began by saying Clark County was well positioned in regards to having a good standing number of vaccinated people in Clark County; with about 47,000 people fully vaccinated. Positive cases have been very minimal with a 2-3% positivity rate. In the last two months there has not been double digit numbers of COVID-19 patients in Clark Memorial Hospital. The department is currently focusing on areas with less vaccinated citizens and figuring out our next steps to ensure numbers keep declining as we transition into summer.

Dr. Yazel responded to Teresa Nattermans concern regarding the positivity rate after being fully vaccinated. There are only 37 cases currently, but none have been severe.

As for a Booster vaccine, the test population is mostly immune to COVID-19 and time frame keeps getting expanded, it might be recommended in the future.



Clark County Health Department

Dr. Eric B. Yazel, Health Officer

1201 Wall Street | Jeffersonville, IN 47130 | (812)282-7521
www.clarkhealth.net

Doug Bentfield brought up the next steps moving into July. CCHD will be closing the current CCHD Vaccine Site in Clarksville and converting into a Drive-thru clinic. We intend on using our mobile medical trailer to make the vaccine more available all across Clark County. He also mentioned another fund coming into effect in July to help ramp up immunizations. Nine part-time nurses, some of whom are already part of Greater Clark County Schools, will be hired in order to help get children back on track with their immunizations. There has been a good number of young people getting vaccinated, and plan to keep on offering these resources to schools throughout the school year.

Grant(s) Update:

The CDC has given a new grant to the Clark County Health Department in order to continue doing COVID-19 Vaccines. CCHD duties will include inspecting Primary Care Offices that are supplied vaccine.

There is also another grant/contract that would give the Clark County Health Department up to \$37.00 back for every insured vaccine administered, emphasizing that these funds are not tied to any specific expenses.

The Safe-Sleep grant has also been renewed for the next two years, which is \$75,000 yearly, to allow funding for more services and resources in the community such as family counseling.

Dr. Howard brought up the spikes in suicides and overdoses across the county over the last year. Dr. Yazel mentioned a new program he is currently coordinating in which it will “flag” a student that may be having trouble/issues. The program will relay available resources for the student quicker. He will also be teaming up with police and fire who have specialized training. This quick response team will include a first responder and a mental health worker, hoping it will be successful.

New Business:

2022 Budget:



Clark County Health Department

Dr. Eric B. Yazel, Health Officer

1201 Wall Street | Jeffersonville, IN 47130 | (812)282-7521
www.clarkhealth.net

Doug Bentfield sent each Health Board Member a copy of the 2022 budget, in which there were only a few changes made due to COVID-19, such as contract services. The budget includes a \$300,000 expense for a storage building for our trailers, equipment, mosquito pesticides, and excess PPE supplies. This plan is also shared with the EMA Department and a number of other agencies to share the cost of the building.

Denny Hill moved a motion to approve the 2022 Budget, Dr. Harold Martin seconded.

Health Officer Evaluation:

Dr. Martin made a motion to re-appoint Dr. Yazel as the Clark County Health Officer, Denny Hill seconded. The votes were unanimous.

All the Health Board Members recognized both Dr. Yazel and Doug Bentfield for doing such a great job during this whole pandemic; always being a step ahead, very knowledgeable, and they have not heard a negative note about Clark County.

Doug Bentfield thanked the Health Board Members for allowing the department to make decisions that were based on facts and information.

Other:

Attorney, Zachary Stewart, reminded the Clark County Health Board on Senate Bill 5 which becomes effective as of June 30, 2021, in which any health mandate now has to go through the County Commissioners as well, but only during a Public Health Emergency. For example, if Dr. Yazel and the Health Board make a decision, it cannot go forward until the Commissioners have approved it as well. Dr. Yazel added that regardless if there is a Public Health Emergency or not, all agencies will need to keep communicating in order to work together for the community.

Adjourn:

Denny Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Thaker seconded. Meeting ended at 09:17 AM.



Clark County Health Department

Dr. Eric B. Yazel, Health Officer

1201 Wall Street | Jeffersonville, IN 47130 | (812)282-7521
www.clarkhealth.net

NEXT MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 AT 8:30 AM

Respectfully submitted,


Doug Bentfield, R.E.H.S.
Administrator


James E. Howard DVM
President