

Ingham County Board of Health (BOH)
Ingham County Health Department (ICHD) – Conference Room D/E
Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Minutes

ACTION ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER:

In attendance for meeting: Denise Chrysler, Barbara Worgess, Garry Rowe, Alexander Woods, Heather Dover, Ed Dore, Felicia Eshragh, Joel Murr

The meeting was called to order at 12:09 pm by Board Chair- Alexander Woods

Additions to Agenda: Moment of Silence for Oxford High School Shooting Victims

Limited Public Comment:

None

Approval of November Minutes- Motion to approve by Felicia. Seconded by Heather. November Minutes approved unanimously.

Announcements: None

1. Introductions/Opening Comments – Alexander Woods

Alexander welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. BOH Orientation Recap

Joel reviewed the 11/15 BOH Orientation and thanked Denise Chrysler and Linda Vail for presenting. Based on the orientation, the department will share more advocacy opportunities with the BOH and will schedule presentations from the PHS divisions and the CHPP branch for 2022 to help inform the BOH's formation of public health issue workgroups.

3. Public Health Update- Joel Murr

Joel shared that the Omicron variant is the latest variant of concern but emphasized that almost everything is unknown at this time: possibly more contagious than other variants; possibly less contagious. There are reports of less severe/mild presentation. Cases in the US date back to November, but currently there are no confirmed cases in Michigan. Do not delay your booster appointment. Don't delay your vaccination of 5-11 year olds. We will continue on with mitigation measures work against this variant: vaccinations, masking, social distancing.

Covid numbers are still very high in the county with about 140 new cases per day and around 20% positivity rate. Hospitalizations remain a concern as well as ICU/ED visits for delayed care.

Vaccinations- Boosters are recommended for everyone 18+. Ages 5-11- 25% are vaccinated locally vs 15% for the state. Ingham reached the milestone of 70% vaccinated for ages 16+. Schools, community events are a focus with 28 in November and 24 scheduled for December. The Mobile Unit is being heavily utilized.

Testing- Health Resource Advocates are in schools to increase testing capacity.

The Community Health Improvement Plan will present an opportunity for the BOH to participate. Janine Sinno is coordinating it and an Email will be shared out with details in the future.

4. Community Coalitions-Joel Murr

Joel shared information about the Land Use and Health Resource (LUHRT) group and the Infant Mortality Coalition with the group. Links with meeting dates and times will be shared with the group. Joel also gave an update about the Environmental Affairs Commission and its preparation for an RFP for an energy audit.

5.BOC Update- Derrell- not in attendance

Commissioner Slaughter will send an email update re: ARP funds to Alexander.

6.Racial Equity Taskforce Update- Alexander

Alexander stated that there is no RET update.

Other: Alexander raised the date of the next meeting and whether to hold a January meeting. The group discussed using the January meeting to identify subcommittee areas for 2022. Felicia requested information on previous workgroups. The group provided some examples. Barbara requested the results of the previous interest survey. Alexander will share that with the group. The group requested information about existing coalitions in the area and any strategic plan for the County. Joel will share that out prior to the January 2022 meeting. The group voted unanimously to hold the January 2022 BOH meeting on 1/11/2022 dependent on room availability.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm with a motion by Gary, seconded by Barbara.

Next Board of Health Meeting: TBD Proposed date is 1/11/2022.