Members present: Dr. Michele Dikkers, Vicki Carolan, Dr. Gary Bowden, Dr. Forrest Whitford, Tina Nieland

Others present: Brittany Hubanks: VNA Manager, Kiane Smith: VNA, Shalise Williams: Allen’s Women’s Health, Jeff Friedlein: Friedlein Excavating

Ms. Carolan called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Election of Officers for 2022 discussed by the Board. Motion made by Dr. Bowden to have Dr. Michele Dikkers remain Chair; second made by Dr. Whitford. Motion carried unanimously. Motion made by Dr. Bowden to have Vicki Carolan remain Vice Chair; second by Dr. Whitford. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes from November 4, 2021 reviewed. Motion made by Dr. Whitford to approve the minutes; second made by Dr. Bowden. Motion carried unanimously.

I-Smile—Kiane Smith
- Ms. Smith provided an update to the board on oral health activities and data for Clayton County, including recent decay rates and school-based clinics.

Allen Women’s Health—Shalise Williams
- Ms. Williams provided information to the board on Allen Women’s Health initiatives through Title X and other programs, specifically birth control and STI education.

CIOWTS—Jeff Friedlein
- Mr. Friedlein spoke to the board about his experience with CIOWTS test, which was put in as a requirement for Clayton County installers.
  - Mr. Friedlein shared that the material covered in the CIOWTS course was outdated and very math focused. He added that upon test completion an individual only finds out if they passed or failed but do not have the opportunity to know which questions, they got incorrect.
  - Mr. Friedlein shared that it would be beneficial for there to be oversight of county installations and a protocol for what would happen if a non-certified installer was found to be doing work so that there is fairness for those who went through the proper channels and certification.
- Board discussed potential press release on importance of proper installation and certification. Dr. Dikkers offered to assist county sanitarian in drafting document.

Sanitarian Agenda—Brittany Hubanks on behalf of Patti Ruff
- Provided Grants to Counties update.
  - 34 water tests completed with 10 positive for coliform bacteria. 3 were empty houses, 1 continues to test bad and will be hooking up to city water in Luana, and 3 will be retested in 6-weeks due to being under 5 ppm.
  - There were 2 well pluggings, 3 cistern pluggings, and 3 well renovations done in 2nd quarter. $8300 has been used during this quarter leaving $13,446.11 for 3rd and 4th quarters.
- There were 22 septic permits issued: 10 new systems and 12 replacements. There were only 3 well permits issued.
- On December 8th, Governor Reynolds announced a $100 million investment in Water Infrastructure made available through the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. A portion of the funding will be dedicated to onsite wastewater systems in unsewered communities. The one-time program will provide grants to property owners meeting certain eligibility requirements and will be jointly administered by the Iowa DNR and Iowa Finance Authority.
- There is up to $10 million allocated for this program. Depending on funding demand, the grant award may be capped. If funds remain available after the initial priority eligibility projects, program eligibility may expand. Information has been sent out to contractors, realtors, and others who might know of qualifying systems.
- CIOWTS certification class and test for septic contractors was held in December. Certification requirement goes into effect for the county on July 1, 2022.
- County Sanitarian completed 33 hours of continuing education in 2021, with 12 being the required minimum.
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) elected Patti the Chair for Region 6 for 2022. Region 6 is an award winning LEPC and is made up of Emergency Managers, industry partners, and others.

Public Health Agenda—Brittany Hubanks
- Provided update on county COVID transmission and vaccination rates.
- Reviewed preliminary immunization audit results for Clayton County with the board.
  - Preliminary findings show 97% of Clayton County K-12 students having valid immunization certificates.
  - K-12 audits were due to the state of Iowa in the Fall of 2021. County public health is also required to audit immunization records for 30% of county childcares. These audits are due by Spring of 2022 to the state.
  - The Iowa Department of Public Health will review and verify all audit information for both K-12 schools and childcares and provide finalized reports once completed. Public health will share final results with the board when available.
- Reviewed manager’s report with the board, including agency program updates.

Next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Clayton County Office Building.

Submitted by:

Brittany Hubanks, BA  
Clayton Co. VNA