

## Emergency Menard County Board of Health Meeting – 8/19/20

### Attendance:

Dara Worthington  
Allen Anderson

### Board of Health:

Dave Bagot  
Dr. Hartman  
Brienne Satorius  
Diane Markley  
JD Stewart  
Jeff Fore

### Health Department

Director Gail O'Neill  
Assistant Director Bill Dart

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:58 p.m.

II. The minutes from the 8/12 meeting had not been prepared for the meeting.

III. The meeting began with a discussion of the proposed testing program and funding through the Sunny Acres account. About \$200,000 from the grant has been deposited into that account for reimbursement of staff available for contact tracing.

Options for use of different labs was discussed including where tests would be done, managing data entry and other logistical issues regarding testing. Coordination with the nursing home and Sunny Acres Administrator is essential. The nursing home's regulatory testing expenses are added operational costs which must be borne by the county. Discussed that better options for testing may be coming soon, including an all in one test for influenza A, B and COVID. The group also reviewed other possibilities for purchases to support local government and schools, including PPE.

The question of whether the nursing home staff would be able to take the lead on coordinating testing for other key personnel which may come from the schools or first responders was discussed. Spending deadlines were reviewed; the grant funding is limited but the monies are being allocated to the nursing home staff trained for contact training.

Suggestion was made to get Sarah Yoder, Administrator and others at the next meeting, including representatives of Heritage, for an in person meeting.

IV. None.

## V. New business

The new emergency rule by IDPH for enforcing social distancing and face coverings was reviewed. The group expressed frustration that business owners faced sanctions for non-compliant customers. Concerns were also expressed about the number of persons in the community not wearing masks. One point of agreement is the need to keep businesses open and not facing greater restrictions. People may get behind a message of wearing masks in order to preserve the local economy. A communication to businesses with this type of messaging from the BOH was identified as an appropriate next step.

VI. The next meeting will be August 26 @ 5:30 and the Board members will meet in person.

VII. There was no public comment.

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.