

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Community Room, Jackson County Courthouse
201 W Platt Street, Maquoketa, Iowa

Board Members Present: Chair Sara Davenport, Vice Chair Dr Khristian Becker (via Zoom), Nin Flagel, Doug Latham (via Zoom), Jessica Manders, Dr. Gerald Bybee joined at 7:08 p.m.

Staff Member Present: Elizabeth Townsend Jackson County Health, Becca Pflughaupt Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Davenport at 7:03 p.m. and a quorum was established. A sign-in sheet was distributed. A Zoom meeting was launched. There were three people attending via Zoom. Those in attendance were:

Julie Furne – ASAC

Cynthia Kaczinski (via Zoom)

Chair Davenport proposed to amend the agenda to move the New Business of Discussion on Julie Furne's Board of Health reporting and objectives to follow Furne's Agency Presentation. There was no objection to that proposal.

MINUTES

Approval of meeting minutes from February 4, 2025. Motion by Flagel, seconded by Latham. Motion passed unanimously.

Agency Reports:

ASAC – Julia Furne, DFC Grant Project Coordinator

Furne presented on the Poverty Simulation that will take place on April 24th at The Timber Center. Furne gave a synopsis of what takes place at a poverty simulation. Furne stated that Jackson County out of the 99 counties in Iowa is the 90th most well to do. The Poverty Simulation is a free event and it's the first time being presented in Jackson County.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Julie Furne's Board of Health reporting and objectives

Davenport asked Furne to tell the history of how it came about that she started presenting to the Board of Health. Furne stated that in 2018 when Frank Frieberg was the Public Health Administrator he helped write the initial drug free communities grant and was then wrote in as the Project Director of the Drug Free Communities Grant. The same day that they were awarded the grant, Frieberg moved on to another position with the County. Then it continued with Freiburg's predecessor, Kimberly. When Kimberly left employment with the County, it moved to Lynn Bopes, and Furne then continued coming to the Board of Health meetings as she felt it was good information and stated that substance abuse is a public health problem. The current Project Director is Karen Wells at the Sheriff's Office, it has to be a county employee because the county is the

grant holder. Furne stated she works for ASAC and is contracted for the county. Furne has been attending for over 8 years. The other agencies that present to the Board are required to from the State by their grant. There were no objections to Furne continuing to attend the Board of Health meetings and provide relevant information.

Agency Reports:

Community Health – Jen Warren, RN (presented by Julie Furne)

Furne highlighted Warren's report stating that Warren in the coming month will be doing training on Stop the Bleed and working on training for CPR in the schools.

Environmental Health – Elizabeth Townsend

Townsend gave an update on the Private Well Grant. For the grant year 172 private well water tests were completed, 18 private well renovations were completed, and 11 private wells and cisterns were plugged.

Townsend stated that she recently completed the annual Commercial Septic Tank Cleaner Inspections. Those are contracted through the DNR.

Townsend updated the Board on the 2024 violations. It was resolved without a court hearing and a fine has been paid.

Townsend stated that we are waiting for the state to move forward with Administrative Code Chapter 69. Townsend stated she will be working on revisions for a new ordinance that will reflect the new code. Townsend will be writing a new Onsite Wastewater Installer Ordinance.

Townsend updated the Board about GeoPermitting and some of the issues we have had.

Townsend stated that the department will be looking to purchase a soil analysis coring machine. This will allow for the public to have a smoother septic application and permitting process. Townsend explained some of the features of the coring machine and that the state does require certification, and Townsend is certified. This will also give an opportunity to communicate and educate the homeowner regarding the placement of their septic system.

Townsend told of her presentation at a local Rural Health Event. Her presentation included information on water testing for private wells, and Radon testing.

Townsend will be attending the Iowa DNR Regional Meeting on March 26.

Iowa Onsite Wastewater Association asked Townsend to provide them with a letter of recommendation to give to the other Counties to explain the importance of the CIOWTS Certification. Also, the IOWWA will be hosting the required training and exam for Jackson County Septic Installers in December 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action to approve a variance request fee of \$150

Townsend is proposing a variance request fee of \$150. It would be a simple application where they would work directly with Townsend as a last resort, and this would help offset the time and publication costs.

Motion by Bybee, seconded by Manders to approve a variance request fee of \$150.

Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE

May 20, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bybee, seconded by Latham to adjourn the March 18, 2025 Board of Health Meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.