LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 - 4:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Vice-Chair Thiel called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Present-In-Person: Laurie Thiel, Angela Cummings, Marguerite Lyskawa, Kay Kissinger Wolf
Present-Virtual: Dr. Michael Clark
Absent/Excused: Dana Miller, Dr. Corey Apprill, Christine Vorpagel
Department Head(s) In-Person: Shelley Cohrs
Visitor(s): Lexi Buntrock and Kristin Bath

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

Public Comment-None. Christine Vorpagel arrived approximately 4:08 pm.

4. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

a. Board of Health Meeting Minutes - 7/16/2025

M/S Kissinger Wolf/Lyskawa to approve the Board of Health Meeting Minutes from 7/16/2025. Carried on a voice vote.

5. Questions and Answers on Director Written and Financial Report

a. Director Written Report

Director's Written Report was discussed and placed on file. The Health Department received reaccreditation. They will receive a plaque. Cummings requested that information be sent to the entire County Board as it is a highlight for the Department.

b. Financial Report

Director's Financial Report was reviewed and placed on file. The Vital Strategies Opioid Grant for $50,000 and the Carbon Monoxide Prevention Grant have been received. Cohrs indicated that the department's financials are in good standing, especially with the finalizing of previous grants.

6. Program Update - Live Well Lincoln - Community Health Improvement Plan - Lexi Buntrock and Kristin Bath, Public Health Educators

Kristin provided an update on the Live Well Lincoln Community Health Improvement Plan, explaining that the health department is statutorily required to conduct a community needs assessment and determine health priorities every five years. The Healthy Minds for Lincoln County coalition, funded by Aspirus Health, aims to increase knowledge of and access to behavioral health resources and build strong support systems.

Lexi provided an update from the Healthy Lifestyles coalition, which focuses on supporting healthy nutrition and advocating for supportive subsystems to meet basic needs. The coalition also focused on building and fostering partnerships, including a new collaboration with "Food for Kids," a school backpack program.

7. Program Update - Public Health Preparedness - Kristin Bath

Kristin provided an update on the public health emergency program, which is a state-required, federally funded initiative focused on preparedness and response capacity. It was noted there was a recent reduction in federal funding but confirmed that the funding is expected to be restored to its typical level.

8. Resolution to Accept Environmental Health Tracking Grant

a. Carbon Monoxide Resolution

M/S Vorpagel/Lyskawa to approve Carbon Monoxide Resolution. Carried on a voice vote. Thiel to author and Vorpagel and Cummings to co-sponsor resolution. Resolution to be forwarded to County Board. The $10,000 grant, motivated by a recent death in the county, aims to distribute 250 carbon monoxide detectors to those who cannot afford them and widely distribute educational materials, especially targeting recreation activities.

9. Approval of Entering Agreement with TransactRx

a. TransactRx Agreement

M/S Cummings/Thiel to approve TransactRX Agreement pending corporate counsel approval. Carried on a voice vote. The Health Department will offer vaccines to individuals aged 65 and older through Medicare Part D. This agreement will enable the department to offer shingles, tetanus, Tdap and hepatitis A vaccines. Cohrs advised that it is under Dr. Clark's supervision and authority which makes this program available.

10. Update on Strategic Plan Process

a. Strategic Plan Update

Cohrs outlined changes to the mission statement, now emphasizing promoting and improving the health and well-being of people and their environment, and a vision for a "thriving Lincoln County where all are empowered to achieve their highest level of health, well-being, and safety." The plan also identifies new core values, including excellence, collaboration, integrity, innovation, and people, and three priorities: building organizational capacity, fostering relationships through engagement, and achieving innovation and excellence. These will be sent out where supervisors can suggest changes. They will be approved at next month's meeting.

11. Review of Programs, Services, and Funding

Cohrs presented a positive financial outlook for the next year's budget, anticipating it being about $50,000 positive, considering various contingencies. She expressed plans to use these funds to hire a replacement for a nurse lost in July, while maintaining a conservative approach due to upcoming retirements and changes in public health funding and the school contract. She also mentioned that she would be meeting with administration to discuss these plans further.

12. Next Meeting Date; Agenda Items

October 15, 2025, at 4:00 pm is the next meeting date. Kissinger Wolf is excused for the next meeting. Agenda items: Cohrs evaluation, review of programs, strategic plan.

13. Adjourn

Vice-Chair Thiel adjourned the meeting at 5:22 pm.