

Emergency Menard County Board of Health Meeting – 9/2/20

Attendance:

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 5:35 p.m.

II. Motioned and seconded to approve all 3 minutes from previous meetings (8/12, 8/19 and 8/26). On a roll call vote, the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Discussion of the new COVID-19 numbers; 4 positive cases today and 3 yesterday. 78 total positive cases and 59 have recovered; no hospitalizations. Demographics for cases will be available soon. The group noted that while 4 doesn't sound big, 4 cases to a population of 12,000 in Menard county is like 63 cases in county with 190,000 population (Sangamon). As numbers go up, they may trigger state warning levels; if so, the state will ask what's being done. The letters to the community may be best response to an inquiry like that from the state.

IV. Discussed letters, which had been revised per discussion at 8/26 meeting. Proposed to shift from letter to the editor to an actual paid ad, which the group endorsed. We need to get a list of businesses using the Chamber of Commerce and the HD's restaurant list. Dave will reach out to the Chamber and get a list. Moving forward with these plans by consensus, the advertisement and business letter. The ad should run through October. We'll add either a web site or a phone number.

Brief discussion of last week's meeting especially regarding the commitment from Heritage; they showed up with expertise and were very transparent. The federal HHS machine has not been provided as yet.

V. Conversation regarding prospect of providing masks and hand sanitizer to businesses. There are monies from IDPH preparedness grant for these items. About \$34,000 in funding was added. We should offer masks and have them call to acquire them.

The members brought up community testing. With testing equipment coming from HHS, would there be an opportunity for additional testing. We could also ask the state to make their contractor available as cases have been increasing. The Memorial parking lot by the

pharmacy was identified as the most probable location.

Finally, discussed getting this letter out and then following with another communication regarding masks or etc. A listing of bars/restaurants would be another business list to acquire. Checking on mask availability was noted for a follow-up item.

VI. Next meeting set for 9/9 but may be cancelled especially with short week (Labor Day.)

VII. There was no public comment.

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 6:05.

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