

LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022 5:00 PM
Jackson County Sheriff's Office Conference Room

Call to Order (5:00 PM)

Members Present: Battrell, Comparato, Erbes, Knust and Miller
Members Absent: Ashley and Snyder

Scott Comparato chaired the meeting. Also present: Kevin Lister, Mark Kuhns, Bart Hagston, Kerri Gale, Joni Bailey

Approval of Minutes

- I. [22-7640](#) Approval of November 15, 2022 Minutes
A motion was made by Erbes, seconded by Knust, to approve the November 15, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Animal Control

- II. [22-7641](#) Animal Control Monthly Update
The County Administrator informed the committee of the Animal Welfare forum the Animal Control Administrator had organized and attended. She also passed around the new 2023 rabies tags for the committee to view.
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Health Department & Solid Waste

- III. [22-7642](#) Jackson County Health Department
Hagston reported the following:
The Health Dept. continues to provide seasonal flu & COVID-19 vaccinations, but demand has dropped over the past month. JCHD has sent out a news release reminding people to get these two vaccinations before the holidays. There are quite a few types of respiratory illnesses circulating currently. For Covid specifically, Jackson County has been rated at the medium level on CDC's COVID-19 Community Level rating system for the past three weeks.
Recommendations at that level inc. staying up-to-date with vaccinations, getting tested if symptomatic, avoiding contact with those who may have COVID-19, and for those at the highest risk to take additional precautions. JCHD suspects that cases of all respiratory diseases will continue to increase over the next few months, as people are indoors more without masks, people gather for the holidays, and the percent of people with the flu shot and newest Covid booster remains relatively low.
The Federal public health emergency for mpox (formerly monkeypox) will come to an end in January. The number of cases nationally has dropped significantly. JCHD has yet to have a confirmed case in Jackson County. JCHD continues to provide mpox vaccinations to high-risk individuals.
An outbreak of Ebola in Uganda means local health departments are being called upon to update our plans & procedures. Travelers from Uganda are funneled to certain US airports where they undergo a health screening and assessed for risk of exposure. So long as they aren't symptomatic or considered to be at high-risk, they are allowed to complete their travel. If Jackson County is their end destination, then we are notified and we set up a 21-day monitoring period with the traveler. During this period, they watch for symptoms and take their
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temperature each day. If they do not come down with any symptoms, then their monitoring period will expire. If they develop symptoms, then they are instructed to contact the health dept. immediately and JCHD will then arrange for transport and assessment at a hospital. This coordination helps prevent someone potentially having Ebola from walking into a provider and potentially exposing others. JCHD is currently updating its plans and coordinating with other entities, including Ambulance Service and hospital.

Sexually transmitted infections continue to rise nationally and locally. In Jackson County there have been 45 cases of syphilis reported this year, compared to 33 last year and 5 cases in 2018. JCHD has received a three-year grant from IDPH to increase our work on preventing & investigating sexually transmitted infections. JCHD is conducting additional outreach to the public and to physicians so that they are encouraging testing and treatment.

Hagston commented that he is scheduling orientation meetings and health department tours with new County Board members. He also mentioned the food sanitation ordinance that was voted on at the November Board meeting. It was brought to his attention that the food sanitation ordinance may not have passed like originally thought. He asked that the recording be reviewed and that if the ordinance had not passed, the health department would make the necessary changes needed for its vendors. He also informed the committee that he would like to bring back the ordinance to the committee in the near future.

IV. [22-7643](#)

Solid Waste Enforcement

Ms. Gale reported the following:

Activities Completed 11/8/22 – 12/8/22

- 2 properties were closed and in general compliance.
- Toured Perry Ridge Landfill, Perry County and West End Landfill, Franklin as training to become a certified inspector.
- 1 landfill inspection at SIRLI 11/17/2022.
- 5 Field Visits conducted of open dumping/burning sites, 2 of those were new complaints.

V. [22-7644](#)

Solid Waste Fund Update

Ms. Gale commented that there was general information in the meeting packet that could be reviewed and that she would be happy to answer any questions.

VI. [22-7645](#)

Recycling Program

Ms. Gale reported the following:

Activities Completed for General Recycling Programming –11/8/22 – 12/8/22

- Q4 Newsletter published
- Holiday Light Recycling
 - Event promotion
 - Collection bins at JCHD, SRC, Murphysboro Park Dist, & Carbondale Public Library
- Planned & held Township/Municipality Tire Collection on 12/8-approx. 800 tires will be collected
- Beginning planning stages with Greater Egypt on development and completion of Jackson County Solid Waste Plan.
- Participated in webinars about USEPA grant funds for recycling education and infrastructure.

Activities Completed for K-12 Recycling Education –11/8/22 – 12/8/22

- Conducted 14 presentations at Parrish School, thus now reaching all Pre-K, K, and 1st Grade classes at this site. A recycling presentation being planned for an upcoming faculty/staff mtg.
- Conducted 4 presentations with elementary grades at Giant City School.
- Participated in the quarterly meeting of the River-to-River Environmental Education Providers.
- Received preliminary information regarding the upcoming Science in South event happening

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at SIU – Touch of Nature in April 2023.

- Reviewed featured consumer education materials, case studies, training opportunities, grants and other educational resources offered in the “Model Recycling Program Toolkit” released by the EPA this month.
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Emergency Management

The County Administrator commented that the Emergency Management Coordinator had hosted an open house last week to discuss the EMA department and its functions.

Ambulance Service

VII. [22-7646](#)

Payment of Ambulance Monthly Claims

The original agenda that was sent out last week had the incorrect total for the Ambulance Monthly Claims. Comparato informed the committee that the correct number was in the current packet and that they would be voting on the claims in the amount of \$79,402.41. A motion was made by Erbes, seconded by Knust, to approve the Ambulance monthly claims in the amount of \$79,402.41. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VIII. [22-7647](#)

Director's Report

Kuhns updated the committee on the following:

Monthly Claims: \$79,402.41

Accounts Receivable Cash: \$368,436.51

Activity Report: 948 patient incidents.

Other Information:

The department has completed CPR training for Carbondale Fire Dept.

The department has been having preliminary discussions with the health dept regarding updating the Ebola response plan.

The department attended the EMA open house hosted by the EMA Coordinator.

The department participated in the Carbondale Lights Fantastic parade.

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System medical director Dr. Joseph Haake asked our department to provide 2 members to participate on the Illinois Department of Public Health Region 5 CESSA (Community Emergency Services and Support Act) committee. The requirements of the committee require an EMS professional administrator and an EMS union represented member to participate on each regional committee. The Ambulance Director will be participating as the EMS administrator and Paramedic Jason Willenborg will be participating as the EMS union represented member. It is an honor for the County Ambulance department to be chosen by our medical director. A letter from IDHS has been attached to the meeting packet which explains the appointment in a little more detail.

Legislative

IX. [22-7662](#)

National Opioid Settlement

The County Administrator began the discussion by giving a brief background of the settlement and how much money the County has received so far. She commented that there were several

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current requests for funding usage and noted that her recommendation to the committee was to allow her to email department heads and ask for written proposals on what to do with the funds from the settlement. The committee continued the discussion. A motion was made to have the County Administrator email department heads and ask for proposals. Before voting, the committee discussed again and asked for a friendly amendment to the motion for the email to include language regarding the amount of money the County currently has, any future amounts that may become available at a later date, and a time frame to receive the proposals. A motion was made by Battrell, seconded by Erbes, to approve the County Administrator emailing department heads to ask for proposals to utilize current and future settlement funds with a due date before the February Legislative & Public Safety meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Citizen Comments

Old Business

New Business

Executive Session

Adjourn (5:46 PM)

Erbes moved and Knust seconded to adjourn, motion carried.