

LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021 5:00 PM
Jackson County Sheriff's Office Conference Room

Call to Order (5:00 PM)

Members Present: Basden II, Calandro, Comparato and Scott
Members Absent: Erbes, Morris and Snyder

Also present: Kenton Schafer, Bart Hagston, Orval Rowe, Kerri Gale, Sharee Langenstein. Christine Snyder entered during Executive Session.

Approval of Minutes

- I. [21-6435](#) Approval of September 14, 2021 Minutes
A motion was made by Comparato, seconded by Basden II, to approve the September 14, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Animal Control

- II. [21-6436](#) Animal Control Monthly Update
The County Administrator informed the committee that there had been an increase in the number of non-dog related calls for the Animal Control Officer in September. She also mentioned the new 2022 rabies tag designs and informed the committee that the tags would have an optional feature to add pet information if the owner desired to do it.
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Health Department & Solid Waste

- III. [21-6438](#) Jackson County Health Department
Mr. Hagston updated the committee with the following information:
Thankfully Covid transmission data are trending in a positive direction recently. Overall for September, Jackson County had 1,046 new cases, which is its third highest monthly total. But the number of new cases over the past three weeks has dropped to under 20 per day on average, versus 50 per day at the beginning of September. In mid-September Jackson County had a record high 670 active cases, now it is at 140, which is much more manageable.
The most concerning number for September was the record 22 deaths related to Covid. For comparison, during the first 18 months of the pandemic, Jackson County averaged just under 5 deaths per month. Two of the deaths were to people in their 20s, plus a few more were under 50 years old. Deaths have slowed down over the past two weeks. Jackson County has had 109 Covid-related deaths overall.
Contact tracing efforts continue. With each passing month the Health Department gets less cooperation and fewer close contacts revealed to its tracers. The Health Department continues to have very good working relationships with schools on contact tracing and have been able to keep in-person learning going due to effective contact tracing work.
JCHD is now providing vaccinations by appointment, instead of by walk-in as it did this summer. In September vaccinations picked up steam, due to approval of Pfizer boosters, plus vaccine mandates, including the Governor's Executive Order. JCHD gained three percentage points over the past month to now have 44% of our total population vaccinated. This is about 11% behind the State. The definition of a fully vaccinated person has not changed, so the many
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Pfizer boosters JCHD has administered do not add to the percent of the population fully vaccinated, but such a move would also drastically reduce the County's overall percentage, as well. State teams continue to also hold vaccination clinics in Jackson County at schools, churches, community centers and other locations.

The FDA's advisory committee will meet later this week to discuss booster doses for Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, as well as later this month to discuss Pfizer vaccines for those 5-11 years old.. Pending approval by FDA, the CDC's advisory committee would make a recommendation to the CDC Director, who would grant ultimate approval. JCHD is preparing to be able to administer any of these additional doses. JCHD does have some concern about the ability to meet demand and has reached out to inquire about State assistance.

Beyond Covid, the Health Department is administering flu vaccinations by appointment, as well. JCHD will be holding a flu shot clinic for State employees on Oct 26 & 27 at SIU, and one for County employees at the Sheriff's Department on Oct 19 from 7:00-9:00am.

IV. [21-6439](#)

Solid Waste Enforcement

Ms. Gale reported 9 open dumping inspections or field visits, 7 revisits to existing sites, 2 visits to new sites, 2 revisits to sites resulted in closure due to compliance, 3 citizen complaints, and 0 routine landfill inspections.

V. [21-6440](#)

Solid Waste Fund Update

Ms. Gale reported the following:

Current Month Solid Waste Fund Transactions

Transfers: \$591.10-trash, document destruction & medical waste disposal

Interest: \$25.82

Deposits: \$0

Current Month Household Hazardous Waste Fund Transactions

Transfers: \$0

Interest: \$1.76

Deposits: \$0

Host Fee Deposited:

Deposits: \$0

VI. [21-6441](#)

Recycling Program

Ms. Gale reported the following:

Activities Completed 9/10/21 – 10/5/21:

- Shred/Med Day, October 16, 8am to Noon at Jackson County Health Department. We will partner with START for off-site document shredding and Jackson County Sheriff's Office for medication disposal. A flu and COVID vaccination clinic will also be offered this day at the Health Department.
- Completed the first quarterly Recycle Jackson County Newsletter. Newsletters will be released at the beginning of each quarter moving forward beginning 4th quarter 2021.
- Assisting with COVID contact tracing with a special focus on schools.
- Built online scheduling site for Flu/COVID clinics at JCHD. Assist with making appointments.

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Emergency Management

Mr. Rowe reported the following to the committee:

- received a call from Joe Miller-Rotary International in regards to finding a large body of water to test a water purification pump in Jackson County
 - reached out to Dennis Wright-Tower Rock Fire to test pump at boat ramp
 - conducted and participated in the Second County MHMP meeting with Greater Egypt
 - received an email from Tyler at Greater Egypt stating that the County is at 66% of In-Kind contributions
 - continued distributing PPE resources to County stakeholders and department heads
 - continued ordering PPE resources from IEMA to perform Stop Gag Measures for County entities
 - conducted NIXLE Mass Notification Tests and Starcom 21 Radio communications tests
 - called Daniel Peltz from Oklahoma EMA -requested by CJ Calandro on grants for back up generators for County offices
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Ambulance Service

- VII. [21-6442](#) Ambulance Monthly Claims in the amount of \$71,515.56
A motion was made by Comparato, seconded by Basden II, to approve the Ambulance monthly claims in the amount of \$71,515.56. The motion carried by the following vote:
Yes: 4 - Basden II, Calandro, Comparato and Scott
Absent: 3 - Erbes, Morris and Snyder
- VIII. [21-6443](#) Director's Report
Mr. Schafer reported the following:
Monthly Claims: \$71,515.56
Accounts Receivable Cash: \$181.183.03
Activity Report: 889 reports for 842 incidents
Other Information:
The accounts receivables are down considerably because of the departments billing software not functioning from September 22-30. The software company was the victim of a ransomware attack. the department uses their cloud-based service, which means there is no liability for the information stored. The company assured all customers data was not breached or lost. Once the system was restored on October 4th, it is believed they are correct.
The department has decided it is time to entertain demonstrations from other vendors offering ambulance billing software. The department will be pursuing that in the coming months.
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Legislative

Citizen Comments

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Old Business

New Business

Executive Session (5:16 PM)

Comparato moved and Basden seconded to go into Executive Session under 2 (c) 11 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to discuss Litigation. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes (4): Calandro, Basden, Comparato, Scott

Absent (3): Erbes, Morris, Snyder

Adjourn (5:27 PM)

Comparato moved and Basden seconded to adjourn, motion carried.