

**Legislative and Public Safety Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:00 PM
Jackson County Sheriff's Office Conference Room**

Call to Order

(5:02pm)

Present: Snyder, Battrell, Comparato, Knust, Lister, Miller, Mueller

Also present: Josh Barringer, Kenton Schafer, Joni Bailey, Andrew Erbes, Kerri Gale

Approval of Minutes

I. 2023-401 Approval of August 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Comparato, seconded by Mueller, to approve the August 8, 2023 minutes as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Communication

II. 2023-402 Tyler Technologies Update

Barringer updated the committee on the status of the Tyler Technologies transition. He commented that everything was on schedule for a go live date of November 2024. The committee also had a brief discussion of GIS mapping and possible layers that could be added in the future.

Animal Control

III. 2023-403 Animal Control Monthly Update

The County Administrator commented that the 2024 rabies tags have been ordered. The committee briefly discussed the animal control ordinance. The County Administrator commented that it was still a work in progress and that she and ASA Bailey would present a completed draft to the committee once it was finished.

Heath Department & Solid Waste

IV. 2023-404 Jackson County Health Department

Ms. Gale reported the following:

- *The Health Department began administering seasonal flu shots on Sep. 5th. Flu shots are recommended for everyone ages 6 months or over. JCHD also has a high-dose flu vaccine for those aged 65 or older. Appointments can be made on the website or over the phone. The Health Dept is also now administering the new RSV vaccine, Abrevvy, to*

those who are at least age 60 and have an eligible health condition.

- Updated Covid vaccines are expected in late September. These will be the first Covid vaccines we have had to purchase on the commercial market, so JCHD will be billing insurance for these shots. JCHD expects to carry both Pfizer and Moderna for those aged 12 or older, and Pfizer for the younger ages.*
- The Health Dept received a grant to handout 50 colorectal cancer screening (FIT) kits in June, and provide participants with results. Based on the success of that effort, JCHD is going to continue distributing these kits for an undetermined amount of time. The kits are free to anyone aged 45-75. Over 5,200 colorectal cancer cases were reported in Illinois in 2020, and these kits can help provide early detection of abnormalities.*
- The Health Dept is co-sponsoring the Women's Health & Wellness Conference, Sep. 30 from 8am-1pm at the Carbondale Civic Center. The event includes free wellness screenings, and lots of resources.*
- Thanks to those who helped promote our community health assessment survey to the public. Almost 600 responses were received, doubling the feedback JCHD had five years ago. The results of the survey will be analyzed and included in the discussion as JCHD works with partners to develop the community health improvement plan for 2025-2029.*
- Environmental Health staff will be busy this week inspecting temporary food stands at the Apple Festival. This is always one of their busiest weeks of the year. Health Dept staff will also be at the Apple Festival senior fair on Friday handing out resources, gun locks, and other items.*
- The Health Dept will be closed to the public on Sep. 27 for a day of staff training.*

V. 2023-405 Solid Waste Enforcement

Ms. Gale reported the following:

Activities Completed - 8/7/23 – 9/11/23:

- 1 SIRLI landfill inspection*
- 1 new citizen complaints*
- 7 Field Visits conducted for new and ongoing open dumping and burning files.*
- 1 Sites put into general compliance*
- 1 Advisory letters sent for property clean-up*
- Trapped and collected mosquitoes once a week and designated locations throughout Jackson County.*

VI. 2023-406 Solid Waste Fund Update

Ms. Gale reported the following:

Current Month Solid Waste Fund Transactions

*Transfers: \$3,330.30-Shredding, Medical Waste and Trash bills for county agencies for August.
\$227,588.62 -Recycling & Solid Waste Programs for 11/1/22-7/31/23
Interest: \$3,641.88- Interest for August
Deposits: \$97,946.76-Quarterly Tipping Fee*

Current Month Household Hazardous Waste Fund Transactions

*Transfers: \$9,219.29-June HHW Expenses and County hazardous waste bill
Deposits: \$0*

Host Fee Deposited

Deposits: \$77,123.43

VII. 2023-407 Recycling Program

Ms. Gale reported the following:

Activities Completed for General Recycling Programming –8/7/23 – 9/11/23:

- *Implemented planning for the Shred/Med Day – October 14, 2023 8 am – Noon – See flyer on County website*
- *Collaborated with Greater Egypt Regional Planning to plan the Recycling and Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting – September 26 – 10am – JCHD Back bldg. There is also a zoom option for attendance. Ms. Kuehl will send out an invite to the committee if you are interested in participating.*
- *Coordinated the destruction of JCHD agency documents*
- *Collaborated with community partners to develop a pumpkin composting event – The Great Southern Illinois Pumpkin Smash – coming Nov. 4*

Emergency Management

Erbes made a comment that the 2023 Hazardous Mitigation Plan was not on the website. The County Administrator commented that she would work with EMA to ensure it is added.

Ambulance Service

VIII. 2023-408 Payment of Ambulance Monthly Claims

A motion was made by Comparato, seconded by Knust, to approve the payment of Ambulance monthly claims in the amount of \$170,875.52. The motion carried by the following roll call vote: Yes (7): Snyder, Battrell, Comparato, Knust, Lister, Miller, Mueller

IX. 2023-409 Director's Report

Director Schafer reported the following:

Monthly Claims: \$170,875.52

Accounts Receivable Cash: \$310,091.05

Activity Report: 1,019 patient contacts

Other Information:

Please note in our activity report this is the first time I could verify that in any of the recorded data available the department surpassed 1,000 contacts for 1 month. Our claims this month included the annual fees we pay for dispatch, legal, and IT services. Our new security cameras have been installed at Carbondale and Ava. We will have cameras installed at our HQ next budget year. We also had to replace one of our HVAC units at HQ.

X. 2023-417 Paramedic Training Reimbursement Policy

Director Schafer discussed the following information regarding the paramedic training reimbursement policy, noting that the final document would be available for the committee to review in October.

Paramedic Training Reimbursement Policy. We are putting this forth to the committee for consideration to help the department recruit Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) with aspirations of furthering their career to Paramedic licensure. In addition to the expense of the college tuition and lab/book fees, the EMTs experience a loss of wages when the class is during their scheduled shift (shifts rotate) and the EMTs experience a limit to the amount of extra work or overtime they can volunteer to work due to class time and clinical time requirements. The paramedic training program includes not only class time 2 nights per week at John A. Logan or Rend Lake but several hundred hours of clinical experience time at the hospital and on the ambulance. These cumulative expenses are difficult for a single person to pay. For a person with a family, it is nearly an insurmountable obstacle for them to further their career in EMS.

We currently have 6 full-time paramedic positions unfilled. We currently have 2 EMTs enrolled in the paramedic training program.

Legislative

State's Attorney

Ms. Bailey updated the committee on the items she has been working on for the county. She noted that for Ambulance she had been reviewing the proposed paramedic training cost reimbursement agreement and the Shawnee College Clinical Training Agreement. Bailey discussed that she was continuing to work on the Animal Control ordinance for the committee. She noted she reviewed the Health Department's proposed First Amendment Audit Policy, and that for the Highway department she had finished a final version of the Reed Station Road Substantial Completion Document and that she is continuing to review new legislation on solar and wind power siting requirements.

Old Business

New Business

The County Administrator commented that SIH is now a preferred provider with HOPE Trust as of September 1st. She noted that open enrollment for health insurance would be during the month of October. The County Administrator also informed the committee that the current Resource Coordinator was leaving and that she hoped to have the position filled soon.

Executive Session

Adjourn

(6:05pm)

A motion was made by Mueller, seconded by Knust, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.