



Health Services Committee Meeting

Tazewell County Health Department Board Room

Thursday, January 9, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Jay Hall, Vice-Chair Greg Sinn, Greg Longfellow, Eric Schmidgall, Cathryn Stump, Mark Goddard

Committee Members Absent: Tammy Rich-Stimson, Jon Hopkins

Others Attending: Mike Deluhery, County Administrator
Amy Fox, Health Dept.
Stacie Ealey, Health Dept.
Libby Aeschleman, Animal Control
Melissa Goetze, Environmental Health
Stacy Thompson, Environmental Health

MOTION

MOTION BY MEMBER SINN, SECOND BY MEMBER

SCHMIDGALL to approve the minutes of the 11/7/2024 meeting and 11/20/2024 in-place meeting.

On voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Director, Libby Aeschleman, introduced herself to two new Health Services committee members, Mark Goddard and Cathryn Stump. She provided a summary of the services that Animal Control provides to Tazewell County

Director Aeschleman provided an overview of the November and December revenue, euthanasia, kennel services, bites, registration, officer call-outs, and expense reports.

Director Aeschleman stated that since the start of the Feral Cat Trap, Spay/Neuter, and Release Program, there have been a total of 159 cats trapped and released.

Member Goddard questioned who handles the expenses for Animal Control, if any personal vehicles or cell phones are reimbursed, and how many trucks Animal Control has. Director Aeschleman advised that she handles the expenses, no personal vehicles or cell phones are reimbursed, and Animal Control has four trucks.

Member Goddard questioned if the auditor reviews the accounting for Animal Control. Administrator Mike Deluhery stated that Director Aeschleman has certain authorizations for purchases based

on the Board's policy and those bills get submitted to the finance office. He stated that those also get sent to the auditor for review. He stated that starting this year, all board members will receive an email containing a list of all bills going out for their review.

Director Aeschleman confirmed that if there are funds left in the Animal Control budget at the end of a fiscal year, the funds are rolled over.

Vice-Chair Sinn questioned what is in line for Animal Control for the upcoming year with regard to building upgrades.

Director Aeschleman stated that they are discussing the current needs with the current space they have, a new HVAC system, improving the space, and weighing their options.

Administrator Deluhery stated that there are standards of how much space you should have for animal control, and our current facility does not meet those standards. He stated that they have discussed doing an addition, but based on the cost of an addition, it may make sense to build a new building.

HEALTH

Health Department Administrator, Amy Fox, introduced herself and provided a handout entitled "Guide to Services" which outlined the services that the Health Department provides to Tazewell County. She provided an overview of the budget process for the Health Department.

Health Department Assistant Administrator, Stacie Ealey, introduced herself.

Administrator Fox stated that they recently moved around some locations and buildings since the clinical type and WIC services moved to 1800 Broadway.

Member Goddard questioned if he could see the monthly report for the Health Department, and Administrator Fox stated that it is contained in the Board of Health packet every month.

Chairman Hall stated that the Board of Health is an independent committee, and he is the only board member on that committee.

Member Goddard questioned if a dentist has been hired yet and Administrator Fox stated that they have not but are starting that process.

Member Stump complimented Administrator Fox on the "Guide to Services" handout and said it was very helpful.

Administrator Fox stated that they have monthly financial meetings to discuss grants and the status of their finances.

Administrator Fox stated that respiratory illnesses are high right now. She stated that they update the social media dashboard weekly to inform the public of concerns.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH Environmental Health Supervisor, Stacy Thompson, introduced herself and provided a handout of a list of Environmental Health programs. She provided an overview of the services.

Supervisor Thompson stated that TAPS collects aluminum cans to help with their funding and Environmental Health just started collecting cans and recently made their first donation.

Environmental Health Director, Melissa Goetze, stated that it is radon action month and they are giving out free radon test kits. She stated that Tazewell County is zone 1, so we are the highest when it comes to radon coming back positive.

SOLID WASTE Environmental Health Director, Melissa Goetze, introduced herself and provided an overview of the services provided by Solid Waste. She stated that they are a delegated county by IEPA to inspect our own landfills, transfer stations, and open burning complaints. She stated that they provide curbside recycling grants to other larger communities. She stated that the applications are due by the end of January, and once they are received, they will be sent to the Health Services committee, and then to the county board for approval. She stated they receive applications from Pekin, East Peoria, Morton, Creve Coeur, and Washington. She stated that there are also rural recycling grants.

Director Goetze stated that they work with food facilities to provide education and work with them to write risk control plans to try and get them back in compliance.

Director Goetze stated that they have green initiative programs to help multi-family housing institutions and businesses to help provide them with some grant dollars to offset starting up a recycling program.

Chairman Hall recessed the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

(transcribed by S. Gullette)