

JO DAVIESS COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2026

I. Call to Order

Board of Health President Merri Berlage called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was answered as follows: Present – Merri Berlage, Lisa Haas, Barbara Kepner, Don Hill, Violet Naese, Maria Hernandez. Present: 6. Present electronically – John Creighton. Present electronically: 1. Absent – Peg Dittmar. Absent: 1.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2026 Board of Health meeting was made by Don Hill and seconded by Lisa Haas. All were in favor, motion passed.

IV. Citizens' Comments

There were no citizen comments.

V. Financial Reports

A. 003 Public Health Fund and 020 Animal Control fund

January revenue expense comparisons were presented for discussion.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion and possible action regarding DACRA system for animal control program

After discussion about the status of a draft ordinance, a motion was made by Don Hill and seconded by Maria Hernandez to follow up as discussed and return a draft ordinance to Terry Kurt for review with the Village of Warren after review by the State's Attorney's office and a detailed proof read, and also check into the possibility of remote hearings. The motion passed by voice vote.

VII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action to approve reimbursement to licensed animal rescue organizations from Pet Population Fund

In FY25, a one-time reimbursement of \$1000 each was paid to 2 licensed animal rescue organizations in Jo Daviess County for spaying or neutering of stray cats. After discussion of providing the same opportunity in FY26, a motion to approve a one-time payment from the pet population fund of up to \$1000 to each licensed animal rescue located in Jo Daviess County as reimbursement for expenses incurred for spaying or neutering stray cats after proof of expenses has been submitted and approved was made by Lisa Haas and seconded by Barb Kepner. All were in favor and the motion passed.

VIII. Administrator's Comments

Sandra Schleicher provided a brief update on grant reimbursements, sharps pickup, and new grant opportunities, as well as current legislative issues.

IX. President's Comments

President Merri Berlage discussed calls received regarding vaccination complications.

X. Board Member Comments

Barb Kepner asked about an update on funding available for offering dental services and the traffic and feasibility study.

XI. Citizens' Comments

There were no citizen comments.

XII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 07:40 PM by Barb Kepner and seconded by Maria Hernandez. Motion carried by voice vote.

Next Board of Health meeting

A. May 6, 2026