

JO DAVIESS COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 6, 2025

I. Call to Order

Board President Merri Berlage called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was answered as follows: Present – Merri Berlage, Peg Dittmar, Lisa Haas, Barbara Kepner, Don Hill, Violet Naese, Maria Hernandez. Present: 7. Present electronically – 0. Present electronically: 0. Absent – John Creighton, Tracy Bauer. Absent: 2.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes from the May 21, 2025 Board of Health meeting

A motion to approve minutes from the May 21, 2025 Board of Health meeting was made by Lisa Haas and seconded by Don Hill. The motion carried by voice vote.

IV. Citizens' Comments

In accordance with Section 1-5-22 of the Jo Daviess County Code of Ordinances, members of the public may speak during the designated public comment period. Speakers must state their name and address for the record and limit comments to three (3) minutes. Remarks must be respectful, relevant to County business, and directed to the Board as a whole. Questions must go through the presiding officer.

There were no citizens' comments.

V. Financial Reports

Public Health Fund 003 and Animal Control Fund 020

Public Health Fund 003 and Animal Control Fund 020 – Budget comparisons through June 30, 2025, were presented for review. Sandra Schleicher stated that we are at 58% of the fiscal year, and property tax revenue has been received, grant monies are still coming in, and expenses are at 39% for the year. Animal Control is at 63% for rabies tag income and expenses are at 43%.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion regarding Blackjack Road project

An updated map of the proposed project was presented showing the proposed realignment is no longer affecting the location of the current Public Health building. After the May meeting, Merri Berlage and Sandra Schleicher did look at new locations for a possible move. BOH members asked about the ownership of the Public Health building.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding an Ordinance authorizing DACRA system

Sandra met with Chris Allendorf to discuss a possible ordinance revision to use the process for animal control violations. Changes would affect multiple county departments and may have potential in the future.

VII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action regarding animal control fees

The Board reviewed a letter received from a resident who was in the office August 1 unhappy with the late fee he was charged for his dog's county license. The Animal Control fees were discussed and all agreed that no changes will be made at this time.

B. Discussion and possible action to approve the FY26 Public Health Fund (003) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting

After board review and discussion, a motion to accept the FY26 Public Health Fund (003) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting was made by Don Hill and seconded by Peg Dittmar. The motion carried by voice vote.

C. Discussion and possible action to approve the FY26 PH Emergency Preparedness Fund (005) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting

After review and discussion, a motion to Accept the FY26 PH Emergency Preparedness Fund (005) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting was made by Lisa Haas and seconded by Barbara Kepner. All were in favor, motion passed.

D. Discussion and possible action to approve the FY26 PH Catastrophic Fund (046) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting

After review and discussion, a motion to accept the FY26 PH Catastrophic Fund (046) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting was made by Don Hill and seconded by Violet Naese. All were in favor, motion passed.

E. Discussion and possible action to approve the FY26 PH Capital Investment Fund (055) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting

After review and discussion, a motion to accept the FY26 PH Capital Investment Fund (055) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting was made by Maria Hernandez and seconded by Barbara Kepner. All were in favor, motion passed.

F. Discussion and possible action to approve the FY26 Animal Control Fund (020) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting

After review and discussion, a motion to accept the FY26 Animal Control Fund (020) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting was made by Lisa Haas and seconded by Peg Dittmar. All were in favor, motion passed.

G. Discussion and possible action to approve the FY26 Pet Population Fund (080) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting

After review and discussion, a motion to accept the FY26 Pet Population Fund (080) budget and move forward to the Joint Committee Budget Meeting was made by Don Hill and seconded by Barbara Kepner. All were in favor, motion passed.

VIII. Administrator's Comments

1. Sandra stated a county resident was bit by a bat recently which tested positive for rabies. Animal Control is busy with many dog bites. Clinical Services attended the Senior Expo and visited the Mop Shop to do basic health checks. Environmental Health has been issuing a lot of temporary food permits due to the increase in food trucks in the area.

IX. President's Comments

Merri discussed attendance at BOH meetings and what is written in the bylaws. The budget hearing will be Monday, September 22 at 5:30 pm.

X. Board Member Comments

Dr. Hernandez asked about the process performed by Clinical Services once a positive lyme disease result comes in. Dr. Kepner would like follow up on deed/ownership of the PH building.

XI. Citizens' Comments

There were no citizens' comments.

XII. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: October 1, 2025

XIII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Peg Dittmar and seconded by Barbara Kepner. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.
