

Emergency Menard County Board of Health Meeting – 2/17/21

Attendance:

Board of Health:

Dave Bagot
Dr. Hartman
Brienne Satorius
Jeff Fore
JD Stewart

Health Department

Director Gail O'Neill
Assistant Director Bill Dart

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. with a roll call vote. With four members answering the roll call, a quorum was established.

II. On a roll call vote, the minutes circulated were approved with four voting aye. Dr. Hartman, Brienne Satorius, Jeff Fore and JD Stewart voted aye to approve the agenda.

III. There will be an IDPH mobile COVID testing contractor at the Athens City Hall Friday February 19th. An ad promoting the availability of COVID-19 testing will run in the Observer on Thursday. The number of cases is continuing to go down. Discussion that cases going down because of behaviors (winter keeping people home), number of infections and now vaccinations.

There are vaccinations at the Menard Health Department two days per week. The clinic scheduled for Tuesday, February 16th was rescheduled to Thursday, February 18th due to the snow and extreme cold. There are screening for COVID variants in Central IL. Experts believe vaccine will be curtail the variants identified here so far.

The latest testing numbers were discussed. (Dave Bagot joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m.) Tests seem to be down. There have been 837 vaccinations administered at the Menard Health Department. The IL National Guard (ING) started providing vaccination at the IL State Fairgrounds today (2/17/2021). 4000 doses of vaccine were provided for a week. More had been expected and hopefully will materialize eventually for that site. Also, there are two teams of ING that will be going out to provide vaccinations at different locations. This will be happening in Menard County soon; possibilities for events, populations and locations were discussed in brief.

Vaccine allotments and shipments continue to be erratic. This week, weather has cause additional problems with delivery. The 4000 doses for the ING site will be delivered on a schedule of about 600 per day. Second dose appointments will be scheduled at the time of administration of first dose by the guardsmen. To begin with the ING site will be open from 9 am to 1 pm; 460 were done today. This schedule will be expanded later.

Effective 2/25, the vaccination eligibility will be expanded to those 16 and over with certain co-morbidities. There is a phone number for this site and also appointments can be booked through the web site; the phone number for the ING site is 217-210-8801.

IV. The slate of Menard BOH officers for 2021 was undertaken. The positions are President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Jeff Fore nominated Dave Bagot for President. Dave Bagot nominated Brianne Satorius for Vice-President. Dave Bagot nominated JD Stewart for Treasurer. Dianne Markley had been the Secretary but was not present therefore the Secretary position was held. The slate of three nominations was moved and seconded: Brianne, Jeff, J.D. and Dave voted aye.

Members expressed an interest in continuing to have teleconferences although having quarterly conferences in person was acceptable to most. Recruiting a second doctor was discussed. Whether a doctor would need to live in Menard or whether practicing in Menard is sufficient. Dara should be involved with this process. The residency issue needs to be reviewed with Dara and perhaps the State's Attorney office.

V. No new business.

VI. Next meeting date is Wednesday, March 3 @ 6 pm.

VII. There was no public comment.

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm with unanimous vote of the five members present.