**Porter County Board of Health**

Tuesday May 4, 2021

Room 102A

**In Attendance:** Attorney Dave Hollenbeck, Chairman Martin Moeller, Dr. Patrick Fleming , Dr. Derek Gasper, Suzanne Phelps, Donna Werner, and Terry Wuletich.

**Not in Attendance:** Kathy Lemmon, Dr. Maria Stamp, Letty Zepeda

Chairman Moeller called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Suzanne Phelps made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 2, 2021 meeting, seconded by Dr. Derek Gasper. All were in favor. Motion carries.

**Announcements:**

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2021.

**New Business:**

Communication position – Staff did incredible things right, but one area where we could do better is communication. We relied upon Commissioners staff – Curt Ellis to do the daily updates to the website. We need to think about how to handle communication ourselves. We did not have anyone dedicated to handling communication and we were all trying to handle as issues came up. We would like to ask the County Council to get an outside independent contractor who we could employ. This person should do an audit on what we have been doing and come up with a communications plan on platforms to use and would be our communicator. We do not know if this would be a part time or full time job position. We would like to have a plan together when the budget for 2022 starts. Would like an approval to go to the Council to request position. Need to add TikTok to our communication platforms for the teens. Motion from Donna Werner to allow the Health Department to approach the Council. Seconded by Terry Wuletich. All in favor. Motion carries.

Senate Bill 5 - Today Governor Holcomb vetoed the bill along with two others. The Senate could override this, but they are not is session now. They will have a special session on May 10 for technical correction day and they could override it on that day. However, the speaker of the house announced that he does not intend to address this at that time. The next time would be in the fall when they are back in session in October. Not a lot of support with the Senate leaders.

Would like to extend Dr. Stamps term commencing on 10/1/2021 through 12/31/2024. Motion to extend made by Dr. Patrick Fleming. Seconded by Suzanne Phelps. All in favor. Motion carries.

**COVID 19 update:**

Foods reviewing COVID safety plans for school graduations. We are only handling complaints at this time.

Expo still handling approximately 400 vaccines per day. Still waiting for approval for the 12 – 17 year olds for the Pfizer vaccine. We are now allowing walk-ins at the vaccine sites. Our second mass vaccine will be on May 16, 17 for the second Moderna doses from the prior mass vaccination. We will only have the Expo for testing and vaccine through the end of June. Once the Pfizer vaccine is approved, we will be offering vaccinations at the schools that are interested.

Motion on the floor by Donna Werner to accept claims and receipts of the previous month. Seconded by Dr. Patrick Fleming. All in favor. Motion carries.

A motion to adjourn made by Terry Wuletich and seconded by Dr. Derek Gasper. All were in favor. Motion carried.