

BENTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 7, 2022

The Benton County Human Services Board met in regular session on June 7, 2022 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Board members Beth Schlangen, Scott Johnson, Ed Popp, Jared Gapinski and Steve Heinen present. Call to order by Human Services Board Chair Johnson was at 9:49 AM.

Human Services Director Robert Cornelius requested to amend the agenda to pull the request of the Community Health Improvement Plan for 07/01/2022 to 06/30/2025. Motion by Popp and seconded by Gapinski to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Heinen/Popp to approve Consent Agenda item: 1) approve the Human Services Regular Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2022 and authorize the Chair to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Cornelius requested the County Board approve a stipend for CHS Administrator attendance at NACCHO Annual Public Health Conference. Benton County has been selected by the Local Public Health Association of Minnesota as a stipend recipient to attend the 2022 NACCHO Annual Conference in Atlanta Georgia through a workforce grant from the Minnesota Department of Health for the amount of \$2,000. The stipend can be used to help cover lodging costs, registration fee, airfare, transportation and meals. The NACCHO 360 conference bridges traditional public health practices and disciplines, with health informatics, information technology, and surveillance. Attendees will learn practical tools, strategies, and concepts that demonstrate the latest effective methods to confront the ongoing public health challenges facing our local health departments today. The conference theme, “Looking to the Future: Reshaping the Public Health System” will explore how the local public health workforce and its stakeholders can move forward in the midst of an ongoing crisis to employ traditional and innovative approaches to restructure a system built to protect the health of communities. Motion by Popp and seconded by Gapinski to approve stipend for CHS Administrator attendance at NACCHO Annual Public Health Conference. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Cornelius requested approval for Public Health to apply for up to three (3) Public Health AmeriCorps – Public Health Project Coordinators. Cornelius stated the program launched in 2022, and Public Health Corps is partnering with state and local public health departments to help meet emerging public health needs and to grow the public health workforce. AmeriCorps members, serving as Public Health Project Coordinators, provide services that support community engagement, data collection, project coordination and sustained COVID-19 response and recovery. In addition to offering critical capacity, Public Health Corps also works to build a pipeline for developing future public health workers. Public Health Corps provide a full-time AmeriCorps member (40 hours/week for 11 months) to help improve capacity and increased quality and reach of services. Public Health AmeriCorps covers the salaries and health insurance of AmeriCorps Members. Local Public Health would be responsible for providing any needed equipment and office space. At this time, it is anticipated that there will not be a site fee for Counties; AmeriCorps funding will cover 77% of program expenses and the Governor’s Budget would cover the remaining 23%. Benton County Public Health requests approval to apply for up to three (3) Public Health AmeriCorps’s members each year (over the course of 3 years) to serve as Public Health Project Coordinators. If approved, Benton County Public Health will complete the application and if selected will return to the County Board for approval of a site agreement between Benton County Human Services and Public Health AmeriCorps. Motion by Heinen and seconded by

Gapinski to approve Benton County Public Health to apply for up to three (3) Public Health AmeriCorps – Public Health Project Coordinators. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:01 AM.

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Scott Johnson, Chair  
Benton County Human Services Board

ATTEST:

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Montgomery Headley  
Benton County Administrator