



Effingham County Board  
101 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL  
217.342.4990

April 2, 2024 2:30 P.M.  
**Health and Insurance Committee Meeting**

**MINUTES**

Committee Members Present: Doug McCain, Norbert Soltwedel, Tim Ellis

Committee Members Absent:

Other Board Members Present:

Others Present: Jeff Workman, Travis Buhnerkempe, Kevin Burns, Jacob Janssen, Jim Sheppard

**Minutes**

- Approval of March 5, 2024 minutes. T. Ellis motioned/N. Soltwedel seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

**Unfinished Business**

- Health Department Building Update – J. Workman reported receiving better lighting from an Ameren donation for outside of building and installation of magnetic lock on inner corridor door for W. Virginia location.
- Grant Updates –
  - ARISE – No report
  - Other grants – J. Workman reported award of sharps grant to able to provide sharps containers and be a location for sharps disposal.

**New Business**

- HopeTrust – K. Burns shared recap of discussion from last fall and discussion of timelines. J. Janssen shared basic history of HopeTrust along with executive board members explaining that all county affiliates are considered members of the board allowing for ownership. J. Janssen shared HopeTrust offers property, casualty, and work compensation coverage as well as health coverage. J. Janssen discussed some of the benefits of HopeTrust highlighting that a direct Pharmacist and direct Nurse Case Manager are available to all employees at any time; basic Group Term Life and AD&D Insurance are automatically included free with health coverage for all employees. J. Janssen went on to provide an explanation of preferred providers, standard providers and out-of-contract providers, discussion on the prescription drug program and mail order program, and discussion on the Health Reimbursement Plan (HRP) for those who have other group health insurance options available to them. J. Douthit inquired on cost for HRP. K. Burns anticipated county cost around \$450/month for HRP. J. Janssen went on to include other benefits such as telemedicine, hearing benefit, and a direct primary care option located in Olney, IL. T. Ellis inquired on annual rate increases. K. Burns stated annual increases are typically in high single digits. T. Ellis inquired on incorporation of crisis management counseling. K. Burns confirmed counseling can be incorporated. K. Burns stated all annual rates are shared in August allowing for proper budgeting. T. Ellis inquired on timing for employee form completion. K. Burns

stated health data needs to be accurate so must be submitted within 90 days with an August date and then based on those responses, HopeTrust will provide a quote. J. Douthit recommends a meeting in July for employees and forms will be provided to be completed and returned August 1. Discussion of July 10<sup>th</sup> to visit department employees with meeting at 7am at Highway Building, 9am in Board Room, 1pm on First Floor Benson Wood Classroom with Zoom as alternate for those who can't attend. T. Ellis motioned to send to full board for approval of HopeTrust meeting with county employees on July 10, 2024 at 7am, 9am, and 1pm. N. Soltwedel seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion Carried.***

#### **General Information/Public Comments**

- Health Department Update – J. Workman shared respiratory health is getting better, however cases of measles are increasing in Illinois. J. Workman reported mosquito surveillance and testing in house will begin in May with tick surveillance in April. J. Workman went on to share that Clay County has a regional tobacco grant covering seven counties including Effingham and the Health Department will host an anti-vaping program in Dieterich for 6<sup>th</sup> grade on April 24 & 25. The Health Department will be receiving 8mg Narcan dispensers rather than the 4mg. J. Workman confirmed overdose is leading cause of death now. J. Workman shared April is Public Health Month.
- COVID Update – No update
- T. Ellis inquired on cicada swarming and any health department concerns. J. Workman denied any known concerns.
- D. McCain inquired on Solar Eclipse glasses. J. Workman stated the Health Department is not providing glasses.

#### **Adjournment**

- T. Ellis motioned/N. Soltwedel seconded that meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. ***Motion Carried.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Angie Thompson, County Board Administrator