



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

August 6, 2024 2:30 P.M.  
**Health and Insurance Committee Meeting**

**MINUTES**

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

Committee Members Absent:

Other Board Members Present:

Others Present: Jeff Workman, Samantha Hicks (ROSC)

**Minutes**

- Approval of July 2, 2024 minutes. T. Ellis motioned/N. Soltwedel seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

**Unfinished Business**

- Opioid Funding – Committee reviewed suggestions provided by J. Workman for opioid committee. J. Workman provided Effingham County Overdose Report for review showing highest frequency of drugs in OD cases being benzodiazepines. Discussion on mental health in relation to opioid funding. T. Ellis recommended mental health be addressed in opioid advisory committee. Discussion on how to move forward with opioid advisory committee development. N. Soltwedel suggested a kickoff meeting to discuss needs and define problem along with allowable uses of opioid funding. T. Ellis inquired on timing for advisory committee development. T. Ellis motioned development of Opioid Advisory Committee based on J. Workman recommendations for members of said committee. N. Soltwedel seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***
- S. Hicks shared ROSC will be doing needs assessment soon and is happy to assist with advisory committee creation

**New Business**

**General Information/Public Comments**

- Health Department Update
  - State Budget/Grants – J. Workman shared he is working on agreement with DHS offering walk-in services at E. Blohm location. J. Workman stated the Local Health Protection grant through IDPH is at standstill and currently waiting for allocation with population being the biggest indicator of funding allocation. J. Workman anticipated \$100,000.00 as expected allocation.
  - J. Workman working on proposed budget as well as salary survey for health department staff to determine market salaries, which should be completed late August.
- HopeTrust Update – N. Soltwedel shared notes from HopeTrust conference on August 1-2. T. Ellis inquired on getting Sarah Bush Lincoln (SBL) as a preferred provider. N. Soltwedel shared HopeTrust is currently working with SBL as a preferred provider. N. Soltwedel stated he learned there is quite a

difference in what different providers charge and rates do come down with more people using preferred providers. N. Soltwedel stated HopeTrust will pay for standard providers however do prefer clients use preferred providers to help keep costs low for all. N. Soltwedel shared HopeTrust will provide two proposals of their total 19 plans. T. Ellis stated he anticipates more employees will be concerned about SBL and Springfield Clinic becoming preferred providers. N. Soltwedel stated other counties spoke very highly of HopeTrust and stated costs for individuals were very low with 70% of insureds without a claim. T. Ellis reminded committee that HopeTrust stated increases would not be as much as with other insurers.

- A. Thompson shared update from Weis on Blue Cross Blue Shield and other insurers.
- N. Soltwedel inquired on more information about family resource center. J. Workman shared history of grant obtainment and function of center.
- N. Soltwedel shared idea of having CIRMA come present to the board all services included.

### **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Angie Thompson, County Board Administrator