



Effingham County Board
101 N. 4th Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL
217.342.4990

July 1, 2025 2:30 P.M.
Health and Insurance Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Tim Ellis, Norbert Soltwedel, Doug McCain
Committee Members Absent:
Other Board Members Present: Josh Douthit
Others Present: Jeff Workman (Health Dept), Vanessa Smith (BushueHR)

Minutes

- Approval of June 3, 2025 minutes. N. Soltwedel motioned/D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

Unfinished Business

- Opioid Funding – Review of opioid funding balance. J. Douthit shared agenda for Legislative Committee will include review of additional pending lawsuits during. Discussion on Narcan statistics for Effingham County.
- FY25 Employee Assistance Program – J. Douthit encouraged committee to review other avenues of employee program eligibility. J. Douthit recommended full-time employees from all departments be included. J. Douthit recommended keeping all previously approved department employees as well as all full-time county employees with exception of board members. N. Soltwedel inquired with HopeTrust on mental health services. HopeTrust representative shared current mental health is included in health insurance coverage, however any employees who do not participate in HopeTrust coverage as well as their dependents may not have mental health coverage and would have coverage with the Employee Assistance Program. N. Soltwedel recommended moving to the full board approval of the addition of all full-time county employees with exception of county board members in eligibility for the Employee Assistance Program. D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

New Business

- FY26 Liability Insurance Coverage – Vanessa Smith with BushueHR reported difficulty in determination of best move for liability insurance in seeking a quote or renewing with current liability insurance carrier. V. Smith confirmed the county will see a premium increase with renewal as last year's increase was 12% and V. Smith anticipates around the same increase for next year. V. Smith discussed dividends through CIRMA a little over \$10,000.00 with CIRMA confirming Effingham County is in good position for dividend increase. V. Smith stated she is unsure if dividends will be enough to offset premium increase, however will be helpful. N. Soltwedel shared concern of new bidder quoting a good rate only to increase rate significantly the following year. J. Douthit recommended renewing coverage with CIRMA. Committee agreed.

General Information/Public Comments

- Health Department Update
 - State Budget/Grants – J. Workman stated respiratory surveillance grant has been authorized to be spent. J. Workman shared currently waiting to hear from IDPH on recent SCOTUS ruling.
 - J. Workman reported IDPH is changing guidance on high-risk lead exposure.

- J. Workman reported they will be widening entrances on north end of hoop building. J. Workman stated he has received a quote of \$5,200.00 to expand doors with estimated time for completion of 6-8 weeks. J. Workman recommended beginning construction soon with flu clinics starting in September.
- J. Workman reported an increase in funding for Family Case Management.
- J. Workman reported some clinical staff positions currently open.
- J. Workman reported tick drags are still in effect.

Adjournment

- D. McCain motioned/N. Soltwedel seconded that meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. ***Motion Carried.***

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Thompson, County Board Administrator