

MINUTES AND MEMORANDA
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

May 21, 2020
Finance Committee Meeting

Present at the Meeting:

Heidi Beidinger-Burnett, Ph.D., MPH
Michelle Migliore, D.O.
John Linn

President-Zoom
Committee Member-Zoom
Committee Member-Zoom

Also Present at the Meeting:

Robert M. Einterz, M.D.
Amy Ruppe
J. David Keckley

Health Officer
Finance Manager
Board of Health Attorney

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board President and Finance Committee Member, Dr. Beidinger-Burnett, called the May 21, 2020 Finance Committee meeting to Order at 4:34 p.m. The meeting was held at the Department of Health, 8th Floor Board Room. Finance Committee members Dr. Beidinger-Burnett, Dr. Migliore, and John Linn participated via audio/visual zoom. Finance Committee members Dr. Marker and Amy Murray were unable to attend.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion made by Dr. Migliore, seconded by John Linn, and unanimously approved, the agenda for the Board of Health Finance Committee meeting was adopted.

III. NEW BUSINESS

20-27 DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON FY 2021 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DRAFT BUDGET REQUEST

Health Officer, Dr. Robert Einterz, initially noted that the Department of Health might be in a bit of a disadvantage during the budget process since the COVID-19 response has delayed the preparation of a strategic plan that would have been part of the presentation to be made to county officials. However, he notes that the COVID-19 response may in fact present an advantage due to the solidarity of the medical community and the compliments received from the county officials noting the role of the Health Department in addressing and reacting to the pandemic.

County officials have asked for a five percent (5%) reduction in all department budgets but have excepted the Department of Health and Emergency Management operations from this requirement.

Dr. Einterz and Finance Manager, Amy Ruppe, presented and reviewed with committee members the recommended 2021 budget changes which information is attached to these minutes identified as Budget #3 and Budget #4. Also attached and identified as County Wide Lead Initiative-Draft #1 is the request for an additional \$200,000.00 for 2021.

Dr. Einterz explained in detail the changes referenced in the materials and answered questions from the committee members.

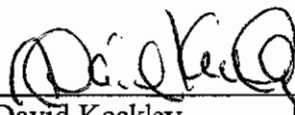
Committee members also supported the efforts to be made by Dr. Einterz to obtain hazard/hardship pay for three months for approximately 14 health department employees that could be considered in the front line when dealing with the COVID-19 response.

The proposed budget generally supports a 2.6% increase in wages for Department of Health staff. A larger increase is requested for selected staff to ensure equity among all staff.

Another key element is to budget for Coronavirus vaccine supplies, as this is expected to be a major project for the Department of Health when a vaccine becomes available.

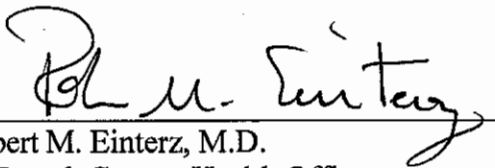
Finance Committee members also discussed the strategy and key points to be made when meeting with county officials to support the proposed budget. Committee members were unanimous to recommend to the full Board of Health the proposed 2021 budget.

Respectfully submitted,



J. David Keckley
Attorney for St. Joseph County
Health Board

ATTEST:



Robert M. Einterz, M.D.
St. Joseph County Health Officer