

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL AND MEMBERS OF THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MET IN A WORKSHOP SESSION ON TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023 AT 4:30 P.M.

COMMISSIONER MEMBERS PRESENT WERE BRYAN COLLIER, DON ADAMS, AND KENNY HALE. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE KIM MERIDETH, VICKIE KIVETT, JASON MAXWELL AND BRIAN CULP (VIA TEAMS). MORGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT WERE DR. PAUL BRODERICK: MICHELLE DYER, RN; CAROL BRUNER; AND JEANNE LAFARY. LINDA PRUITT, COUNTY AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; AND JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR WERE ALSO PRESENT. TROY SPRINKLE, CHIP KELLER AND MELISSA GREENE WERE ABSENT.

PLEDGE

SEA 4

Josh Messmer stated that SEA 4 (Senate Enrolled Act) was passed this legislative session and brought big changes to funding for public health. It requires that the Health Department update their health plan, that the Commissioners would need to choose to opt in and the Council would need to accept the new budget. This must be done by September 1st.

Dr. Paul Broderick stated that according to the Governor's Public Health Commission, Indiana ranks 6th in affordability, 45th in smoking and tobacco use, 7th in opportunity index, 43rd in mental health, 9th in pre-K through 12th education, 46th in adult obesity, 25th in public safety, 41st in childhood immunizations, 19th in economic growth and 45th in public health funding per capita at \$26. Dr. Broderick would like to move the needle to the median in an effort to attract and keep talent, industry, etc. and have healthier Hoosiers in the meantime.

The statistics for Morgan County are as follows: adult smoking 21%, Indiana 20%, United States 16%; adult obesity 41%, Indiana 37%, United States 32%; physical inactivity index 26%, Indiana 26%, United States 22%; individuals per primary care physician 2,400 to 1, Indiana 1,500 to 1, United States 1,300 to 1; mental health 1,300 to 1, Indiana 530 to 1; United States 340 to 1.

There would be no additional funds required from the county; however this would require a lot more administration in the form of additional employees. There is not a director for the department and the different sections, nursing, records, environmental, preparedness, will have someone on site on a daily basis. The department already does most of the deliverables that would be required, there would be some tweaks in the reporting and beefing up some of the aspects.

The minimum amount of enhanced funding the county would receive in 2024 is \$699,855 with a required match that is the average of county tax levy-related funds distributed to the department in the preceding three years (2021, 2022, 2023) which is approximately \$785,000. The maximum is \$933,140. The minimum for 2025 is \$1,399,710 with a county match of \$349,927.50 and the maximum is \$1,866,280 with a county match of \$466,570. The county would need to opt in by September 1, 2023. If the county does not opt in, the legacy amount is \$80,862.06.

Josh Messmer stated that most of the communities he has talked to are planning to opt in. Indiana Code 16-20-1-12(i) states that a county that accepts additional funding to provide core public health services does not transfer any authority under state statute in operating the local health department to the state department in return for the additional funding.

Additional employees would include a director, an environmentalist, a part time nurse and possibly an additional nurse in 2025. Dr. Broderick stated that they would like to make a stronger health department and in turn, a stronger Morgan County and Indiana. The state funds will go into a new "Local Public Health Services Fund" (1161). The tax dollars will go into a separate fund. Dr. Broderick stated that from a county perspective, it is not new expenditures; they are not asking for more funds from the county, they are asking to move forward with the health plan. Jeanne LaFary stated that she will need to make a few adjustments before submitting the budget.

Jason Maxwell asked if there were requirements that the department wasn't already doing. Dr. Broderick stated that some epidemiology, Hep-C, reporting, and a few small things; they are already doing pools, tattoos and emergency preparedness. They will be strengthening the reporting and reaching out to more people. Michelle Dyer stated that they plan on expanding some services by contracting with community partners.

Bryan Collier stated that across the nation, they score horribly as far as what is reinvested into the health of citizens. Josh Messmer stated that this is part of the economic development of the state. The state has decided that it is money ahead to invest here rather than lose out on all the opportunities and the extra health expenses from bad outcomes. According to the FAQ, the state plans on continuing the funding, but they need to show a return on the investment. The county may also opt out at any time.

Tina Turner, a member of the public, asked how many new positions there would be. Jeanne LaFary stated that there would be a director, an environmentalist, and they would move a current part time nurse to state funding. Ms. Turner asked who would evaluate the programs. Dr. Broderick stated that the state has certain deliverables that must be met and they will have to collect and share data. If the needle doesn't move they will need to reevaluate their tactics. Ms. Turner asked if they would promote families staying together through promoting Christian values and she would like to see this considered. Dr. Broderick stated that several community partners are faith-based. Don Adams stated that Ms. Turner could be referring to SB 1. Dr. Broderick stated that he would like to see entities work together for both SB 1 (mental health) and SB 4. Discussion continued regarding the mental health aspect.

Don Adams made a motion to opt in to SEA 4 and move forward with the new mechanism for funding the Board of Health. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelly Campbell, a member of the public, asked that they work with the school to determine what's working and what's not working. Dr. Broderick stated that they are headed there and are working on partnerships to collect data. They are working on the job descriptions to submit to the job study committee by budget time.

ADJOURNMENT

Kenny Hale made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Bryan Collier

Attest:

Don Adams

Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

Kenny Hale

MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL

Kim Merideth

Vickie Kivett

Troy Sprinkle

Jason Maxwell

Chip Keller

Melissa Greene

ATTEST:

Brian Culp

Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor