

Wayne County Board of Health Special Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2025

Wayne County Public Health
105 N Lafayette St, Corydon, IA 50060

Members Present: Dr. Joel Wells, Dorene McCart, Chris Moore, Brenda DeVore, Chuck McCullough,
Dr. Lucas Whitney, Jill Housh

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Susan Moore, Jessica Hysell

Guests: Todd Wilson, Sheriff Keith Davis

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Wells at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Doreen and seconded by Chuck. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion: Public Health Oversight of Wayne County Emergency Management Agency

The purpose of the meeting was to review the Emergency Management Commission's decision to select Public Health Director Susan Moore as the recommended Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC). Moore presented a detailed overview of her qualifications, the overlap between Public Health Preparedness and Emergency Management, and the reasons she applied for the position. She emphasized that Public Health already operates as a 24/7 agency, maintains emergency supplies and infrastructure, and has staff trained in FEMA, ICS, and point-of-dispensing operations. She described how the two departments already collaborate closely and how combining leadership strengthens local control, reduces duplication, and ensures a more coordinated response to countywide emergencies. Moore also expressed concerns that outsourcing EMA duties could risk delayed or divided attention if simultaneous disasters affected multiple counties.

Moore additionally stated that she was disappointed by the significant amount of discussion and speculation that had taken place among various county offices and departments without involving her directly. She noted that misinformation and assumptions had circulated, and she stressed the importance of transparent communication and collaboration, especially when her performance, workload, and responsibilities were being discussed. Moore emphasized her preference for open dialogue and expressed that no board or department had previously raised concerns to her about her workload or ability until the EMC application process.

Representatives of the Emergency Management Commission reported that the position was properly posted and three candidates were interviewed. After review, the Commission unanimously selected Moore as the strongest applicant based on her preparedness experience, communication abilities, and understanding of emergency coordination. They brought the recommendation to the Board of Health for acknowledgment and structural discussion due to operational overlap between the departments.

The Board discussed workload concerns, on-scene emergency expectations, and long-term sustainability. Board Member Chris Moore expressed opposition to the dual-role structure, citing concerns about workload, emergency response expectations, and the long-term feasibility of finding future candidates willing or able to manage both positions. Other board members addressed these concerns, noting their confidence in Moore's

capabilities, the depth and training of Public Health staff, and the operational overlap already occurring between the agencies. Several members stated that Moore had demonstrated exceptional leadership, adaptability, and commitment to county services, and expressed strong support for her ability to fulfill both roles. Moore responded to all questions directly, reiterating that emergency response is often resource coordination rather than constant on-site presence, and that Public Health staff are cross-trained and willing to assist with administrative and preparedness functions.

After all questions were addressed and discussion concluded, the Board moved to take formal action. A motion was made by Jill to approve the Emergency Management Commission's selection of Susan Moore as Emergency Management Coordinator and to support her serving in the dual role with the understanding that operational structure, compensation, and workload distribution will be reviewed collaboratively and reevaluated after six months. The motion was seconded by Dorene and carried by roll-call vote as follows: Ayes: Dr. Joel Wells, Dorene McCart, Brenda DeVore, Jill Housh, Dr. Lucas Whitney. Nay: Chris Moore and Chuck McCullough. The Chair recorded that the motion passed, and the Board affirmed its support for moving forward with the arrangement.

Public Comments

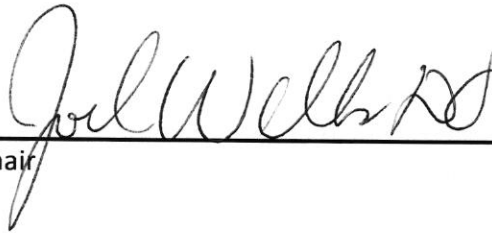
None

Meeting

Next BOH meeting: November 17th, 2025 @ 9:00 am

Motion to Adjourn

Brenda made a motioned to adjourn. Motion seconded by Jill. All in favor. Motion carried at 7:10 pm.



11/17/25

Board of Health Chair

Date