

**MINUTES**  
**Sangamon County Board of Health**  
**October 19, 2023; 5:45 P.M.**

**Present:**

Brian Miller, M.D., President  
Deborah Grant, Vice-President  
Theresa Smith, Secretary  
George Preckwinkle, Treasurer  
Raj Dhamrait, D.D.S.  
Senator Doris Turner  
Korrine Vlahos, M.D.  
John Ridley, Director of Public Health  
Carol Graham, Executive Assistant to the Director

**Guest:**

Toni Perry - Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services  
Brian McFadden - Sangamon County Manager  
Charlie Stratton – Director of Human Resources  
Walt Howe

President Dr. Miller called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**Executive Session:**

At 5:47 p.m., Dr. Miller asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the selection of John Ridley as Director of Public Health for Sangamon County. Motion was made by Deborah Grant, seconded by Dr. Dhamrait, passed unanimously. Motion to exit out of Executive Session at 6:06 p.m. was made by Theresa Smith, seconded by Dr. Vlahos, passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

- a. Motion to approve John Ridley being appointed the Sangamon County Board of Health Director was made by George Preckwinkle, seconded by Deborah Grant, passed unanimously.

**Director's Report:**

- a. John Ridley gave brief history of his background and his hopes for Public Health. He stated his main goal is to take what Jim Stone and Gail O'Neill have done with Sangamon County Department of Public Health and evolve it.
- b. Toni Perry presented the FY2024 proposed budget, see attached.
- c. A motion to approve the FY2024 Sangamon County Department of Public Health Budget was made by George Preckwinkle, seconded by Doris Turner, passed unanimously.
- d. Coronavirus Update:  
Status of COVID vaccine – John stated SCDPH has provided 146 Moderna vaccines since the new vaccine came out. Low number of admissions of COVID patients into hospitals. Also, 3,587 flu shots to date have been given by SCDPH staff, total last year was 7,800 flu shots given.
- e. Animal Control Update:

John reported 25 out of the 40 Carolina dogs that were rescued from a house in Auburn have been either transferred out or adopted. Currently there are 88 dogs and 43 cats at the shelter.

**New Business (continued from earlier in the meeting):**

John reported Kentucky Fried Chicken on South 6<sup>th</sup> Street has reopened as they have cleaned up the restaurant.

John stated staff is proactively put out information regarding bedbugs to schools, daycares and hotels and on our website, due to some issues in the community regarding them.

Next meeting scheduled for November 16, 2023.

**Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. was made by Dr. Dhamrait, seconded by Theresa Smith, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Graham; Executive Assistant to the Director