

MINUTES
Sangamon County Board of Health
April 15, 2026; 5:45 P.M.

Present: Brian Miller, M.D., President
Raj Dhamrait, D.D.S.
Korrine Vlahos, M.D.
Greg Stumpf, County Representative
Lemuel Shaffer, M.D.
John Ridley, Director of Public Health
Carol Graham, Executive Assistant to the Director

Excused: Senator Doris Turner
Theresa Smith, R.N.
Deborah Grant, Vice-President

Guest: Kara Pattie

1. President Dr. Miller called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.
2. A motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2026 Board of Health meeting was made by Dr. Dhamrait, seconded by Dr. Shafer, passed unanimously.
3. **Director's Report:**
 - a. **Environmental Health**
 1. Colleen Kelly, Director of Environmental Health presented the Sangamon County Five Year Solid Waste Plan, see attached, and answered questions from the Board.
 2. A motion to approve the Sangamon County Five Year Solid Waste Plan was made by Greg Stumpf, seconded by Dr. Vlahos, passed unanimously.
 - b. **Personal Health** – John reported in years past, the department has gone to outbound sites to administer flu vaccinations. Due to reasons beyond the department's control, such as big box pharmacies giving them, the number of people receiving their flu shots at these clinics has decreased to the point that it is not fiscally responsible to continue to do them off site. A letter will be going out to the sites to advise them well in advance so they can make alternative arrangements. We have a contract with the State of Illinois to give vaccinations to their staff at a few state sites, so we will continue to do those sites this year. We have walk-in flu and COVID vaccination clinics Mondays 8:30 – 6:30, Tuesday thru Friday 8:30 – 4:00, which is open to everyone.
 - c. **Animal Control** - John stated a person in the community that passed away left a monetary gift of \$50,000 to Animal Control in their estate. John would like to spend that money to purchase a fence for the back of the Animal Control building. This will have a huge impact not on the animals mental well being, but also the staff's. It gives the dogs a chance to run for a few

hours every day while their kennels are being cleaned. It also gives the staff a chance to be able to clean the kennels without interruption of the animals. John also reported the person that was arrested in the dog fighting operation recently, is still in the county jail awaiting sentencing.

- d. **Building Renovations** – John is anticipating on the building remodel to start October 1, 2026. Will be about an 18 month project, O’Shea Construction is the construction manager of the project.
- e. **Community Garden** – John stated there is progress going on at the Community Garden. A portable building has been installed and fencing is due to go in next week.

4. Public Comments

Guest Kara Pattie, a Masters of Public Health student at UIS spoke to the board. For her school project she identified a public health need in Sangamon County and asked to speak on it. The topic was vaping. She went over the stats and gave information on the effects and consequents of vaping, such as hypertension, heart disease and cancer. She stated vaping is three times higher in Sangamon County than the state average.

5. New Business:

- a. Next scheduled meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2026.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. was made by Greg Stumpf, seconded by Dr. Vlahos, passed unanimously.

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