



MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

April 5, 2023

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chair Peer at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Peer (in person), Eric Gresens (in person), Dr. Bergstrom (in person), Supervisor Schulz (virtual), Supervisor Schneider (in person); Vice Chair Kolste (virtual), Dr. Nowak (in person), Nicole McBride (virtual)

Board of Health Members Absent: Supervisor Clasen

Staff Members Present: Katrina Harwood – Health Officer/Director; Rick Wietersen – Environmental Health Director; Jill Camber Davidson – MCFH Supervisor; Alanna Gumise – Public Health Nurse; Falcia Martinez – Public Health Nurse; Vy Nguyen – Public Health Policy Specialist; Melissa DeWitt – Public Health Support Specialist

Others Present: Rich Bostwick – County Board Supervisor

Roll Call

Chair Peer asked for the roll call. At roll call Dr. Bergstrom, Supervisor Schulz, Eric Gresens, Chair Peer, Vice Chair Kolste, Supervisor Schneider, Dr. Nowak, and Nicole McBride were present. Supervisor Clasen was not present. 8 PRESENT. 1 ABSENT:

Adopt Agenda

Supervisor Schneider made a motion to adopt the agenda. Eric Gresens seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes – 04/05/23

Supervisor Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes of the 4/5/2023 Board of Health meeting. Supervisor Schulz seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements

None.

New Business

Administrative Division

Review of Payments

The Board reviewed the Health Department's February payments in the amount of \$17,182.20.

Transfer of Funds Over \$5,000

No transfer of funds over \$5,000.

Public Health Department Report

Director's Report

Katrina Harwood gave an overview of this month's Director's Report. Topics included:

- Public Health – General Overview
 - Focus is more on a population health approach
- COVID-19 Response Update
 - Summit Clinical Laboratories closed their COVID testing location in Janesville at the end of March and the Beloit location will be closing at the end of April
 - The COVID-19 data dashboard on the Health Department's website has ended
 - COVID-19 has not gone away and the Health Department continues to work on COVID-19 recovery
- County Health Rankings
 - Published every March by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Population Health Institute with funding by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
 - Rock County is ranked #63 in 2023 and was #61 in 2022 (out of 72 counties)
 - The measures selected to develop the rankings do help demonstrate the variety of factors that influence the health of a population
 - Factors that influence our health include the things people generally think about, do we have access to the healthcare we need and are we engaging in health behaviors (eating well, staying active, and avoiding commercial tobacco)
 - Factors that influence our health also include things like education, employment, social support, and the physical environment
 - Some of these factors fall into the programs and services of the Health Department; however, the rankings encompass the roles of many sectors, including schools, government, local businesses, and healthcare systems
 - The measures do help show trends in data
 - It seems counterintuitive, but our collective health could still be improving, without a positive change in our ranking

Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB) Update

- Each region is represented on the Board of Directors by 1 board of health member and 1 Health Officer
- Standing Committees – Lobbyist through WPHA/WALHDAB
- WALHDAB Budget Priorities
 - Sustained funding for local health departments (\$18 million)
 - Communicable disease grants for local health departments (\$10 million)
 - Local grants for community based organizations, hospitals, and local health departments to address community-specific health gaps (\$30 million)
- In 2021, Wisconsin invested \$17/person in public health (Wisconsin ranked 42nd out of 50 states in state investment in public health)
 - The National median investment was \$36/person
- WALHDAB Legislative Priorities



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- Build and retain public health infrastructure through increased and more flexible public health funding
- Preserve public health statutory responsibility
- Directly address gaps in health at both statewide and local community levels, emphasize root-cause prevention of those health gaps
- Recruit and retain public health workers in Wisconsin and create and improve protections for public health workers
- Support best practice public health policies

Budget Update

Katrina Harwood gave a budget update on the first quarter of 2023. Katrina also reported on a grant funding update.

Review and Approval of Resolutions – Creating a 1.0 Business Manager position and Deleting a 1.0 Administrative Services Supervisor position

Supervisor Schulz made a motion to move the resolution. Dr. Bergstrom seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Supervisor Schulz made a motion to approve the resolution. Supervisor Schneider seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members

None.

Adjournment

Supervisor Dr. Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Schulz seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa DeWitt, Recorder

Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health