



MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

January 8, 2025

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Peer, Vice Chair Schneider, Dr. Blaine Nowak, Nicole McBride (virtual), Supervisor Fugelseth (virtual), Supervisor Schulz (virtual), Debra Kolste, Dr. Rachel Bergstrom.

Board of Health Members Absent: Eric Gresens

Staff Members Present: Katrina Harwood - Health Officer; Carrie Clark – Business Supervisor; Rick Wietersen - Environmental Health Manager; Jill Camber-Davidson - PH Supervisor; Kelsey Cordova - PH Supervisor, Madison Roberts - PH Policy Specialist; Kelsa Lowe - Project Epidemiologist; Holly Bowers - PH Strategist (virtual); Emily Murwin – PH Strategist (virtual).

Others Present: Steve Smith - CEO Community Health Systems.

Roll Call

Chair Peer asked for the roll call. At roll call, Chair Peer, Vice Chair Schneider, Dr. Nowak, Nicole McBride, Supervisor Fugelseth, Deb Kolste, Supervisor Schulz, and Dr. Rachel Bergstrom were present.

2. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Debra Kolste, second by Supervisor Schneider. MOTION APPROVED.

3. Approval of Minutes December 4, 2024

Motion by Dr. Nowak, second by Debra Kolste. MOTION APPROVED.

4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements

None.

5. New Business

A. Administrative Division

1. Review of Payments

The Board reviewed the Health Department's December payments totaling \$43,182.55.

2. Transfer of Funds Over \$5,000

No transfer of funds over \$5,000.

3. Community Health Systems Update

Steve Smith, CEO of Community Health Systems was present virtually to update the Board of Health on the organization's operational and fiscal status. He also thanked the Board for awarding ARPA funding to the organization. He responded to questions related to staffing their Dental care operations and capacity, indicating limitations with resources available for patients with Medicaid or no insurance requiring oral surgery. He also responded to questions related to chiropractic and behavioral care.

4. Public Health Department Report

a. Director's Report

Health Officer Harwood briefed members on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza cases actively happening across the United States, 1 case in Wisconsin and its presence in adjacent counties. She further indicated that staff is meeting weekly to discuss what a response to a local case would be and continue monitoring the situation.

Harwood informed members that HealthNet will be providing monthly reports to the Board of Health as they were awarded a small additional amount of ARPA funding to assist with their operations,

Harwood updated members on the development of the 2024 Annual Report and shared some communications metrics.

b. Quarterly Budget Update

Health officer Harwood presented a quarterly budget update and a Semi-Annual report on conferences attended by staff where the cost exceeded \$1,000.

c. Update – General Vaccine Trends

Kelsa Lowe, Project Epidemiologist, provided the Board with a slide deck including seasonal immunization data in Rock County residents obtaining COVID-19 and annual flu vaccines. She also presented data on childhood vaccination objectives, goals and Rock County childhood vaccination data compared to the Statewide goal to reach herd immunity.

PH Supervisor, Kelsey Cordova informed members of current Immunization work being done by the Department, including increasing availability of adult influenza, prioritizing understanding local context through a continuation of project Epi position and incorporating immunizations into the Infection Prevention Consortium and School Health Collaborative partnerships.

d. Policy Engagement – Policy Priorities

Madison Roberts, PH Policy Specialist briefed the Board on the role of policy priorities in public health and presented a Policy Agenda for local level action and consideration, including how it aligns with our work.

B. Review and Approval of Committee Actions

1. A motion was made by Vice Chair Schneider, seconded by Supervisor Schulz to adopt the Rock County Public Health Policy Priorities as presented. Discussion continued. Supervisor Schneider made a friendly amendment to table the topic, seconded by Fugelseth, which failed 6-2. Further discussion ensued. A motion was made by Bergstrom, seconded by Kolste to adopt the Rock County Public Health Policy Priorities as presented. Motion Passed Unanimously.



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2. A motion was made by Dr. Bergstrom, seconded by Supervisor Schneider to accept a purchasing agreement with Simple HealthKit for purchasing STI & HIV Testing Kits and to be funded by the Integrated HIV grant. Motion Passed Unanimously.

6. Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members

Chair Peer informed the Board of a change in meeting date of a Veterans meeting from the 21st of January to January 28, 2025.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Dr. Nowak, second by Dr. Bergstrom to adjourn the meeting. MOTION PASSED.
Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Clark, Business Supervisor
Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health