



MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

October 1, 2025

1. Call to Order: The October 1, 2025 Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 6 PM.

Board of Health Members Present: Supervisor Lou Peer (Chair), Supervisor Kim Schneider (Vice Chair), Kimberly Ward, Eric Gresens, Debra Kolste, Supervisor Kathy Schulz (virtual), Dr. Rachel Bergstrom (virtual).

Board of Health Members Absent: Supervisor Christine Fugelseth, Dr. Blaine Nowak

Staff Members Present: Katrina Harwood - Health Officer; Carrie Clark - Business Supervisor; Rick Wietersen - Environmental Health Manager; Stephen Lavey - Public Health Strategist.

Others Present: John Light - County Administrator; Randy Terronez - Assistant to Administrator.

Roll Call

At roll call, Chair Peer, Vice Chair Schneider, Kimberly Ward, Eric Gresens, Debra Kolste, Supervisor Schulz, and Dr. Rachel Bergstrom were present.

2. Adopt Agenda & Approval of Minutes 09-03-2025

Chair Peer called for adoption of the agenda and minutes of the 9-3-2025 meeting, motioned by Kolste, seconded by Gresens. All members present voted in favor; agenda and minutes approved.

4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements

None

5. New Business

A. Administrative Division

1. Review of Payments

The Board reviewed the Public Health Department's September, 2025 payments totaling \$3,942.21.

2. Approval of Transfers

No transfer of funds to report.

3. Public Health Department Report

a. Director's Report

Health Officer (HO) Harwood indicated work continues on the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan with finalizing a list of deliverables or objectives to prioritize. The Plan will be brought back to the Board in November. Harwood provided an update to septic maintenance fee collection process via property tax bills and introduced a new dashboard for respiratory viruses on Healthyrockwi.org. She also provided a WAHL DAB (State association of local health departments) update, indicating the Southern Region will have \$400,000 in Public Health Infrastructure grant funding to identify an innovative pilot project focused on assessment, surveillance and linkage to care.

b. Program Update – Integrated HIV Testing Grant

Stephen Lavey, Public Health Strategist, presented information related to an HIV and STI prevention and testing project prompted by a recent spike in new HIV cases. The grant provides oral HIV testing kits, comprehensive STI kits, and safer sex kits at no charge to Rock County residents to combat increasing rates of infection and reduce barriers to health. Kits are offered via vending machines at Beloit Community Hospital Emergency Department and the Rock County Drug Treatment Court. Baskets of kits were also delivered to 21 various locations throughout the County. Supplies are also available at the Rock County Public Health office. While the grant ended, kits, supplies and communication and distribution efforts will continue until depleted.

c. Quarterly Budget Update

Health Officer Harwood presented the Quarter 3, 2025 budget year-to-date revenue, expenses, and expected variances. Harwood indicated September financials are preliminary, expenses are trending under budget, with exception to a few line items, such as interpreter fees that have experienced an increase. She explained that grant reimbursements are typically delayed by a month or more depending on the cycle for reimbursement and overall, the tax levy portion of budget is trending under budget.

d. Review and Consideration of 2026 Recommended Budget

Katrina Harwood, Health Officer, provided a summary of requested revenue and expenses in the 2026 Department Budget and County Administrator recommended budget, highlighting a difference of \$1,500 that is the result of a budget initiative requested to implement a fund for isolation and quarantine support. She indicated a second budget initiative to fund the continuation of CredibleMind website was not recommended in the Administrator's budget, however, grant funding set to end in 2025 was extended into 2026 and available to fund the renewal. She also responded to a question related to personnel expenses at the County Board meeting, informing the Board that the increase in personnel costs reflects an annual step increase, a cost-of-living adjustment, and as we have a low number of vacant positions, no adjustment for vacancies. She also informed of a second question raised at County Board related to County ARPA funds and ability to retain capacity built with ARPA beyond 2026, responding that there are plans to sustain capacity through 2027 with an additional pool of already awarded, public health grant funds. Lastly, she pointed out that the budget reflects a fund balance, as a result of deliverable-based grants, that may result in revenue that exceeds the cost to perform the deliverable. Board members did not offer any budget appeals. John Light, County Administrator indicated the recommended budget initiative to fund isolation and quarantine was modest in comparison to the overall operating budget and reiterated the increase in budget was primarily personnel. A public hearing is scheduled for October 30, 2025. No action was required by the Board.

6. Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members

None.



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7. Adjournment

Motion by Kolste, second by Gresens to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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