

MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
September 3, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Chair Kraft at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Kraft, Supervisor Peer, Supervisor Bostwick (left at 7:00 p.m.), Supervisor Addie, Dr. Konkol, Dr. Peterson, Dr. Winter, Ms. Wade, and Mr. Gresens.

Board of Health Members Absent: None at this time.

Staff Members Present: Karen Cain – Health Officer; Timothy Banwell – Environmental Health Director; Janet Zoellner – Public Health Nursing Director; Sancee Siebold – Nursing Supervisor South Office; Deborah Erickson – Nursing Supervisor North Office; and Geri Waugh – Account Clerk.

Others Present: Supervisor Jason Dowd - District 16 of Rock County Board of Supervisors; Edmund Halabi – Italian House Restaurant; and Joe Wollinger – Blackhawk Technical College.

Adopt Agenda

Chair Kraft stated item 6.C.1 on the agenda needs to be moved to the beginning of New Business, immediately preceding Administrative Division. Supervisor Bostwick made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Wade seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes 8/6/14

Dr. Winter made a motion to approve the minutes of the 8/6/14 Board of Health meeting. Supervisor Addie seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Citizen Participation

Edmund Halabi from the Italian House restaurant and Joe Wollinger from Blackhawk Technical College will be speaking to the Board concerning item 6.C.1 Posting Restaurant Scores.

Unfinished Business

None at this time.

New Business

Environmental Health

Posting Restaurant Scores

Mr. Banwell presented a power-point presentation to the Board members concerning Food Establishment Inspection Results 2001 to 2013 – Discussion of Website Access to Inspection Results (see attachment).

Reasons why we continue to face food safety challenges:

- New foodborne pathogens are emerging.

- Old foodborne pathogens are showing up in new foods.
- Anti-microbial resistance in foods is increasing.
- Improved surveillance.
- Eating habits of public have changed:
 1. Year-round selection of seasonal foods.
 2. Pre-packaged salad mixes.
 3. Mass production & distribution of foods.

Emerging Foodborne Disease Factors

- Human population changes.
- Human behavior changes.
- Changes in industry and technology.
- Changes in travel and commerce.
- Microbial adaptation.
- Economic development and land use.

Disease Prevention Techniques

- Thorough heating of potentially hazardous foods kills pathogens.
- Refrigeration prevents their growth.
- Separate cooked and raw foods.
- Wash hands – use gloves.
- Clean & sanitize cutting boards and food contact surfaces as needed to prevent cross-contamination.

Mr. Banwell stated the health department will be converting its restaurant inspection to the HealthSpace computer program beginning in January, 2015.

Mr. Edmund Halabi, owner of Italian House restaurant in Janesville, requested to speak to the Board concerning posting restaurant scores:

Mr. Halabi stated he has been in business in this community for the past 27 years. There is good dialog between the Rock County Health Department and restaurant operators, and the health department does a very good job performing the inspections. Any issues with an inspection are taken care of between the inspector and the restaurant operator. Mr. Halabi is against having a letter grade for inspection scores as they aren't clear to the public, i.e. A vs. C, B vs. A, etc. Restaurant operators want to know what, if any, issues exist during an inspection so they can make any necessary corrections. The posting of a lower letter score can mean the business could close because the public doesn't want to patronize their facility. Mr. Halabi further stated they want to encourage new food facilities to open in the community.

Mr. Banwell made a clarification as follows: The letter score would only be on the health department website and not posted in the facility itself.

Supervisor Addie asked Mr. Halabi if it would be better to use a wording system such as A as Excellent, B as Good, etc. Mr. Halabi responded he is not in favor of a letter grade at all, as they are too general. A numeric score is more favorable and understandable. Mr. Halabi is in favor of keeping the current numeric scores, with the inspection report available for clarification.

Mr. Joe Wollinger, Culinary Arts Department – Blackhawk Technical College, requested to speak to the Board concerning posting restaurant scores:

Mr. Wollinger stated he is very happy with the current Rock County Health Department's inspection program. He stated the Board should think of the big picture – the restaurant operator is stuck with the score that is posted for 1 year. Restaurant operators invest much money and time in their facilities. If the health department completes a favorable inspection for a food facility, the score doesn't need to be posted. The dishwasher temperature may not be correct at the time of the inspection, but creates a 5 point violation. Mr. Wollinger stated the inspection program should continue to be performed as it has been done by the health department.

Chair Kraft asked the Board members to comment on posting restaurant scores:

Supervisor Peer: Keep in mind we are taking something subjective and making it objective. We want to always keep the facility scores improving, and make any changes that don't instill fear.

Dr. Peterson: Asked if there is any flexibility in the inspection – if a temperature is wrong, then is a violation assessed. Yes, it's what the inspector finds at the facility at the time of the inspection.

Supervisor Bostwick: We want safe restaurants. The inspector is not out to make a poor report for the restaurants.

Dr. Winter: Stated that Mr. Banwell had reported earlier that there had only been 2 requests for inspection reports by the public thus far in 2014. This speaks to the public feeling it's safe to eat in Rock County restaurants.

Supervisor Addie: Asked if there is an appeal process for poor inspection reports? Yes, the restaurant operator can speak to either Mr. Banwell or Ms. Cain concerning a poor inspection report.

Dr. Konkol: The health department either says the facility passed the inspection, or failed the inspection.

Chair Kraft: The Board of Health is responsible for the health of the citizens, first and foremost.

Mr. Halabi also stated the safety and health of the customers comes first.

Board of Health discussion followed.

Dr. Winter made this motion: When Rock County Health Department begins to use the HealthSpace computer program for the inspections, restaurant inspection reports will be available only by request from the Health Department; the scores will not be available on the department website. Dr. Konkol seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED by unanimous vote.

Administrative Division

Approval of Bills/Transfer of Funds

Chair Kraft asked what the \$2,498.75 amount for Amazon.com was for under the Community Transformation Grant on page 2. Ms. Cain stated the grant coordinator, Katie Schroeder, resigned in April 2014. Since that

time, UW Extension is administering the grant until the grant ends at the end of 2014. This amount from Amazon.com is for active schools supplies that were ordered for grant activities.

Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the bills for the month of August, 2014 in the amount of \$4,142.58; bills for the Prescription Drug Collection Program in the amount of \$456.65; bills for the Fetal Infant Mortality Grant in the amount of \$27.01; and bills for the Community Transformation Grant in the amount of \$2,620.21. Supervisor Peer seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Transfer of Funds

Transfer \$8,500 from #61100 Regular Wages to #63100 Office Supplies: New desk chairs were part of the 2015 Budget request; however, the county administrator stated the chairs should be purchased out of the Health Department's 2014 Budget. This transfer of funds will provide the necessary funds to purchase the 29 desk chairs for health department staff.

Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the transfer of funds. Supervisor Peer seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendment

Increase the pre-approved encumbrance for the Health Department's travel/conference credit card from \$5,000 to \$6,200.

Several health department staff members will be attending an out-of-state conference later in 2014. This pre-approved encumbrance amendment is needed to increase the funds needed for air fare and hotel expenses for this conference.

Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendment. Supervisor Peer seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Health Department Report

140 Review: Ms. Cain stated the Wisconsin Department of Health Services will be coming to the Health Department on 9/9/14 to conduct the 140 Review. Rock County Health Department is currently a Level III health department. This is the highest level for a health department in Wisconsin. Every five years, the State reviews the health department's programs to determine if we meet the requirements to continue the Level III rating. Ms. Cain invited the Board members to attend this review. The review will take place on 9/9/14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

WOWRA Installation of Private Septic System: Ms. Cain reported the Wisconsin Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (WOWRA) installed a septic system earlier this year for a Rock County resident. This is the second year that WOWRA donated the labor and material to install a new septic system for a resident who is struggling financially. Rock County's sanitary permit fee for a conventional septic system is \$435. Rock County Health Department waived the health department's portion of the sanitary permit fee (\$335) after it was approved by the Board of Health at its March 5, 2014 meeting, and WOWRA paid the \$100 portion of the fee to the State of Wisconsin. Ms. Cain stated WOWRA sent a thank-you letter to the health department for waiving the \$335 fee.

Testing for New Wells: Ms. Cain stated effective 10/1/14, a new requirement for arsenic testing goes into effect for new wells or wells being repaired. Rock County Health Department's laboratory only completes testing for bacteria and nitrates, and in order to do arsenic testing, the department would need to complete a new laboratory certification. Arsenic testing for water is available through the State Laboratory of Hygiene in Madison.

Resolution: Accepting Additional Community Transformation Grant Funding and Amending the 2014 Rock County Health Department Budget

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled on this _____ day of _____, 2014 does hereby authorize the Rock County Health Department to accept the additional Rock County Community Transformation Grant funds and amend the 2014 Rock County Health Department Budget as follows:

<u>Account/Description</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Amended</u>
<u>Source of Funds</u>	<u>8/12/14</u>	<u>(Decrease)</u>	<u>Budget</u>
31-3161-0000-42100			
Federal Aid	\$456,500	\$10,500	\$467,000
<u>Use of Funds</u>			
31-3161-0000-63110			
Administrative Expense	\$456,500	\$10,500	\$467,000

Supervisor Addie made a motion to approve the resolution. Supervisor Peer seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

2014-2015 Flu Season Pricing

Ms. Zoellner stated the health department's cost for the regular influenza vaccine has increased from last year's cost due to the use of a quadrivalent (4-strain) vaccine this year.

The proposed charges for influenza vaccine for the 2014-2015 season are:

Regular vaccine	\$30.00
High-Dose vaccine (for persons age 65 & over)	\$55.00

Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the influenza vaccine charges as proposed. Dr. Peterson seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Meeting Date Change for November 2014 Board of Health Meeting

Ms. Cain stated the regular Board of Health meeting date for October would be on October 1st, and the regular Board of Health meeting for November would be on November 5th, which is the same date as the public hearing on the 2015 Budget.

The proposed 2015 Budget will be released for review on October 9th. If the Board of Health met on its regular meeting dates shown above, there wouldn't be an opportunity for the members to discuss the proposed 2015 Health Department budget.

Ms. Cain asked the Board members if a combined meeting for October & November could be done later in October, at which time the Board would have the opportunity to discuss the proposed 2015 Health Department Budget, and make any recommendations for amendments to the budget. Discussion followed.

The decision was made for the Board of Health to not meet on either October 1st or November 5th. Instead, there will be a combined October and November Board of Health meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Health Nursing

Upcoming Flu Season

Ms. Zoellner reported to the Board, as follows:

What are current recommendations for vaccination?

All persons age 6 months or older are recommended to receive a flu vaccine every year, providing they are medically able to do so. This year, the CDC is encouraging all eligible children ages 2-8 years to receive the nasal spray. This has proven to be a more effective vaccine.

Who will cover the cost of flu vaccination?

Under the Affordable Care Act, almost all health insurance plans are mandated to provide routine immunizations to the persons they cover without cost, co-pay, or deductible.

Who is eligible to receive a flu vaccination at the health department?

The health department will vaccinate anyone eligible. We receive a supply of State-supplied vaccine from the Vaccines for Children program at no cost to us. We also order a supply of purchased vaccine at the market rate. There are multiple ways that the cost of a flu vaccine is covered:

- We accept Wisconsin Medical Assistance for children and adults.
- We will provide flu vaccine at no cost to anyone on Medicare Part B, and then bill their plan.
- If a child is uninsured, or their insurance plan does not cover vaccination, they may receive flu vaccine for a \$5 administration fee. This fee can be waived if necessary.
- Anyone who wishes to pay for a purchased influenza vaccine may do so at the determined fee.

How do we encourage people to get vaccinated?

We work with local organizations that serve the most at-risk individuals such as senior fairs, homeless shelters, group homes for the developmentally disabled, and senior living complexes. Our nurses provide education and outreach to all clinic systems on a variety of immunization topics. We provide flu immunization to all county employees that are insured by the county. We also use our signboard and social media to get the word out about vaccination.

When will the health department begin giving flu vaccine?

Our shipment will arrive a little later than usual this year, and we will begin vaccinating on October 1st.

What strains does flu vaccine have this year?

The health department will use the quadrivalent vaccine this year when indicated. In all delivery forms, this contains: A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like virus; an A/Texas/50/2012 (H3N2)-like virus; a B/Massachusetts/1/2012-like (Yamagata lineage) virus; and a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like (Victoria lineage). We will use high-dose vaccine for all seniors unless requested differently. The high-dose has the same strains as the regular dose except it is only available in trivalent form, without the B/Brisbane strain.

Communications and Announcements

None at this time.

Adjournment

Supervisor Addie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Konkol seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Waugh, Recorder

Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health