



MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

June 27th, 2018

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

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Peer, Dr. Meyers, Ms. Wade, Dr. Winter, Supervisor Brown, Supervisor Gramke, Supervisor Rynes

Board of Health Members Absent: Mr. Gresens, Dr. Somaraju

Staff Members Present: Marie-Noel Sandoval – Health Officer; Dave Pluymers – Assistant Director; Rick Wietersen – Environmental Health Director; Judith Sengstock – Public Health Nursing Supervisor; Kelly Klingensmith – Community Health Education Coordinator; and Molly Polk – Account Clerk.

Others Present: Tom Brien – District 29 Supervisor; Yuri Rashkin – District 15 Supervisor, Russ Podzilni – County Board Chair, Tim Thompson – Resident, Tracy Thompson – Resident, Rich Greenlee – Corporation Council, Julie Seales – Resident, Debbie Fisher – Youth 2 Youth, Judi Zabel – LCHD, Nate Jackson – Janesville Gazette

Adopt Agenda

Ms. Wade made a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Winter seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes – 6/6/18

Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the minutes of the 6/6/18 Board of Health meeting. Supervisor Rynes seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Citizen Participation

Tim Thompson (8349 E Six Corners Rd, Johnstown) stated that he saw three “no” votes last night and that Chair Peer was one of them. He stated that there are 8 states that have legalized marijuana and 16 additional states that have legalized the medical use of it and emphasized that the opioid use is dropping in those states with legalization. Mr. Thompson stated that a “no” vote accomplishes nothing, while a “yes” vote changes no laws. The resolution is simply giving the public an opportunity to voice their opinion on the matter and be heard.

Tom Brien (E Racine St) stated that the most recent Gallop Poll showed results of 61% supporting the legalization of cannabis, this is an increase from the first year of the poll (12% in 1971). Mr. Brien supports the resolution and is asking that it be sent to the County Board and approved to send to the public to voice their opinion on the matter.

Yuri Rashkin (629 Park Avenue, Beloit) reminded the board that a “yes” vote does not mean that you are in support of the issue. It simply means that you are in support of the public expressing how they feel about it.

New Business

Administrative Division

Review of Payments

The Board reviewed the Health Department’s June 2018 payments in the amount of \$10,732.71 (on back on Minutes, rather than agenda).

Transfer of Funds over \$5,000

None at this time.

Health Department Report

In the News

Ms. Sandoval shared that the Public Health Department was recently part of an article on looking for answers regarding infant mortality and that this has been a part of the work of the new epidemiologist.

Mr. Wietersen shared information regarding a press release that was issued in regards to surface water testing and precautions. Annual testing was performed after a number of rain events and 16 of 25 testing sites had E. coli levels over 1,000. Public Beaches are closed when levels reach levels above 1,000, while precautions are issued for surface water. Resampling was performed this week and conditions are back to normal. A press release will be issued tomorrow to inform the public of the normal conditions.

Dr. Winter asked about blue green algae. Mr. Wietersen stated that we will probably be seeing that in the near future (possibly by this weekend).

Dr. Winter then asked about the Mosquito authorities (companies spraying every 21 days) and inquired as to whether or not there are health risks to this, as it seems it is on the rise.

Mr. Wietersen said he will need to look into that. Mosquito surveillance is in effect. He will check with Matt Wesson and report back.

Ms. Sandoval shared information regarding the press release on synthetic cannabinoids. Rock County is included in the list of Wisconsin counties with issues. The synthetic cannabinoids are causing unexplained bruising and bleeding. Anyone exposed is being instructed to go to the ER immediately, as this is life threatening. It is being requested that anyone that has EVER used synthetic cannabinoids see their health care provider to be evaluated, whether they have symptoms or not, and if they have any remaining, to cease use of it immediately. Contamination in multiple batches of the synthetic cannabinoids has been reported. These are illegal in Wisconsin and are not supposed to be sold in stores, but sales are still occurring. Dr. Meyers stated that there was a business in Walworth County that was caught and punished for these sales, a couple of years ago.

Cyclospora has recently been reported in the news. The contamination was tracked to pre-cut vegetables from Kwik Trip and the Public Health Department is still seeing some cases coming in.

Mr. Pluymers recently gave a presentation at the ribbon cutting for the new Fitness Park, downtown Janesville. The presentation was to encourage community members to be active and decrease obesity.

Surveillance

Chair Peer asked Mr. Wietersen if he had heard about any home remedies/recipes for keeping the mosquitos away and shared a recipe, that he found on YouTube:

3 Bottles of Beer (preferably stale)

Large Bottle of Mint Mouthwash

3 Cups of Epsom Salt

Mix for 2-3 hours, until Epsom Salt dissolves (there were still some spots where it was sprayed, but the rain took them away).

Chair Peer stated that even after the rain, he still does not have mosquitoes.

Mr. Wietersen had not heard anything about it, while Supervisor Gramke stated that he had read an article that said simply mouthwash would work as well.

Community Events/Outreach

Personnel

The Public Health Nurse position for the South Office was posted today and will remain open until July 20th. If there are not any suitable applicants, it will be reopened.

Ms. Sandoval welcomed Danette Rynes to the Board of Health, as the newest member.

Budget

A memo will be sent out at the end of the month regarding the 2019 Budget.

Ms. Polk was the only training over \$1,000 (Preparedness Summit in Atlanta), but all costs were scholarship funded.

Resolution: Approving a County Wide Advisory Referendum on the Legalization and Regulation of the Adult Use of Cannabis

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors in session this ____ day of ____, 2018, that the following advisory referendum be placed on the countywide general election ballot scheduled for November 6, 2018:

Should cannabis be legalized for adult use, taxed and regulated like alcohol, with the proceeds from the Taxes used for education, healthcare, and infrastructure?

Cannabis Presentation – PowerPoint/Video (Harvard School of Public Health Forum)/Handouts – Noel

Ms. Sandoval presented a video from the Harvard School of Public Health. The video can be found online: <https://theforum.sph.harvard.edu/events/legalizing-marijuana/>

A discussion was held among Board Members, after the presentation and video, with input from the public attendees regarding the resolution.

Upon conclusion of the discussion, Ms. Brown made a motion to table the resolution. Dr. Winters seconded the motion. With 5 yes votes and two nay votes, the resolution was tabled.

Communications and Announcements

Adjournment

Supervisor Gramke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Wade seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Molly Polk, Recorder
Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health