



MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

October 7, 2020

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

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Peer, Supervisor Rynes, Supervisor Wilde, Dr. Meyers, Dr. Winter, Mr. Gresens, Dr. Somaraju, Ms. Kolste and Supervisor Williams.

Board of Health Members Absent:

Staff Members Present: Noel Sandoval – Director; Michelle Bailey – Assistant Director; Rick Wietersen – Environmental Health Director; Matt Wesson – Environmental Health Supervisor; Kelsey Cordova – Community Health Education Coordinator; Alison Chouinard – Health Educator; Nick Zupan – Epidemiologist; Lori Soderberg – Public Health Supervisor; and Melissa DeWitt – Public Health Support Specialist.

Others Present: Randy Terronez – Assistant to the County Administrator; Terri Carlson – Corporation Counsel, Risk Manager; Supervisor Rich Bostwick – Rock County Board of Supervisors; Sheryl Hengeveld - Citizen.

Adopt Agenda

Debra Kolste made a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Winter seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes – 9/2/2020

Supervisor Rynes made a motion to approve the minutes of the 9/2/2020 Board of Health meetings. Supervisor Wilde seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Roll Call

Chair Peer asked for the roll call. At roll call Chair Peer, Supervisor Rynes, Dr. Winter, Mr. Gresens, Ms. Kolste and Dr. Somaraju were present. 6 PRESENT. 3 ABSENT. Dr. Meyers, Supervisor Wilde and Supervisor Williams joined after roll call.

Citizen Participation

New Business

Administrative Division

Transfer of Funds Over \$5,000

No transfer of funds over \$5,000

Review of Payments

Noel informed the board that last month's question of the \$1,800+ charge was for the repair of one major vaccine unit and maintenance of the other 3 units.

Ms. Kolste and Supervisor Wilde verified exactly what bills and payments we approve each month, which also included questions on approval of personnel changes and expenses.

Health Department Report

In the News

Ms. Sandoval discussed new findings on how the COVID-19 virus can be transmitted through the air. She also discussed the orders that Governor Evers has put into place since the last meeting. She also commented on the field hospital that will be set up at State Fair Park in Milwaukee due to the surge in numbers in certain regions.

Mr. Zupan provided the Board members with the current COVID-19 data.

Ms. Bailey reported on a public testing site that will take place at Dawson Field starting Monday, October 12th and running all week long. They are preparing to do 500 tests each day. Blackhawk Technical College has applied to be a regional test site through the end of the year. They are hoping to test twice a week at their facility. Ms. Bailey also reported that the first antigen test kits that were sent to the state were distributed to Long Term Care Facilities and Assisted Living Facilities. The next round of kits will go to hospitals and they will encourage staff to be tested. Ms. Sandoval reported that antigen tests are used primarily for symptomatic patients, however, they can be used on asymptomatic patients as well.

Ms. Bailey wanted to mention how much the Health Department stresses the importance of self-care and fully supports the efforts of staff not getting burned out by current workloads.

Ms. Soderberg reported on the nursing unit. The Rock County Health Department has hired a 9th Public Health Nurse and the 10th position has been posted. The nursing team has been brainstorming how to make contact tracing more efficient because it is so time consuming. They are looking for ways to streamline the process to make it as easy as possible for everyone involved.

Ms. Soderberg introduced Ms. Cordova as the new Public Health Supervisor.

Supervisor Williams asked about the exact process of contacting those with positive cases and the issue of those without reliable internet. Ms. Soderberg responded accordingly.

Ms. Kolste and Supervisor Wilde commended all the hard work that everyone is putting forth to fight this virus.

Ms. Cordova commented on October being "Safe Sleep" month. The Rock County Health Department will be participating in a Heart Health conference on Thursday, October 8th. She also reported on the flu immunization campaign that will address and support flu shots this season. Supervisor Williams thanked the Health Department on their work with supporting immunizations.



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Mr. Wietersen reported on school updates. A small number of schools have been forced to move from in-person teaching to virtual. Environmental Health has been busy trying to catch up with normal inspections. Supervisor Williams and Supervisor Wilde had questions regarding how complaints are handled to those establishments who are not enforcing the mandates. Supervisor Rynes commented on calls she has been receiving about “super-spreader” events. Mr. Wietersen gave his recommendations on how to handle such calls in the future.

Ms. Sandoval requested to move the November meeting to October 14th. Supervisor Wilde made a motion to approve this request. Supervisor Rynes seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Supervisor Wilde questioned the new release from the CDC regarding the airborne transmission of COVID-19 and how that will potentially impact PPE and if that will now change at all (in regards to supplies and how much needs to be worn). Ms. Sandoval responded accordingly. Supervisor Wilde offered his full support on taking care of the Health Department during the duration of this virus. Supervisor Peer and Dr. Somaraju gave the same sentiments.

Surveillance

Nothing to report.

Community Events/Outreach

Budget

Ms. Sandoval reported that the 2021 budget will be presented to the full County Board on Thursday, October 8th.

Personnel

Ms. Sandoval reported that the Health Department is actively looking to fill the Community Health Education Coordinator position. There is also continuous recruitment for contact tracers and surge staff. Ms. Cordova reported that we currently have 10 surge staff working for the Health Department.

Committee Approvals

Communications and Announcements

Supervisor Peer reiterated that our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 14th at 6 p.m. He also reminded everyone to get their flu shot.

Adjournment

Supervisor Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Rynes seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa DeWitt, Recorder

Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health