



**ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 07, 2021**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**CALL: 1-312-626-6799**  
**MEETING ID: 466 495 1759**

**AGENDA**

**NOTE: THIS IS A TELECONFERENCE**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4664951759>

Meeting ID: 466 495 1759

One tap mobile

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Board Members who are unable to attend the meeting, **please** contact Lou Peer (295-5210) or Melissa DeWitt (295-7417). Thank you.

The County of Rock will provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities. Please contact us at 608-757-5510 or e-mail [countyadmin@co.rock.wi.us](mailto:countyadmin@co.rock.wi.us) at least 48 hours prior to a public meeting to discuss any accommodations that may be necessary.



**ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 07, 2021**  
**6:00 P.M.**

JOIN FROM A TELEPHONE:

- ON YOUR PHONE, DIAL THE PHONE NUMBER PROVIDED ABOVE
- ENTER THE MEETING ID NUMBER WHEN PROMPTED, USING YOUR DIAL-PAD.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT LONG-DISTANCE CHARGES MAY APPLY. THIS IS NOT A TOLL-FREE NUMBER.
- BOARD MEMBERS: PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF BY NAME
- PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE WHEN YOU ARE NOT SPEAKING TO MINIMIZE BACKGROUND NOISES
- WE ARE NEW AT HOLDING MEETINGS THIS WAY, SO PLEASE BE PATIENT

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED -

HTTPS ://SUPPORT.ZOOM.US/HE/ EN-US/ ARTICLES/2072 7973 6-GETTING-STARTED-WITH-CLOSED-CAPTIONING

1. Call to Order
2. Adopt Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes – (6/2/2021)
4. Approval of Minutes – (1/27/2021)
5. Citizen Participation
6. Presentation: New Facility for the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin
7. Resolution: Providing Funding to Support the Construction of a New Facility for the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin
8. New Business
  - A. Administrative Division
    - (1) Review of Payments
    - (2) Transfer of Funds over \$5,000
    - (3) Public Health Department Report
      - a. COVID Response Update
      - b. RCPHD Program Spotlight
      - c. Public Health Spotlight
      - d. Budget
        1. Memo – Semiannual report on conferences 1/1/21-6/30/21
      - e. Workforce
  - B. Resolution: Directing Rock County Staff to Explore the Feasibility of Creating Programs to Address Nitrate Mitigation in Rock County’s Ground Water

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- C. Resolution: Create the Positions of Public Health Planner, Public Health Policy Specialist, and Public Health Data Scientist; Create Class Descriptions; Establish Pay Ranges; and Amend the 2021 Budget
  - D. Resolution: Create the Position of a Health Educator (Health Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator)
9. Communications and Announcements
  10. Adjournment

Board Members who are unable to attend the meeting, **please** contact Lou Peer (295-5210) or Melissa DeWitt (295-7417). Thank you.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

**January 27, 2021**

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chair Peer at 6:03 p.m.

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

Board of Health Members Absent: Supervisor Rynes, Dr. Winter

Others Present: Josh Smith – County Administrator; Annette Mikula – Human Resources Director

**Adopt Agenda**

Ms. Kolste made a motion to adopt the agenda. Supervisor Wilde seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

**Communications and Announcements**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Supervisor Wilde made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m. Dr. Meyers seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

**Adjournment**

Supervisor Wilde made a motion to go end Executive Session and adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Supervisor Williams seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Josh Smith  
County Administrator



## **MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

**June 02, 2021**

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, Dr. Meyers, Dr. Winter, Dr. Somaraju, Eric Gresens, Debra Kolste, Supervisor Williams, and Supervisor Wilde.

Board of Health Members Absent:

Staff Members Present: Katrina Harwood – Health Officer/Director; Rick Wietersen – Environmental Health Director; Nick Zupan – Epidemiologist; Jennifer Weadge – Public Health Nurse; Taja Hereford – Health Educator; and Melissa DeWitt – Public Health Support Specialist.

Others Present:

### **Roll Call**

Chair Peer asked for the roll call. At roll call Chair Peer, Supervisor Rynes, Dr. Winter, Mr. Gresens, Ms. Kolste, Dr. Meyers, Dr. Somaraju, Supervisor Williams and Supervisor Wilde were present. 9 PRESENT. 0 ABSENT.

### **Adopt Agenda**

Debra Kolste made a motion to adopt the agenda. Supervisor Williams seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

### **Approval of Minutes – 5/5/2021**

Dr. Winter made a motion to approve the minutes of the 5/5/2021 Board of Health meeting. Dr. Meyers seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

### **Citizen Participation**

#### **New Business**

#### **Administrative Division**

#### **Transfer of Funds Over \$5,000**

No transfer of funds over \$5,000.

## **Review of Payments**

The Board reviewed the Health Department's May payments in the amount of \$4,026.63.

## **Health Department Report**

### **COVID Response Update**

Katrina Harwood shared a slideshow of the representation of the work that the Health Department is involved in for the county-wide COVID-19 response. For testing, the Health Department is continuing to provide staff support and communications for the Wisconsin National Guard (WING) staffed testing site at Blackhawk Technical College. Statewide, there has been a decrease in overall testing. Most of the testing in Rock County is currently being done through Health Care providers. Rock County will have WING support until at least July 29th. If a testing site is still needed in the fall, the need will be re-evaluated to determine a potential new location since classes are tentatively slated to start in-person at Blackhawk Technical College and they will need their space back. Positive case numbers have significantly decreased, which has lessened the workload on our Contact Tracing staff. A few weeks ago, a mobile vaccine clinic was held in conjunction with the City of Janesville to provide the vaccine to those who are homebound. The clinic was deemed a successful initiative. Several successful school-based vaccine clinics have been held at several local schools in the area (Evansville, Milton, Edgerton, Parkview & Clinton). Second dose clinics will also be held. The Environmental Health Division continues to provide support to businesses as they plan to reopen.

The following pieces below go along with the different categories of the COVID-19 response.

Communications: Ongoing throughout the pandemic. Media briefings have moved to every other week (on alternative weeks as the "Numbers with Nick" presentation). A weekly media summary is being distributed to all Board Members.

Surveillance: Nick Zupan provided the Board members with the current COVID-19 data.

### **RCPHD Program Spotlight**

#### **Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR)**

- Health Equity Alliance of Rock County
  - A multisector collaboration
  - Mission: HEAR is committed to health equity, through community collaboration, to ensure that Rock County reaches its full health potential
  - Vision: Rock County is a healthier place to live, work, learn, play, and grow
  - Values: Community, Health & Well-being, Equity, Collaboration

### **What is the CHA-CHIP?**

- Community Health Assessment
  - Community health assessment survey
  - Secondary data
  - Public Health systems analysis
  - Key informant interviews
  - Community conversations
- Community Health Improvement Plan
  - Health priorities
  - 3-5 year plan
  - HEAR involvement
- Assess → Prioritize → Plan → Implement → Monitor/Evaluate



## MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

June 02, 2021

- Updates and results
  - 1030 total surveys
  - 15-20 focus groups
  - Special groups (Fresh Start Youth, Youth Justice Workers, CPS, House of Mercy, big city conversations, etc.)
  - 20-25 key informant interviews
- Next steps
  - Secondary data
  - Public health systems analysis
  - CHA write-up
  - Health priorities
  - CHIP write-up

### **Public Health Spotlight**

#### **10 Essential Public Health Services**

- Essential Public Health Service #3
  - Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it
  - This service includes:
    - Developing and disseminating accessible health information and resources, including through collaboration with multi-sector partners
    - Communicating with accuracy and necessary speed
    - Using appropriate communication channels (e.g., social media, peer-to-peer networks, mass media, and other channels) to effectively reach the intended populations
    - Developing and deploying culturally and linguistically appropriate and relevant communications and educational resources, which includes working with stakeholders and influencers in the community to create effective and culturally resonant materials
    - Employing the principles of risk communication, health literacy, and health education to inform the public, when appropriate
    - Actively engaging in two-way communication to build trust with populations served and ensure accuracy and effectiveness of prevention and health promotion strategies
    - Ensuring public health communications and education efforts are asset-based when appropriate and do not reinforce narratives that are damaging to disproportionately affected populations
  - Examples from our work:
    - Issuing press releases

- Posting information on social media
  - Engaging in conversations with our community
- Essential Public Health Service #4
  - Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health
    - This service includes:
      - Convening and facilitating multi-sector partnerships and coalitions that include sectors that influence health (e.g., planning, transportation, housing, education, etc.)
      - Fostering and building genuine, strengths-based relationships with a diverse group of partners that reflect the community and the population
      - Authentically engaging with community members and organizations to develop public health solutions
      - Learning from, and supporting, existing community partnerships and contributing public health expertise
  - Examples from our work:
    - Convening partners including transportation providers to address transportation needs
    - Attendance at a City of Janesville Manager Meeting to provide a Public Health perspective
- Essential Public Health Service #5
  - Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health
    - This service includes:
      - Developing and championing policies, plans, and laws that guide the practice of public health
      - Examining and improving existing policies, plans, and laws to correct historical injustices
      - Ensuring that policies, plans, and laws provide a fair and just opportunity for all to achieve optimal health
      - Providing input into policies, plans, and laws to ensure that health impact is considered
      - Continuously monitoring and developing policies, plans and laws that improve public health and preparedness and strengthen community resilience
      - Collaborating with all partners, including multi-sector partners, to develop and support policies, plans, and laws
- Essential Public Health Service #6
  - Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health
    - This service includes:
      - Ensuring that applicable laws are equitably applied to protect the public's health
      - Conducting enforcement activities that may include, but are not limited to sanitary codes, especially in the food industry; full protection of drinking water supplies; and timely follow-up on hazards, preventable injuries, and exposure-related diseases identified in occupational and community settings
      - Licensing and monitoring the quality of healthcare services (e.g., laboratory, nursing homes, and home healthcare)
      - Reviewing new drug, biologic, and medical device applications
      - Licensing and credentialing the healthcare workforce
      - Including health considerations in laws from other sectors (e.g., zoning)

## **Budget**



## MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

June 02, 2021

Katrina Harwood reported on the 2021 budget monitoring, along with the 2022 budget development (which will include additions to workforce capacity and IT related needs). A mid-year summary will be available at next month's meeting.

- 3 potential new positions to budget for in 2022
  - Policy Specialist
  - Public Health Planner
  - Data Scientist

### Pending Grant Applications

- 2022 WDATCP Clean Sweep – Unwanted Prescription Drug Collections
  - Due May 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Historically \$5,000 - \$6,000
- Mid-Year 2021 FDA-AFDO Managed Retail Program Standard Grant – Category 2 Moderate Project Equipment Needs
  - Due June 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Requesting ~\$6,000
- 2021-22 WDHS Environmental Public Health Tracking Grant – Taking Action with Data
  - Due mid-July
  - Up to \$10,000

### Workforce

Katrina Harwood reported on current workforce updates.

#### New staff

- Olivia Feider, Environmental Health Specialist

#### Current Position Vacancies

- PT Environmental Health Specialist
- Public Health Supervisor

### Communications and Announcements

Nothing to report.

### Adjournment

Dr. Winter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Wilde seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa DeWitt, Recorder

Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGENDA NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Rich Bostwick  
INITIATED BY



Josh Smith  
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health and County Board  
Staff Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

June 29, 2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**Providing Funding to Support the Construction of a New Facility for the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin has acquired 44 acres of property and will be
- 2 constructing a new facility at 4700 S. CTH D between Janesville and Beloit, with groundbreaking
- 3 scheduled for July 12, 2021; and,
- 4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, the Humane Society has been fundraising for several years to fund the construction of the
- 6 \$4.3 million facility, which will provide significantly more space to be able to accommodate animals and
- 7 provide services after having outgrown its current facility; and,
- 8
- 9 **WHEREAS**, the Hendricks Family Foundation is matching donations of \$100,000 or more; and,
- 10
- 11 **WHEREAS**, Rock County has established a Community Agency Initiatives policy, whereby the County
- 12 Board can provide funding to eligible nonprofits that further the County’s mission; and
- 13
- 14 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 174, Wis. Stats., identifies a role for counties in ensuring resources are available to
- 15 support humane societies, including through the County-administered dog license fund, which pays for
- 16 care of stray animals when no other resources are available; and
- 17
- 18 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 94, Wis. Stats., gives certain responsibilities to counties for funding rabies control;
- 19 and
- 20
- 21 **WHEREAS**, pet owners issued animal bite orders routinely struggle to find a facility that is available
- 22 and/or affordable to complete the required quarantine for rabies control and prevention; and
- 23
- 24 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Sheriff’s Office employs a deputy with responsibilities as a humane
- 25 officer to ensure the well-being of animals;
- 26
- 27 **WHEREAS**, it is in the County’s interest to support the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin.
- 28
- 29 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
- 30 assembled this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, does hereby direct the County Administrator to
- 31 include in the 2022 budget’s Community Agency Initiatives funding a one-time payment of \$100,000, to
- 32 be funded with sales tax proceeds, to the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin for its capital
- 33 campaign, with the intent that this funding be matched by the Hendricks Family Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,

**COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rich Bostwick, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wes Davis, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Brien

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Leavy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lou Peer

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Russell Podzilni

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Sweeney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Yeomans

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Beaver

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Louis Peer, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
VACANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Gresens, R.PH

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Danette Rynes

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Kolste

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Shirley Williams

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

FISCAL NOTE:

The \$100,000 of funding will need to be included in the 2022 budget.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County's authority to appropriate money in some contexts to community based nonprofit organizations has been called into question by the Wisconsin Attorney General. See OAG-01-07 opining that counties do not have the authority to directly appropriate money to a private nonprofit corporation whose sole mission is to operate a food pantry for the benefit of the county's citizens. However, counties also have broad authority to operate and expend money to address animal control, animals welfare, and address the humane treatment of animals, *see* Wis. Stat. §§ 59.54, 59.23(2)(dg), Chps. 172-174, including the power to appropriate funds out of the dog license fund to fund ongoing operation of a county designated humane society.

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of policy.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

**COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT  
WITH DESCRIPTION  
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2021**

Account Number	Account Name	PO#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Inv/Enc Amt
31-3000-0000-62119	Other Services					
		P2101221	06/03/2021	HELMER SCIENTIFIC	SHIPPING	81.49
		P2101470	06/17/2021	OFFICE PRO INC	SHREDDING 4/19/21	20.39
31-3000-0000-63100	Office&Misc Exp					
		P2100285	06/17/2021	US BANK	OFFICE SUPPLIES	758.07
31-3000-0000-63101	Postage					
		P2100281	06/17/2021	UNITED PARCEL SERVICE	SHIPPING - EH	78.72
31-3000-0000-63200	Pubs/Subs/Dues					
		P2101449	06/17/2021	WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURA	RENEWAL TECH/CLASS FEE-DRINKIN	1,359.00
31-3000-0000-64000	Medical Supplies					
		P2100229	06/17/2021	HOMETOWN PHARMACY	4 EPI PENS 0.15MG	561.90
		P2100277	06/03/2021	SANOFI PASTEUR INC	SAVINGS/PROMPT PAY DISCOUNT	1,188.27
		P2100285	06/17/2021	US BANK	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	176.36
		P2101448	06/17/2021	FOCUS HEALTH GROUP	EPINEPHRINE PRO #24357-011	320.00
31-3000-0000-64010	Lab Supplies					
		P2100226	06/10/2021	CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING IN	DEIONIZER RENTAL 6/1/21-6/30/2	175.00
		P2100228	06/17/2021	HACH COMPANY	SPECTROPHOTOMETER W/ RFID	2,077.31
		P2100285	06/17/2021	US BANK	LAB SUPPLIES	256.88
31-3000-0000-64200	Training					
		P2100285	06/17/2021	US BANK	NACCHO CONFERENCE-HOLLY	1,255.00
		P2101212	06/03/2021	DOW, DALE	NURSE CPR TRAINING	300.00
<b>Public Health Department PROG TOTAL</b>						<b>8,608.39</b>
31-3114-0000-64200	Training					
		P2100285	06/10/2021	US BANK	FDA FOOD SAFETY TRAINING	590.00
<b>Wis Lead Safe Homes Program PROG TOTAL</b>						<b>590.00</b>

*BOH 7/7/2021*

**COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT**  
**WITH DESCRIPTION**  
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2021

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>PO#</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Inv/Enc Amt</u>
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I have reviewed the preceding payments in the total amount of **\$9,198.39**

Date: Dept Head \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Chair \_\_\_\_\_



## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** June 28, 2021

**TO:** Board of Health

**FROM:** Katrina Harwood  
Health Officer/Director

**SUBJECT:** Semi-Annual Report - Attendance at Conventions/Conferences

Please be advised that there were no instances of attendance at training, convention or conference that exceeded total costs of \$1,000 per event, per employee in-state or out-of-state, for the period 1/1/2021 – 6/30/2021.

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Rick Richard  
INITIATED BY

Land Conservation Committee  
SUBMITTED BY



Corporation Counsel Richard  
Greenlee  
DRAFTED BY

February 3, 2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**DIRECTING ROCK COUNTY STAFF TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF  
CREATING PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS NITRATE MITIGATION IN  
ROCK COUNTY'S GROUND WATER**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the level of nitrates in Rock County' s groundwater has increased over the past two decades
- 2 in private wells, with over an estimated 3,000 Rock County homeowner wells exceeding the drinking
- 3 water nitrate health advisory level of 10 mg/L; and,
- 4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, it's estimated that fewer than 5% Rock County private wells are tested annually, at a cost of
- 6 \$25 per test.
- 7
- 8 **WHEREAS**, ;in order to address the continued threat to public health of nitrates in Rock County's ground
- 9 water, the Rock County Board of Supervisors created the Rock County Nitrate Workgroup by Resolution
- 10 17-5A-282 which was tasked with, among other things, evaluating nitrate sources and researching
- 11 groundwater nitrate reduction initiatives being conducted in other parts of Wisconsin; and,
- 12
- 13 **WHEREAS**, other communities across Wisconsin have also confronted the problems of excess nitrates in
- 14 groundwater and similarly formed working groups of community leaders and stakeholders to address
- 15 excess and unsafe nitrates in Wisconsin's groundwater; and,
- 16
- 17 **WHEREAS**, developing programs to remediate or mitigate nitrate concentrates in groundwater is essential
- 18 for protecting human health.
- 19
- 20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
- 21 this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ directs that staff from the Rock County Planning
- 22 Department, Rock County Public Health Department, County Administrator's Office, Land Conservation
- 23 and Corporation Counsel to explore the feasibility of creating and administrating programs to address
- 24 excess nitrate levels in Rock County Groundwater including, but not limited to, implementation of a
- 25 program to subsidize the cost of nitrate testing for ground water well users in Rock County, and a program
- 26 to subsidize the cost of installation of reverse osmosis, or similar, water treatment systems that filter out
- 27 groundwater nitrates to levels lower than federal maximums.
- 28
- 29 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any such program evaluated and considered use Sales Tax collected
- 30 in Rock County or the American Rescue Plan Act funds as a funding source.
- 31
- 32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the group of staff shall report on their findings to the Rock County
- 33 Nitrate Working Group by December 1, 2021.

DIRECTING ROCK COUNTY STAFF TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS NITRATE MITIGATION IN ROCK COUNTY'S GROUND WATER

Page 2

Respectfully submitted,

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Richard Bostwick, Chair

Alan Sweeney, Vice Chair

Stephanie Aegerter

Wes Davis

Vacant

Mike Mulligan

James Quade

Vacant

BOARD OF HEALTH

Louis Peer, Chair

VACANT

Eric Gresens, R.PH

Supervisor Danette Rynes

Debra Kolste

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Alan Sweeney, Chair

J. Russell Podzilni

Robert Potter

Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

Supervisor Shirley Williams

Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

Wayne Gustina, Vice-Chair

Wes Davis

FISCAL NOTE:

Minimal fiscal impact in and by itself.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats.

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

The County Board has previously determined that nitrates in groundwater is a priority issue for Rock County. This resolution would further clarify how the County Board wants staff to support the work of the Nitrate Working Group, focusing on which approaches, and on what timeline.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGENDA NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Board of Health  
INITIATED BY



Katrina Harwood  
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health  
SUBMITTED BY

June 28, 2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**CREATE THE POSITIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH PLANNER, PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY SPECIALIST, AND PUBLIC HEALTH DATA SCIENTIST; CREATE CLASS DESCRIPTIONS; ESTABLISH PAY RANGES; AND AMEND THE 2021 BUDGET**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has exemplified the need for strong public health infrastructure
- 2 and a workforce skilled in areas of data science, policy development, and planning; and,
- 3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, the expertise brought by these specialist positions would improve the design and execution
- 5 of public health programs; and,
- 6
- 7 **WHEREAS**, the additional positions would improve public health emergency preparedness activities
- 8 through planning and analysis; and,
- 9
- 10 **WHEREAS**, COVID-19 remains a threat to the public’s health through the potential to mutate into
- 11 variants that are not covered by the developed vaccines; and,
- 12
- 13 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department and other community partners are working to
- 14 increase the proportion of the population fully vaccinated, which requires concerted planning efforts that
- 15 incorporate predictive analytics and policy development; and,
- 16
- 17 **WHEREAS**, public health professionals anticipate that novel diseases will continue to pose a threat to
- 18 the public’s health; and,
- 19
- 20 **WHEREAS**, pandemics are likely to become more frequent; and,
- 21
- 22 **WHEREAS**, there is a need to develop infrastructure so that the next pandemic does not result in the
- 23 same significant morbidity and mortality as the COVID-19 pandemic; and,
- 24
- 25 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has created and exacerbated additional public health concerns
- 26 related to health inequities and the social determinants of health; and,
- 27
- 28 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department requests that a 1.0 FTE Public Health Planner
- 29 position, a 1.0 FTE Public Health Policy Specialist position, and a 1.0 FTE Public Health Data Scientist
- 30 position be created; and,
- 31
- 32 **WHEREAS**, the positions will be funded through the American Rescue Plan Act, unless other public
- 33 health specific funding is identified; and,
- 34
- 35 **WHEREAS**, these positions would provide the additional capacity needed for the Rock County Public
- 36 Health Department to effectively design and implement public health programs aimed at pandemic
- 37 response/recovery; and,
- 38
- 39 **WHEREAS**, the position of a Public Health Planner will support the development, implementation, and
- 40 ongoing monitoring of the Rock County Public Health Department’s performance management system,
- 41 quality improvement plan, workforce development plan, and partner relationship management system
- 42 specific to COVID response, recovery, and ongoing design and execution of public health programs; and,
- 43
- 44 **WHEREAS**, the position of a Public Health Policy Specialist will ensure that efforts to protect and
- 45 promote public health through policy action are evidence-based and take into consideration feasibility,

46 apply public health ethics, and take steps to ensure that there are not disproportionate impacts  
47 communities of color and other groups that have been historically marginalized ; and,  
48

49 **WHEREAS**, the position of a Public Health Data Scientist will apply predictive analytics, machine  
50 learning, and other methods to develop public health surveillance systems that continuously assess risk to  
51 the public's health and to ensure that strategies to protect and promote public health are data informed  
52 and likely to achieve the desired health outcomes; and,  
53

54 **WHEREAS**, collectively, the additional positions will enable the Rock County Public Health  
55 Department to effectively address the COVID-19 pandemic, engage in COVID-19 pandemic recovery,  
56 and develop infrastructure and capacity to effectively address future pandemics and other public health  
57 emergencies.  
58

59 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly  
60 assembled this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 moves to create the position of a 1.0 FTE Public  
61 Health Planner, a 1.0 FTE Public Health Policy Specialist, and a 1.0 FTE Public Health Data Scientist;  
62 create class descriptions; and establish the positions in Pay Range 22 (\$63,120 -\$76,776) in the unilateral  
63 pay grid as Unilateral C positions (under the Fair Labor Standards Act).  
64

65 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the 2021 Rock County Public Health Department budget be  
66 amended as follows:  
67

<u>Account/Description</u>		<u>Budget</u> <u>1/1/21</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended</u> <u>Budget</u>
<u>Source of Funds</u>				
31-3000-0000-68000	Cost Allocations	\$303,604	\$66,860	\$370,464
<u>Federal Aid</u>				
<u>Use of Funds</u>				
31-30000-0000-61100	Wages	\$2,187,756	\$47,340	\$2,235,096
31-30000-0000-61400	FICA	\$167,363	\$3,621	\$170,984
31-30000-0000-61510	Retirement	\$147,674	\$3,195	\$150,869
31-30000-0000-61610	Health Insurance	\$566,432	\$12,350	\$578,782
31-30000-0000-61620	Dental	\$16,281	\$355	\$16,636

80  
81  
Respectfully submitted,

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Louis Peer, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
VACANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Shirley Williams

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Gresens, R.PH

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Danette Rynes

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Kolste

**COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rich Bostwick, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wes Davis, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Brien

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Leavy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lou Peer

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Russell Podzilni

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Sweeney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Yeomans

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Beaver

Finance Committee Endorsement

Reviewed and approved on a vote of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Mawhinney, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

FISCAL NOTE:

At this time, the addition of these positions will not require County funding. We will be using a portion of the ARPA funding, or a direct grant to the Health Department as the funding source.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to § 59.22(2), Wis. Stats. As an amendment to the 2021 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to § 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporate Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) includes additional funding (in addition to the County's direct ARAP allocation) to support the development of public health infrastructure. If such federal funding is directed to the Health Department, we may be able to use those funds for this purpose and reserve the County's direct allocation to other purposes. In either case, we would anticipate using ARPA funding for these positions through the end of 2024, at which time we will better understand the organizational structure and positions needed to operate effectively, as well as other sources of funding that may be available for these positions. In this way, we will be able to use the intervening three-plus years to evaluate needs.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

## Executive Summary

The COVID-19 pandemic has stretched the public health workforce and public health system. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has created gaps in public health services and has made existing gaps in public health disease surveillance and planning efforts evident. The Rock County Public Health Department remains committed to assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the population of Rock County, including assessing the risk to the public from variants of the virus, conducting contact tracing, working with private and public organizations to develop and implement strategies to prevent the spread of illness, and coordinate the delivery of vaccines to specific geographic areas of Rock County. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has not yet run its course, we begin to look towards pandemic recovery. COVID-19 pandemic recovery will be focused on mobilizing communities and partnerships to address social determinants of health and would benefit from a highly effective local public health department.

In September 2020, the revised 10 Essential Public Health Services were released. The revision to the 10 Essential Public Health Services framework was the first in 25 years and the revised framework has incorporated updated expectations for public health departments. Of note, the new 10 Essential Public Health Services centers equity and emphasizes the role of public health in assessing and monitoring population health, investigating and diagnosing health hazards, creating and championing the implementation of policies, plans and laws, and innovating through evaluation and quality improvement. To effectively address health inequities that have been exacerbated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we need an approach that incorporates data and information into the development of policies and plans.

The Public Health Planner position would work to ensure that COVID-19 response activities are aligned with anticipated outcomes of response efforts. The position would ensure that public health emergency response plans are updated to reflect lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic and would coordinate the development of a Workforce Development Plan that incorporates ongoing expectations for staff training/development in public health emergency response. As part of COVID-19 recovery, the Rock County Public Health Department will not just be working with community partners to address the health concerns and inequities that have been exacerbated as a result of the pandemic, but the health department will also be working to rebuild and strengthen public health programs that were paused during the pandemic response. This effort to rebuild and strengthen the health department would be supported by the Public Health Planner and would help to ensure that the health department is prepared for future public health emergencies.

The Public Health Policy Specialist would work to ensure that policy actions taken by the health department during the remainder of the COVID-19 pandemic are data informed and are developed in a manner that is consistent with public health ethics and centering health equity. Effective recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic will require actions to address social determinants of health and working to address system level challenges. While working at this level allows for more impactful solutions to public health challenges to be identified, it requires that local health departments have access to the expertise needed to assess policy options against desired health outcomes and to conduct Health Impact Assessments on specific policies being considered. The Public Health Policy Specialist would provide this expertise to the Rock County Public Health Department team and would support community-wide efforts to improve health outcomes.

The Public Health Data Scientist would apply predictive analytics, machine learning, informatics, and network analysis to strengthen public health programs and continually assess emerging threats to the public's health. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the expertise of the Public Health Data Scientist would be utilized to assess the risk of emerging variants, to anticipate the spread of illness (should a variant emerge that the vaccine does not provide protection against), and to project vaccine uptake. The Rock County Public Health Department's Epidemiologist has been instrumental in the health department's ability to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. While epidemiological capacity continues to be needed to investigate root causes of public health issues and maintain our disease surveillance system, having a Public Health Data Scientist would allow for the health department to take into consideration future conditions when designing and implementing public health interventions.

We intend to utilize funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to fund salary and benefits for a full time Public Health Planner, a Public Health Policy Specialist, and a Public Health Data Scientist at a cost of \$66,860 for the remainder of 2021. Because these positions are also needed for basic public health infrastructure, we are proposing that they be added to our Rock County Public Health Department staff for future years. The Public Health Planner position, the Public Health Policy Specialist position, and the Public Health Data Scientist position will be placed in Range 22 of the Unilateral Pay Grid.

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGENDA NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Board of Health  
INITIATED BY



Katrina Harwood  
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health  
SUBMITTED BY

6/30/2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**CREATE THE POSITION OF A HEALTH EDUCATOR (HEALTH EQUITY ALLIANCE OF ROCK COUNTY COORDINATOR)**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors Declared Racism a Public Health Crisis on June 25,
- 2 2020; and,
- 3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors resolved to advocate for policies that improve health in
- 5 communities of color, eliminate health and opportunity gaps along racial lines, and increase the success of all
- 6 groups by distributing resources justly across all communities; and,
- 7
- 8 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors resolved to support local, state, and federal initiatives
- 9 that advance social justice; and,
- 10
- 11 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors resolved to build alliances and partnerships with other
- 12 organizations that are confronting racism and commit to engaging municipalities and institutions within the
- 13 county to prioritize racial equity and to address structural racism producing disparate population health
- 14 outcomes; and,
- 15
- 16 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department is committed to carrying out the activities outlined
- 17 in resolution number 20-6B-037 through the department’s role in coordinating the Health Equity Alliance of
- 18 Rock County (HEAR); and,
- 19
- 20 **WHEREAS**, HEAR is a multi-sector partnership dedicated to eliminating health inequities through the
- 21 Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Process; and,
- 22
- 23 **WHEREAS**, organizations, including health systems, non-profits, and local government utilize the CHA to
- 24 inform their initiatives and to bring resources to Rock County, through grant applications; and,
- 25
- 26 **WHEREAS**, community engagement, collaboration, and relationship building are key components of the
- 27 HEAR Coordinator’s role; and,
- 28
- 29 **WHEREAS**, the current position within the Rock County Public Health Department, responsible for
- 30 coordinating the work of HEAR is a project funded position; and,
- 31
- 32 **WHEREAS**, creating a permanent position of a Health Educator (HEAR Coordinator) would ensure
- 33 consistent and sustainable coordination of HEAR; and,
- 34
- 35 **WHEREAS**, the creation of a permanent position for this work would help to ensure that the commitment of
- 36 the Rock County Board of Supervisors to address racism and the disparate health outcomes that result from
- 37 racism is carried out through specific and targeted initiatives; and,
- 38
- 39 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department requests that a 1.0 FTE Health Educator (Health
- 40 Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator), position be created; and,
- 41
- 42 **WHEREAS**, there are no budget implications for 2021; and,
- 43
- 44 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this
- 45 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 moves to create the position of a 1.0 FTE Health Educator (Health
- 46 Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator).
- 47
- 48 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that there are no budget implications for the current budget year.
- 49

Respectfully submitted,

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Louis Peer, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
VACANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Shirley Williams

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Eric Gresens, R.PH

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Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

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Supervisor Danette Rynes

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Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Kolste

**COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE**

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Kevin Leavy

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Bob Yeomans

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lou Peer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Beaver

To create the position of a Health Educator (Health Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator)  
Page 3

FISCAL NOTE:

This position will be funded by a grant in 2021. A funding will need to be determined for the 2022 budget.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to § 59.22(2), Wis. Stats

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

## **Executive Summary**

The Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR) is a multi-sector partnership that is coordinated by the Rock County Public Health Department. HEAR works to identify, implement, and evaluate county-wide initiatives that address inequities and the health disparities that result from the inequitable distribution of resources. Currently, the position within the health department that is allocated to the coordination of HEAR is a project, grant funded position. Changing the position to a permanent position within the health department would ensure that there is consistency and sustainability in the coordination of HEAR. As noted in the recently revised 10 Essential Public Health Services, an essential service of local public health departments is to strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health with a focus on equity.

We intend to utilize funds from existing grant funding to fund salary and benefits for a full time Health Educator (Health Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator) for 2021. To ensure that the work of addressing health inequities through multi-sector partnerships continues, we are proposing that the position be added to our Rock County Public Health Department staff for future years. The position will be placed in Range 19 of the Unilateral Pay Grid.