



MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

February 03, 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, Mr. Gresens, Ms. Kolste, Supervisor Williams, Supervisor Wilde and Dr. Somaraju.

Board of Health Members Absent: None at this time.

Staff Members Present: Michelle Bailey – Assistant Director/Interim Health Officer; Rick Wietersen – Environmental Health Director; Matt Wesson – Environmental Health Supervisor; Kelsey Cordova – Public Health Supervisor; Alison Chouinard – Community Health Education Coordinator; Nick Zupan – Epidemiologist; Lori Soderberg – Public Health Supervisor; Jessica Turner – Communications Specialist; Seth Loncar – Administrative Services Supervisor; Falcia Martinez – Public Health Nurse; and Melissa DeWitt – Public Health Support Specialist.

Others Present: Terri Carlson – Corporation Counsel, Risk Manager; Faleasha Gallagher – MPH Candidate at the University of Wisconsin.

Adopt Agenda

Dr. Meyers made a motion to adopt the agenda. Supervisor Williams seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes – 1/6/2021

Supervisor Rynes made a motion to approve the minutes of the 1/6/2021 Board of Health meetings. Ms. Kolste 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, Dr. Meyers, Supervisor Williams and Supervisor Wilde were present. Dr. Somaraju joined after roll call. 8 PRESENT. 1 ABSENT.

Citizen Participation

None at this time.

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 January payments in the amount of \$1,576.31.

Health Department Report

In the News

Ms. Bailey reported on one case of human infection of the novel Influenza A (H3N2 variant) virus in Wisconsin. Other strains of the flu are very low so far. She also commented on remaining patient and vigilant on continuing to control the spread of COVID-19.

Ms. Kolste asked how many people had been vaccinated against the flu this year. Mr. Zupan and Ms. Chouinard responded accordingly.

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

Ms. Martinez reported on the COVID-19 testing site at Blackhawk Technical College. She reported some logistical changes that have currently happened, along with changes due to harsh, inclement weather. In addition, new hours have been released and children as young as 12 months can now be tested.

Mr. Wesson commented on recent COVID-19 facility complaints, which are still coming in each week.

Mr. Loncar gave updates on the newly created vaccine request form and vaccine hotline.

Ms. Chouinard reported on what is happening at the local level regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. She reported on the vaccine shortage among the entire state of Wisconsin.

Ms. Cordova reported on the POD (Point of Dispensing) clinic that was held at Blackhawk Technical College. Over the course of the four days of the clinic, a total of 944 doses were given. She gave her sentiments on everyone's efforts and hard work to make the clinic happen in such a short amount of time.

Mr. Wietersen announced the collaboration of the Rock County Public Health Department with a national vaccine vendor to begin administering vaccines. This is in the very early stages, more news to come at a later date.

Ms. Chouinard reported on the Rock County Vaccine Advisory Committee.

Ms. Turner gave updates regarding communications.

Surveillance

Nothing to report.



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Community Events/Outreach

Budget

Ms. Bailey reported on receiving an Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity Grant from DPH in the amount of \$793,500.00.

Personnel

Ms. Chouinard reported the addition of Michael Miles as the newest Health Educator for the Rock County Public Health Department. He will begin on March 8th.

Ms. Cordova announced the onboarding of three contact tracers, which brings our total to 14 nearly full-time positions. Also mentioned was the recruitment of LTE Support Staff. She also reported on the Health Officer position and is hoping to have a more concrete announcement soon. Mr. Wesson announced the resignation of Josh Shere, Environmental Health Specialist.

Ms. Soderberg reported on the addition of Edgewood Nursing students and one student from Beloit College, who will both be helping with various projects at the Rock County Public Health Department.

CHIP Evaluation Presentation

Faleasha Gallagher, Masters of Public Health Student at the University of Wisconsin, presented the CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan) Evaluation.

Communications and Announcements

Supervisor Peer read a letter addressed from Josh Smith, County Administrator, regarding the interview process for the new Health Officer position.

Adjournment

Dr. Winter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Somaraju seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa DeWitt, Recorder

Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health