



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

**June 3, 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 Williams, Supervisor Wilde, Dr. Meyers, Dr. Winter, Mr. Gresens, and Ms. Kolste.

Board of Health Members Absent: Dr. Somaraju.

Staff Members Present: Marie-Noel Sandoval – Health Officer; Michelle Bailey – Assistant Director; Rick Wietersen – Environmental Health Director; Matt Wesson – Environmental Health Supervisor; Kelsey Cordova – Community Health Education Coordinator; Alison Chouinard – Health Educator and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator; Jessica Turner – Administrative Services Supervisor; Randy Terronez – Assistant to County Administrator; Marilyn Bondehagen – Office Coordinator for County Administrator; and Terri Carlson – Risk Manager.

Others Present: Supervisor Purviance

### **Adopt Agenda**

Dr. Winter made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Gresens seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

### **Approval of Minutes – 5/6/2020**

Supervisor Rynes made a motion to approve the minutes of the 5/6/2020 Board of Health meeting. Supervisor Wilde seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

### **Citizen Participation**

None at this time.

### **New Business**

#### **Administrative Division**

#### **Election of Vice Chair**

Supervisor Rynes made a motion to nominate Dr. Winter for vice chair. Ms. Kolste seconded the motion. No other nominations. MOTION APPROVED.

#### **Set Meeting Day and Time**

Supervisor Williams made a motion to keep the meeting on the first Wednesday at 6:00 pm. Supervisor Rynes seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Dr. Winter asked for an introduction of new Board members. Supervisor Wilde and Supervisor Williams introduced themselves.

### **Review of Payments**

The Board reviewed the Health Department's May payments in the amount of \$190.59.

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

None at this time.

### **Health Department Report**

#### **In the News**

Ms. Sandoval extended a welcome to new board members. She gave a recap of COVID-19-related events since the last meeting. The Wisconsin Stay at Home order was overturned on May 13<sup>th</sup> and Rock County promptly implemented a Stay at Home order to buy time for additional planning. That order terminated on May 24<sup>th</sup> and replaced with metrics and guidance to meet to move forward. According to Ms. Sandoval, Rock County is now in a harm reduction phase. Ms. Sandoval provided the Board with the current COVID-19 statistics.

Mr. Wietersen reported that the Environmental Health Specialists have stepped up to help the nurses with contact tracing. He also told the Board that he has been meeting weekly with school superintendents to provide guidance for the summer and the upcoming school year.

Ms. Bailey told the Board that Rock County is utilizing the State contact tracing staff as well as the Rock County Public Health Department nurses, environmental, and support staff, redeployed County staff members, and nurses from the community to conduct contact tracing. She reported that there have been challenges with the State's software. She said it is not user friendly and is more labor intensive than it needs to be. She has been providing constructive feedback to the State in an effort to improve the system. Ms. Bailey said that more contact tracers are needed to keep up with the amount of testing, so a contact tracing position has been posted and interviews will take place next week. Ms. Bailey also added that an offer has been made for the Public Health Supervisor position.

Ms. Sandoval added that the Public Health Department Staff still has normal duties in addition to the current COVID-19 response.

#### **Surveillance**

Nothing to report.

#### **Community Events/Outreach**

Nothing to report.

#### **Budget**

Ms. Sandoval reported that the 2021 budget process will still take place on schedule with regular deadlines. According to Ms. Sandoval, this year’s process will be more challenging for Public Health because it is usually based on the current year’s spending. Ms. Sandoval stated that she plans to base it on last year’s budget. Ms. Sandoval also announced that there are three COVID-19 funding opportunities from the State. She will be evaluating the parameters and commitments.

Personnel

Ms. Bailey reported on personnel above.

**Resolution: Accepting Public Health Emergency Preparedness Funds and Amending the 2020 Rock County Public Health Department Budget**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 does hereby authorize the Rock County Public Health Department to accept these additional grant funds in the amount of \$9,250, and amend the 2020 Rock County Public Health Department Budget as follows:

<u>Account/Description</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>1/1/20</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended</u> <u>Budget</u>
<u>Source of Funds</u>			
31-3026-0000 -42100 Federal Aid	\$95,007	\$9,250	\$104,257
<u>Use of Funds</u>			
31-3026-0000 -64200 Training	\$ - 0 -	\$9,250	\$ 9,250

Ms. Kolste made a motion to accept the resolution. Supervisor Wilde seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Ms. Sandoval briefly explained that the funding is Emergency Preparedness scholarships to attend conferences. Some conferences were scheduled for the spring so there will be an extension for the use of funds.

**Rock County Reopening Phased Plan**

Ms. Sandoval asked for questions about the Rock County Reopening phased plan. Supervisor Rynes asked if it is within the power of the Board or Public Health to mandate face masks for essential businesses. Ms. Sandoval said she would pose that question to Corporation Counsel. She added that individual business owners can mandate this within their businesses.

Ms. Kolste asked if the rate of cases in Rock County is comparable to the state rate. Ms. Sandoval explained that there are a lot more tests being conducted. She said that Rock County is not seeing as many positives percentage-wise. Ms. Kolste asked if there is on-demand testing in Rock County. Ms. Sandoval responded that there is mass testing being done. She added that providers are prioritizing the symptomatic patients because there are still issues with supply shortages. Ms. Bailey added that there is an advisory team of Health Officers to give advice to the Department of Public Health regarding ongoing mass testing in communities. She said there is a shortage of test collection and reagent supplies. She said the State is encouraging communities to prioritize testing based on need and areas of concern.

Supervisor Wilde asked Ms. Bailey to talk more about the slow system for contact tracing. Ms. Bailey explained in more detail the state surveillance database and its drawbacks.

Supervisor Wilde asked about tests for asymptomatic people. Ms. Bailey responded that at some points we have enough tests for asymptomatic people, but providers are struggling to get enough supplies. She said that the State lab has supplies available but only to test certain criteria. She also told the Board that asymptomatic people may be targeted for testing in certain circumstances like long term care facilities.

Supervisor Wilde also asked if contact tracing is done in person or over the phone. Ms. Sandoval replied that this is conducted over the phone.

The Board also discussed some misconceptions surrounding testing and some of the causes for hesitation to get tested.

### **Communications and Announcements**

Chair Peer announced that Information Technology is conducting an orientation for County Supervisors tomorrow at 6:00.

Dr. Winter offered to answer any questions that the new board members may have. Ms. Sandoval said she plans on conducting a new member orientation in the near future that will include an overview of public health and duties of the Board. Chair Peer requested a presentation about the roles and power of the Board of Health.

Supervisor Williams asked if there are any non-COVID-19 concerns in Rock County that are not being focused on, but might be spiking, because of the coronavirus pandemic. Ms. Sandoval stated that other communicable diseases are still being reported and followed up on. Supervisor Williams asked specifically about STI/STD rates in senior and teen populations. She wanted to know if that has changed since people have been staying at home. Ms. Bailey responded that less people are accessing healthcare because of COVID-19 concerns. She is expecting numbers to increase again once people start to see providers again.

### **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Turner, Recorder  
Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health