

Eau Claire City-County Board of Health

Resolution 16-08

Supporting the adoption of the Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health

WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine defines public health as “what we, as a society, do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy”, and;

WHEREAS, the *Eau-Claire City-County Health Department* has as its mission “Keeping people in all Eau Claire City/County communities safe and healthy”, and;

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department staff make decisions and determine operational policy to protect and promote the community’s health, and;

WHEREAS, ethical considerations in public health include producing benefits; avoiding, preventing, and removing harms; producing the maximal balance of benefits over harms and other costs (utility); distributing benefits and burdens fairly; respecting autonomous choices and actions including liberty of action; protecting privacy and confidentiality; keeping promises and commitments; disclosing information as well as speaking honestly and truthfully; and building and maintaining trust, and;

WHEREAS, the “Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health” is a set of 12 principles developed by the Public Health Leadership Society to provide a frame for the public health practitioners to utilize in making ethical decisions and determining ethical policies, and;

WHEREAS, the Public Health Accreditation Board recommends that a “Public Health Code of Ethics” be adopted by health departments to help ensure ethical issues are identified and ethical decisions made in a consistent and transparent way, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the *Board of Health* approves and adopts the Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health as a framework for public health decision making.

Approved by the Board of Health this 14th day of December, 2016.

EAU CLAIRE CITY-COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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