



April 28, 2021 Board of Health Meeting

Meeting held via WebEx Events

The Board of Health convened in open session at 5:19 pm

The meeting was called to order by Mery Price

**Board Members Present
(Quorum is reached)**

Jennifer Eddy
Mery Price
Terry Miskulin
True Vue
Emily Berge (left at 6:45 pm)
Don Bodeau (arrive 5:25 pm)
Mark Kaeding (arrive 5:33pm)

**Board Members
Absent:**

Martha Nieman

**Staff Members
Present:**

Lieske Giese
Janice Vinopal
Marissa Stanley
Gina Holt (recorder)

Additional Staff Members:

Peggy O'Halloran
Elizabeth Hagen
Jeff Robb

Introductions of Health Department Staff Members

Peggy O'Halloran, Division Manager -Community Health Promotion
Elizabeth Hagen, Project Evaluator - Community Health Promotion Division

Order of Agenda Request to pull items from Consent Agenda

- None requested.

Public Comment:

- None made.

Covid Update

- We know that close contacts is where we see disease spread and so being able to conduct those interviews is pivotal, and it has been increasing difficult to get cooperation with disease investigation.
- The goal is to have an 80% vaccination rate. With vaccination rates declining over the last few weeks, we are realizing what a challenge this will be.
- Previa's vaccination clinic at Jacobs Well is no longer giving first doses, and only doing second vaccines.
- Some entities are utilizing a clinic based approach as opposed to large vaccination clinics.
- The Health Department is doing a lot of mobile vaccination clinics at different businesses, churches, etc.
- There continues to be a lot of community partnership for outreach.

COVID Update Question and Answer with Board of Health

Q: When is Johnson and Johnson be available? A: Beginning next week there will be Johnson and Johnson available at Zorn Arena

Q: What type of rural outreach is happening? A: Tammy Raeder and several others from Augusta have been working on outreach and providing vaccine to those that want it. There has been lower rate of vaccination in rural areas so being able to reach the rural population is critical.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of minutes from March 24, 2021 meeting
- b. Approval of Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) funding

c. Approval of Stipends

Motion to approve Consent Agenda: Don Bodeau

2nd Motion: Jennifer Eddy

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Business Item

a. Review and receive COVID-19 Public Health Expectations-

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=32605>

- Simple and basic public health expectations are laid out to keep spread slow.
- There is a process in place for entities that are planning events.
- The intention is to review expectations and data and update monthly. The goal is moving from 50% capacity to being fully opened by July 1st.

Motion to review and receive COVID-19 Public Health Expectations as presented by Health Department staff: Mark Kaeding

2nd Motion: Emily Berge

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

b. Review and Receive Quarterly Financial Update

- Updates to the 2020 budget were not in yet as they are working through the audit.
- Significant funding for 2021 carry forward and will be coming in once budget adjustments are made.
- The second quarterly report will include all the budget updates.

Motion Review and Receive Quarterly Financial Update as presented by Health Department Staff: Emily Berge

2nd Motion: Terry Miskulin

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

c. Approval of Eau Claire Vaccination Outreach Funding

- There are two grants from the same funding source, and we received notification of award from both.
- This grant provides funding for initiatives centered around conversations with community partners in the Vulnerable Population group including Hmong and Latinx.
- Outreach and education will be provided to address vaccine hesitancy and accessibility and reduce barriers to underserved populations.

Motion to approve Eau Claire Vaccination Outreach Funding as presented by Health Department Staff: Don Bodeau

2nd Motion: Emily Berge

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

d. Approval of Western Region vaccination Outreach Funding

- The goal of the regional grant is to engage community-based organizations to help removed barriers and to promote the acceptance of COVID-19 vaccination. This effort is focused on Amish, Hispanic/Latinx, Native American, agricultural, rural and asset limited populations.
- The health department will be the fiscal agent for this grant.

Motion to approve Western Region Vaccination Outreach Funding as presented by Health Department Staff: Mark Kaeding

2nd Motion: Emily Berge

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

e. Approval of Breast-Feeding Campaign funding

- This is new funding for the WIC program.
- Two projects were chosen to pilot and will help women communicate with one another, get questions answered, and provide support to other women with similar experiences.

Motion to approve Breast-Feeding Campaign funding as presented by Health Department Staff: Emily Berge

2nd Motion: Don Bodeau

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

f. Approval of Strategic Plan Extension

- The ask is for a one-year extension on the current 5-year strategic plan that is ending December 2021, so that we can spend the time needed to work on an updated strategic plan.
- Because of the importance of the strategic plan work and the effort to develop a new plan there is value in considering a continuation.

Motion to approve Strategic Plan Extension for one year: Don Bodeau

2nd Motion: Mark Kaeding

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

g. Approval of a Board of Health member to participate on the Ground Water Advisory Committee

- Don Bodeau and Mark Kaeding are willing to participate on the committee.
- After a discussion it was decided that Mark Kaeding will serve on the committee.

Motion to approve Mark Kaeding as the Board of Health representative on the Eau Claire County Groundwater Advisory Committee. Jennifer Eddy

2nd Motion: Terry Miskulin

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

h. Approval of 2021-2022 License Renewal Fee Deviation due to Public Health Emergency

- We think that this is the right thing to acknowledge the impact of COVID-19 on license holders in 2021.
- We have not explored being able to recover the loss revenue from the fees via American Recovery Act. It is something that could be discussed with the City and County.
- In 2020, when fees were reduced, people appreciated that there was some level of acknowledgment that they were impacted, and that they were receiving a reduction of the services that the Health Department typically provided.

Motion to approve 2021-2022 License Renewal Fee Deviation due to Public Health Emergency as presented by Health Department Staff. Emily Berge

2nd Motion: True Vue

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Other policy and informational items from staff for the Board

- a. Director/Health Officer Report
 - New employee staffing discussion. COVID-19 has changed the training process. We continue to recruit for open positions and have not been having receiving large amounts of applicants.
- b. Correspondence/Media
 - No discussion
- c. Service Recognition/Retirement
 - Paulette Magur, Communicable Disease Division Manager-32 years
- d. Preliminary 2020 Year End Financial report-close out 2020 budget
 - We are in the process of the audit and adjustments continue to be made so there will be changes in that number and our overall financials.
- e. 2020 Annual Report
 - Board members will receive a hardcopy of the summary.
- f. Strategic Plan Update
 - Health Department staff will continue to update the board.
- g. EC Healthy Communities Update
 - Some action teams have continued web-based meetings and other teams have continued to cancel meetings. All actions teams are working on posts for social media.
- h. Quality Improvement Plan update
 - The team has not been meeting during COVID-19, but the goal is to resume and hold a refresh of QI with all staff in the next year.
 - A recent QI project that is being worked on is how we track, and record data related to possible COVID-19 reinfection.
- i. County Health Rankings –[http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/Eau Claire County, Wisconsin | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/Eau_Claire_County,_Wisconsin_|_County_Health_Rankings_&_Roadmaps)
 - We use this data when out in the community.
 - This data is gathered at a county level amongst the nation.
 - Eau Claire County has made some improvements in this relative ranking.

Board member informational items

- a. Communicable Disease taskforce update
 - Update on taskforce and discussion on when the listening session will be taking place.
- b. Board evaluation – discussion to determine questions for board self-evaluation.
 - Discussion on possible questions for the evaluation.
 - Board members express that using NALBOH as a guide is a good idea, but including specific questions related to our board is also helpful.
 - Mery Price will take feedback from board members and work on an updated evaluation to be shared at the next meeting.
- c. Public Health Policy/Advocacy-
 - Biannual budget update – there have been a few in person finance hearings. We will be submitting written testimony as a department. The reason that there are financial asks is to highlight that prevention is drastically underfunded in Wisconsin compared to other states.

- WI legislative update – WALHDAB/WPHA Public Affairs committee
 - Federal American Recovery Act local funding -We are working with the City and County on what may happen with those funds locally.
- d. WPHA/WALHDAB annual conference -board members are encouraged to attend.
<https://www.wpha.org/page/2021AnnualPublicHealthVirtualConference>

Requests from Board members for future agenda items to be given consideration.

- a. None

Next scheduled BOH meeting is May 26, 2021 at 5:15 p.m.

Merrey Price adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.