

**August 25, 2021, Board of Health Meeting
Remote Meeting**

The Board of Health convened in open session at 5:16 pm
The meeting was called to order by Mery Price

**Board Members Present
Quorum is reached**

Mery Price
Martha Nieman
Terry Miskulin
Mark Kaeding
Jennifer Eddy
Emily Berge
True Vue

**Board Members
Absent:**

Don Bodeau

Staff Members Present:

Lieske Giese
Matt Steinbach
Jeff Rob
Janice Vinopal
Hannah Arntz
Gina Holt (recorder)

Order of Agenda Request to pull items from Consent Agenda

- None made

Public Comment:

- None made

Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of minutes from July 28, 2021, meeting
- b. Approval of various stipends

Motion to approve Consent Agenda: Mark Kaeding

2nd Motion: Martha Nieman

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Business Item

- a. Approval of 2022 Health Department Fees
 - i. Resolutions 21-01, 21-02, 21-03, 21-04, and 21-05 Agent of the State Programs.
 - A reminder that, primarily due to COVID-19, state program fees were discounted after 2021 fees were approved.
 - Food licenses fees have changed. DATCP 75 is having an impact on our work in our food safety programs and it also effects our fee structure.
 - The new required DATCP tool for risk assessment would cause some restaurants to change categories which would also mean for approximately 90 facilities their fees would change drastically. Our team all felt strongly that we needed to mitigate fee increases so we put a ceiling on the fee increase if an establishment were to go up in the risk assessment category. The team brainstormed different options so that we didn't lose any funding in our restaurant programs, as well as to try and mitigate the impact to the license holder. All restaurants received a letter on the new process.
 - The rest of the agent of the state program areas are all showing no fee increases.

- Board of Health Question/Answer:
 - Q: Did the risk assessment changes come from the state? A: Yes, this is a tool that DATCP has made a change to, and this results in recategorizing some facilities.
 - Q: Was there thought as to if this was supporting local business? A: Yes, we have maintained the complexity simple, moderate, and complex categories from the State.
 - Q: When people offer fresh fruits and vegetables it increases risk, is that still considered higher complexity? A: The new risk assessment is looking at a variety of things individually such as seating capacity or if there is a drive through. If things must be kept at a certain temperature, like produce, it can cause an increased risk so serving fresh fruits and vegetables can increase complexity.
 - Q: How do VRBO's and Airbnb's come into play with bed and breakfast fees? A: These types of facilities would fall under rooming house. We aren't currently searching to see what places are listed on websites, it is primarily on a complaint basis. If we have received a complaint we follow up.

Motion to approve Resolution 21--01 Adopting fees for Retail Food Establishments and Mobile Food Processing Facilities, Resolution 21-02 adopting fees for Swimming Pools and Recreational Facilities, Resolution 21-03 adopting fees for Bed & Breakfast Establishments, Motels-Hotels, and Tourist Rooming Houses, Resolution 21-04 adopting fees for Body Art Facilities, and Resolution 21--05 Adopting fees for Manufactured Home Communities as presented by Health Department Staff: True Vue

2nd Motion: Jennifer Eddy

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Ayes: Jennifer Eddy, Mark Kaeding, True Vue, Emily Berge, Martha Nieman, Terry Miskulin,

- ii. Approve remainder of 2022 Health Department Fees
 - Agent and department fees have been directly affected by COVID-19.
 - The reproductive health fees have had a change in the fee process. The State will also be approving fees in the fall, so if there are any challenges to those fees by the State there is a chance that some fees would have to come back to the Board for approval.
 - Environmental health fees are related to the resolutions that have been presented. Many state program fees are staying flat.
 - The fee spreadsheet was summarized and explanation of how the fees are laid out was discussed.
- Board of Health Question/Answer:
 - Q: Regarding bee keeping timing, is there any wiggle room or flexibility around when the fee is so that the beekeepers know if they have viable hives? A: This question was brought to the City around three years ago and it moved to a calendar year. The only way to change the timing would be to revise the City Ordinance.
 - Q: Chicken fees, has there been any concern regarding inspections? A: There have been a few barriers identified, such as zoning district. We have also heard the fee can be a challenge for some people. The pre-inspection fee is when a new licensee wants to get a poultry license and there is a significant amount of work that is done. Our involvement is really the health side, and it does take time and effort to make sure that things are done in a way to decrease communicable disease risk. It is a small percent of cost coverage with fees in these areas. (Bee keeping and Poultry fees)

- Q: Is there a limit to the number of chickens/ or hives they can have? A: Yes, for bees it is based on the size of the lot. For poultry it is 5 per parcel (hens)
- Q: What happens if a neighbor objects? A: There is criteria where if a certain number of neighbors object the license is denied. For bees it is the same unless a neighbor has a bee allergy objects.

Motion to approve 2022 Health Department fees as presented by Health Department

Staff: Martha Nieman

2nd Motion: Terry Miskulin

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Ayes: Jennifer Eddy, Mark Kaeding, True Vue, Emily Berge, Martha Nieman, Terry Miskulin

- b. Review and approve 2020 Year End Financial Report
 - The full document is available via the link in the factsheet.

Motion to approve 2020 Year End Financial Report: Mark Kaeding

2nd Motion: Martha Nieman

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Other policy and informational items from staff for the Board

- a. COVID-19 Update
 - The situation reports as well as the link to the website is where the most up to date COVID-19 information can be found.
 - Our case count is now at 12,475, we have had a large increase in cases. The last couple of days has seen a significant uptick in cases. We had been averaging about 30 cases a day. For perspective on this day a year ago, we had 9 cases a day on average.
 - We have also seen an increase in hospitalizations. Some area hospitals are having challenges with beds due to COVID-19 as well as staffing issues.
 - We are at 52% vaccination rate. Our lowest age range for vaccination is 18-24 years old.
 - The approval of the third dose for immunocompromised was recently recommended.
 - FDA moved forward with fully approving Pfizer. Full FDA approval has been beneficial for messaging and planning.
 - An 8-month booster is anticipated to be recommended for m-RNA vaccines.
 - The State is offering a \$100 gift card for those who receive their first dose prior to Labor Day.
 - Some of the recent policy changes do effect capacity for our disease investigation team. We need more team members to make sure that we are doing what is required for case follow up. We are using two staffing agencies to help with disease investigation hires.
 - We are currently following up with COVID-19 cases, but do not have capacity to follow up with close contacts.
 - We are also prepping for increase vaccination clinic capacity for now and for boosters.
 - We continue to meet regularly with schools K-12 and higher education.
 - There is also a lot of time spent working with businesses, especially during outbreaks.
 - It has been a very difficult last few months for the Health Department team, we were hoping not to be in this stage.
- Board of Health Question/Answer

- Q: Is there a plan on booster roll out? A: Yes, we are working with pharmacies and clinics, to begin the planning process. We are waiting to receive feedback from the State. It is a very rapidly moving conversation. Our current focus is primarily on HD vaccination clinic, pop up vaccination sites, as well as working with those who have barriers.
 - Q: When do they get the gift card offered by the State? A: They can apply for the gift card online after the 1st dose. We understand it takes several weeks to receive the card.
- b. 2022 Budget Update
- We received confirmation on administrator recommended tax levy funding. The total tax levy amount according to our understanding will be \$3, 323,996.00 which is an increase of around \$29,000 thousand dollars from what we anticipated at the July meeting.
 - Last week we were notified that we will be receiving some additional funding contracts from the State. These will be brought to the Board as they become finalized.
- c. Director/Health Officer Report
- Health Department Updates – June and July 2021
 - Correspondence/Media June and July 2021
 - Service Recognition: Staff members are recognized for their incredible service to the Health Department
 - Tammy Raeder, Public Health Nurse-30-year Joan Klimek, Program Specialist-35 years, Lexi Tuma, Public Health Nutritionist-15 years Peggy O’Halloran, Public Health Specialist-5 years, Brenda Scheurer, Public Health Specialist-5 years, Jennifer Hanson, Environmental Health Specialist-5years
 - Correspondence/Media
- d. Performance Management Update
- We have developed and measure outputs and outcomes for services that the department provides. This report has a lot of gaps, and the management team is working through that. We will continue to look at measures and reevaluate. There are some things that the department was not able to do because of COVID-19.
- e. Eau Claire Healthy Communities Quarterly Update
- The Community Health Improvement Plan is being worked on with the continued support of the action team.
- f. Strategic Plan Update
- We have gained a lot of data experience with CLOVID-19.
 - We have several staff members now who have epidemiology expertise. This has been incredibly helpful. Other staff members have been tremendously effective in data collection skills and experience.

Board member informational items

- a. Quarterly review of BOH priorities tracking -Board of health president reviewed.
- Under priority number 2: our next step should be focusing on how we tie what is in the Health Department in the strategic plan around some of this kind of work to help move it along.
 - Under priority number 3: Meroy will talk to Lieske to see if it would be possible to do a review in September or October. If there is something that we can do, we will look at putting that on an agenda.
 - Information regarding Board of Health and community contacts is also a subject that could be looked at. A future discussion on what type of documentation would be helpful may be a good idea.

- b. BOH Advocacy Training
 - o Continue to look at what baseline information coverage that we could get in the form webinars for things like advocacy vs lobbying and what to be careful of. Effective communication in advocating and how to best go about doing so.
- c. Public Health Policy/Advocacy
 - WPHA/WALHDAB legislative grid
 - NAACHO statement regarding war on drugs-with both the City and County passing marijuana ordinances we should give thought and time to devote on who and how is going to be measuring if those ordinances are effective or not.
(Follow up item from the July BOH meeting)

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

- a. None made

Next scheduled BOH meeting is September 22, 2021, at 5:15 p.m.

Merrey Price adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.