

**January 26, 2022, Board of Health Meeting  
Virtual Meeting Via WebEX**

The Board of Health convened in open session at 5:15 pm  
The meeting was called to order by Mery Price

**Board Members Present  
Quorum is reached**

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

**Staff Members Present:**

Lieske Giese  
Marisa Stanley  
Peggy O-Hallorun  
Matt Steinbach  
Hannah Artz  
Gina Holt (recorder)

**Order of Agenda Request to pull items from Consent Agenda**

- None made

**Public Comment:**

- None made

**Consent Agenda**

- Approval of minutes from December 08, 2021, meeting
- Approval of NARCAN Direct Grant
- Approve Grant/Contract related budget adjustments
- Approve Stipends

***Motion to approve Consent Agenda:*** Terry Miskulin

***2nd Motion:*** Don Bodeau

***Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)***

**Business Item**

- Approve Quarterly Financial Review
  - This is not an end of the year report.
  - Personnel expenses will be adjusted because the pay period was part 2021 and part 2022.

***Motion to approve Quarterly Financial Review as presented by Health Department staff:***

Jennifer Eddy

***2nd Motion:*** Don Bodeau

***Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)***

- Approve 2022 State Division of Public Health Contracts

- This is a way to separate out intergovernmental grants that get approved in the budget process and to show what we are doing within those grants.
- WIC is funded based on and calculated utilizing a formula calculated by the State. We continue to work to provide the same service, and monitor funding. There can be more funding changes throughout the year.
- The Lead poisoning follow up level has been changed, it hasn't changed our contract yet, but we are following lower blood levels using the updated level.

***Motion to approve 2022 State Division of Public Health Contracts as presented by Health***

***Department staff:*** Terry Miskulin

***2nd Motion:*** Don Bodeau

***Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)***

- c. Approve 2022 Health Department Director Performance Objectives
- Discussed the impact that the pandemic has had on partnerships or community engagement and how the objectives allow a place to address those items.
  - There are some core things that need to happen this year. (Strategic Plan, Community Health Improvement Plan, and working through re-accreditation)

***Motion to approve 2022 Health Department Director Performance Objectives as presented by***

***Health Department staff:*** Mark Kaeding

***2nd Motion:*** True Vue

***Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)***

- d. Approve Group Health Vaccination Outreach funding
- This is a bit of a different partnership than we have done in the past.
  - ECCCHD will use this funding to partner community agencies to provide outreach and education to address vaccine hesitancy and accessibility, reduce barriers to securing of vaccinations and transportation to a vaccination appointment, and partner to plan, promote, and host clinics in trusted locations specific to underserved populations
  - There will be separate agreements with agencies throughout the community in conjunction with our Health Equity Committee.

***Motion to approve Group Health Vaccination Outreach funding as presented by Health***

***Department staff:*** Martha Nieman

***2nd Motion:*** Don Bodeau

***Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)***

- e. Approve Farmers Market grant
- The focus is to promote our Health Department, WIC location Farmer's Market.

***Motion to approve Farmers Market grant as presented by Health Department staff:*** Martha

Nieman

***2nd Motion:*** Terry Miskulin

***Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)***

- f. Approve the County Poultry License fee
- This is a new fee proposal.
  - This fee doesn't cover the full cost.

- We would be interested in having the City and County fee match if that becomes an option.

***Motion to approve the County Poultry License fee as presented by Health Department staff:***

Don Bodeau

***2nd Motion:*** Mark Kaeding

***Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)***

**Other policy and informational items from staff for the Board**

- a. COVID-19 update
  - <https://coronavirus-and-covid-19-information-hub-eccounty.hub.arcgis.com/>
  - While case numbers are still high, they appear to be flattening statewide.
  - The disease investigator team has done an amazing job. There have been days with more than 350 cases.
  - We are following up on cases that are over the age of 65 and those that are 24 and under.
  - The State recently shared a memo regarding contacting individual and close contact may no longer be a priority. They are stating that we are at a different place and need to be using tools accordingly. This does not affect guidelines for quarantine and isolation periods.
  - We are working on making sure that testing is available. There is a new testing site in Altoona working with Altoona Fire/ EMS.
  - Jacobs Well testing will be extended through the second week of February.
  - We are working through school testing with K-12 schools.
  - The department is working on home visit vaccinations, school vaccinations, as well as going to partner organizations to provide vaccinations for those with barriers.
  - There will be a vaccination clinic in Augusta in late February.
  - The department will be distributing masks to community organizations.
  - We have had an increased number of people experiencing homelessness testing positive for COVID. This requires considerable resources.

Board Member Question and Answer:

  - Q: Is it the case that many of the phone calls weren't successful. A: That was a piece of it. We were having a bit more success with our prioritized cases, but often people wouldn't answer their phone, or we would get results 5 days after testing and by that time the person was out of isolation. We do send materials in the mail to everyone that has tested positive. Many people with a positive test appreciate the information they receive from the Health Department.
  - Q: What response are you getting from health care providers. A: No concerns were raised by our health partners.
  - Q: When you get the phone calls is it because someone just tested positive? And can ARPA money be used? A: Community partners do call stating that they need housing for someone. We may have needs related to hotel costs and in 2022 may utilize county ARPA funds.
  - Q: Did Eau Claire School District get significant number of tests from the federal govt? A: They received a small number of tests and were one of five schools that received the tests, but it is not enough to do test to stay.
- b. Director/Health Officer Report
  - Correspondence/Media
  - Service Recognition -Janice Vinopal, Budget Specialist-Retirement  
Becky Knutson, RN, BSN -Nurse-Family Partnership Supervisor-25 years

- c. Health Department Community Priorities
  - No changes were made since the last time the list was brought to the board.
- d. Strategic Plan Update
  - We continue to make progress.
  - Discussed plan for next Strategic Plan and engagement of the Board of Health during the process.
- e. Eau Claire Healthy Communities update
  - The Community Health Improvement plan is still in progress.

#### **Board member informational items**

- a. Distribute final 2022 Board of Health Calendar
- b. Committee Updates
  - City Council-Work session was held for ARPA funding. Council members discussed priorities for funding including public health needs, homelessness, mental health, childhood environment, and affordable housing. City Manager candidates are being interviewed next week. Final interviews will be held in the end of February. Virtual meeting options were continued. Election primary is coming up and Council discussed advocacy.
  - County Board-County Board passed ordinance changes for Poultry keeping. A resolution was forward regarding clean water for Wisconsin. Support for clean water has been an ongoing concern for the Health Department. A referendum supporting clean water for Wisconsin will be on the ballot at the April 5<sup>th</sup> election. Marquette, Portage and Wood counties have voted for similar referendums.
  - Ground Water Advisory Board-The River Alliance of Wisconsin presented at the Ground Water Advisory Board meeting. <https://wisconsinrivers.org/> The advisory board also discussed community septic systems.
  - ARPA -The County Committee has not met since October.
- c. Other Public Health Policy/Advocacy
  - WPHA/WALHDAB Legislative Priorities
    - There are a lot of legislative priorities related to covid that are moving forward. WPHA and WAHLDAB are in opposition.
  - Modernizing Public Health Systems-[Public Health Forward: Modernizing the U.S. Public Health System | Bipartisan Policy Center](#)
    - This is a resource for board members. This will tie into discussions throughout the year.
    - The finance, workforce, and legal efforts of this document are being discussed at the state level.
- d. Board of Health training update
  - Early next week Cortney is arranging a conversation with a facilitator that we believe may be able to provide some training around building advocacy skills.

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

- a. None

Next scheduled BOH meeting is February 23, 2022, at 5:15 p.m.

Merey Price adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.