

**April 27, 2022, Board of Health Meeting  
County Courthouse, Room G-302**

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  
Mark Kaeding  
Terry Miskulin  
Emily Berge  
Jennifer Eddy  
True Vue (5:25pm)

**Board Members  
Absent:**

Don Bodeau

**Staff Members Present:**

Lieske Giese  
Tegan Ruland  
Hannah Artz  
Cortney Sperber  
Marisa Stanley  
Gina Holt (recorder)

**Additional Staff Members:**

Sara Siebert

**Public:**

Martha Nieman

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

- None

**Public Comment:**

- None

**Thank you recognition of outgoing County Board Appointed Board of Health Member Martha Nieman**

**The new Health Department Communication Specialist Sarah Seifert was introduced.**

**Consent Agenda**

- Approval of minutes from March 30, 2022, meeting
- Approval of Grant/Contract Related Budget Adjustments
- Approval of Stipend/Donation

***Motion to approve Consent Agenda:*** Mark Kaeding

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

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

**Business Item**

- Review and Receive Quarterly Financial Update
  - 2022 City tax allocation has not been recorded yet.
  - Receivables and deferred inflows are down due to City generated license invoices.
  - Fund balance amount is preliminary.

***Motion to receive Quarterly Financial Update as presented by Health Department staff:***

Jennifer Eddy

***2nd Motion:*** Emily Berge

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

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

- a. COVID-19 update
  - Case numbers are increasing.
  - Test volume remains low.
  - Focus continues to be on vaccination. Vaccine clinics will continue at the Health Department.
  - Cases for those 18 and under and over 65 continue to be contacted by Health Department Disease Investigators.
  - The Health Department has been offering COVID testing.
  - UWEC will end COVID testing at the end of May.
  - It is the intention to move COVID-19 into the communicable disease division instead of having it as a standalone unit.
  - We continue to follow CDC guidance.
  - COVID-19 Financial Update
    - Funding can be broken down into four “buckets”: COVID specific, State and Federal funding, fund balance, and tax levy.
    - Some funding was available for positions where the federal or state grant allowed for staff to work on COVID work. In 2022 we are no longer using non COVID grants to pay for COVID time.
    - Unspent tax levy went into fund balance for COVID expenditures in 2021.
    - We had contracts with hotels for people living in homelessness and that was a significant of money. We have spent more than \$300,000 on housing for those who are in quarantine/ isolation and don't have housing.
    - We are also working hard for staff to go back to their regular work.
    - New grants were received and in 2022 we are focusing on using that funding for COVID costs in 2022. The one exception to that is the ARPA funding. That funding lasts until 2024 and we are holding those funds right now. The focus of that funding will be on recovery.
    - The dollars for direct response will go to disease investigation staff and employees who have been contracted for vaccination and testing.
    - We have sufficient response funding, even if there were a surge.
    - There are clear pots of money that we will be able to use for recovery.
    - There is federal funding being distributed to states and it will eventually be distributed to local health departments.
- b. Director/Health Officer Report
  - PFAS update was appreciated.
- c. Preliminary 2021 Year End Financial report-close out 2021 budget
  - This is preliminary, we don't anticipate any major changes.
- d. 2021 Annual Report
  - These are key initiatives that we want to showcase and highlight the department.
  - This is a great resource for learning about what the Health Department does.
  - The City and County also put out annual reports.
- e. Strategic Plan Update
  - We are still making progress during this continuation year.
  - Planning for the next strategic plan is in place.
  - The next strategic plan will be a three-year plan instead of five.

- f. Eau Claire Healthy Communities Update
  - Continued work to finalize the Community Health Improvement Plan in place.
  - High Risk Drinking and Prevention team continues to partner with the Alliance.
- g. Quality Improvement Plan Update
  - Our QI plan remains in place. We have a cross divisional team; capacity has been limited due to COVID-19.
- h. Workforce Development Update
  - We have a workforce development plan and team. This group will be reconvening in May after a hiatus do to COVID-19.
- i. County Health Rankings
  - [Explore Health Rankings | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)
  - The health rankings were released today.
  - They are released annually.
  - This is a resource to remind the community what goes into health as well as what can be improved upon.
- j. Update/review running list of Health Department Community Priorities
  - This is a good reminder for some of the issues that the Health Department is focusing on.

**Board member informational items**

- a. Quarterly review of tracking BOH priorities
  - No changes since the last time this was brought to the board.
- b. WPHA /WAHL DAB Public Health Conference meeting WALHDAB
  - There is money in the budget if board members want to attend.
- c. Advocacy training update
  - Dates and times that work for all the board members may be difficult.
  - We are looking into recording the training, this may be helpful if board members need to come in late or leave early.
- d. Public Health Policy/Advocacy
  - Legislative session is over, but work is still going on with Committees.
  - The Legislative Highlights document is in draft form.
- e. Standing committee updates
  - City Council: [City Council Agendas | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)  
May 10<sup>th</sup> Council will hold a work session on ARPA and remote attendance ordinance. Empower voting will allow City residents how to spend funding.
  - County Board: [2022 Meeting Agendas & Minutes | Eau Claire County \(eau-claire.wi.us\)](#)
  - Ground Water Advisory Committee: [Groundwater Advisory | Eau Claire County \(eau-claire.wi.us\)](#)
  - ARPA County Funding: [ARPA Committee | Eau Claire County \(eau-claire.wi.us\)](#)
  - Other
- f. Board Evaluation discussion-
  - If board members have any input on the questions, please reach out to Mery. The evaluation will go out in the next few weeks and be shared at the May Board meeting.

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

- a. None made

Next scheduled BOH meeting is May 25, 2022, at 5:15 p.m.

Merey Price adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.