



**May 17, 2023 Board of Health Meeting
County Courthouse, Room G-302**

The Board of Health convened in open session at 5:17 pm

The meeting was called to order by Don Bodeau

**Board Members Present
Quorum is reached**

Don Bodeau
Mark Kaeding
Terry Miskulin
Joshua Miller
Catherine Wildenberg

**Board Members
Absent:**

Kim Cronk
True Vue
Jennifer Eddy

**Staff Members
Present:**

Lieske Giese
Matt Steinbach
Nicole Kragness
Marisa Stanley
Hannah Artz
Gina Holt (recorder)

Additional Guests:

Stephanie Hirsch -City Manager
Rod Eslinger-Planning & Development
Ben Bublitz-Planning & Development

Order of Agenda Request to pull items from Consent Agenda

- None made

Public Comment:

- None made

**Informational item –Brief overview of City Fiscal Stability measures –Eau Claire City Manager Stephanie Hirsch
ARPA Planning, and Fiscal Stability Proposal Presentation:**

- Pre-existing financial challenges in government funding have led to a structural deficit.
- Shared Revenues are not keeping up with local needs.
- The City would like to encourage combining local services.
- The City will most likely need to cut down on areas to fund activities that have been deemed new priorities.
- Proposals that affect the Health Department would include forming a Neighborhood Services Division and seeking a consultant to prepare a partnership study.
- The goal of the proposals is to develop a clear understanding of how city funding aligns with services delivered to City residents.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of minutes from April 26, 2023, meeting-enclosed
- b. Approval of Grant/Contract related budget adjustments-enclosed

Motion to approve Consent Agenda: Catherine Wildenberg

2nd Motion: Mark Kaeding

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Business Item

- a. Approval to waive the fee for influenza vaccination during the 2023-2024 influenza season
 - Flu season planning is under way, and we have been working at targeting those who are at higher risk. Having the flu shot at no cost is a way to reach populations with significant barriers, including those experiencing homelessness.

- The past three years the fee has been waived and has been successful.
- Vaccination rates are down from pre-COVID.

Motion to waiving the fee for influenza vaccination as presented by Health Department staff: Joshua Miller

2nd Motion: Terry Miskulin

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

- b. Recommend Approval of Proposed County Code Revision (Title 18 - Land Use and Development Ordinance)

- This is the first time the code has had a comprehensive update in 40 years.
- The revision is budget neutral for the Health Department.
- Zoning helps keep the public health risk lower.

Motion to recommend approval of proposed County Code Revision (Title 18-Land Use and Development Ordinance Catherine Wildenberg

2nd Motion: Mark Kaeding

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

- c. Approval of 2023 Health Department Employee Handbook Updates

- The primary updates were language and updating policies that were COVID related.

Motion to recommend approval of 2023 Health Department Employee Handbook Updates Joshua Miller

2nd Motion: Catherine Wildenberg

Motion Carried: Yes (unanimous vote)

Other policy and informational items from staff for the Board

- a. Health Department Report

- The county version of the annual report was discussed.
- Underage drinking and point of sale discussion
- Service Recognition:
 - Becky Knutson, Nurse Family Partnership Supervisor, Retirement

- b. Review and Discuss 2024 Budget Development Process

- The final approval will be brought to the Board in December 2023.
- In June items that may frame the budget development will be brought to the Board of Health for discussion and input.
- In July items such as health insurance contribution, staff step increases, cost of living increases will be discussed and incorporated draft budget from considerations.
- The revenue that we bring in is primarily from grant funding. A little over 1/3 of our funding comes from tax levy and is a significant portion of the budget.
- The trajectory is telling us that we will not have enough funding to help us cover the budget deficit.
- We are looking at all our programs and services and funding sources and looking at programs that we are required to do.
- There is a hold on filling positions that are not completely grant funded until we know where the budget is going to land.
- We will likely need to use fund balance in 2024.

- The potential change in support of tax levy between the City and County is concerning. It pays for the backbone of the department and impacts availability to leverage grants and their funds.
- The City/County Health Department was built due to efficiency as there were at the time two health departments both at the City of Eau Claire and at the County. The model was built on effectiveness for the residents.
- The way that the current tax levy portion of local ordinance is set up if the City lowers tax levy funding, the County portion of tax levy funding would also go down.

Board member informational items

- a. Public Health Policy/Advocacy
 - WPHA/WAHL DAB-still a lot of advocacy on State Budget and Shared Revenue Bill.
- b. Standing committee updates
 - City Council: City Council Agendas | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin (eauclairewi.gov)-no discussion
 - County Board: Meeting Agendas & Minutes | Eau Claire County (eau-claire.wi.us)-no discussion
 - Ground Water Advisory Committee: Groundwater Advisory | Eau Claire County (eau-claire.wi.us)-no discussion
 - Opioid Settlement Task Force: Opioid Task Force-work is happening now to develop a proposal on what to do with the County Opioid dollars. There will be some proposals going to the County Board early this summer. The health department presented prevention and risk reduction measures.
 - Other
- c. Review Board of Health Evaluation the survey will be extended for another week and put on the June agenda.

Requests from Board members for future agenda items to be given consideration-none made

Next business meeting – June 28, 2023

Don Bodeau adjourns the meeting at 6:55 pm