



**November 8, 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**

Catherine Wildenberg
True Vue
Jennifer Eddy
Don Bodeau
Terry Miskulin
Joshua Miller
Mark Kaeding

Board Members Absent:

Kim Cronk

Staff Members Present:

Lieske Giese
Marisa Stanley
Gina Holt (recorder)

Public Comment:

- None made

November Work Session Focus areas:

1. Eau Claire City-County Health Department Structure and Funding

- Overview of structure as a joint City-County Health Department
 - The history of the formation of the City-County Health Department was shared and discussed.
 - Annual reports from the early development of the health department were brought to the meeting to share for historical purposes.
 - Eau Claire and Dane Counties are the only City-County Health Departments in the state. In other areas it is either a City or a County Health Department or a merged County-County Health department. All of these are allowable structure options in Wisconsin.
 - Merged departments and programs are modeled throughout the state as a strong model of shared services for efficiency/effectiveness.
- Overview of State and local mandates
 - State Statute and Administrative Rule guide the requirements for Local Health Departments in Wisconsin. The “140 review” process is the State process to assure that all local health departments meet State mandates.
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 - The Health Department and Board of Health are mandated to follow State Statute and Administrative Rule, as well as local ordinances/code from the city, and the county.
 - The Statute and ordinances talk about BOH power and duties.
 - There are a lot of delegations of authority in Wisconsin from the State to local health departments and as a de-centralized State there is considerable additional local control.
- Overview of funding sources
 - The BOH has authority and responsibility to oversee the health department budget.
 - Tax levy that the health department receives is typically from local property tax levy.

- Net new construction is the amount that the City and County overall budgets can increase by. The Health Department looks at this percent increase and proposes an increase in the amount of levy connected to the property tax increase. This then is required to be split based on equalized value.
- The budget for 2023 includes revenue from local tax levy, fees and other revenue, and federal and state grants as approved by the board of health.
- Revenue coming into the health department looks very different than what many other departments in the City and County look like.
 - Federal and state grants make up 44.12% of revenue.
 - City & County Property Tax Levy make up 37.59% of revenue.
- The 2023 Program Summary was reviewed and discussed. This document breaks down each division and includes information on statutory reference, who is served, total cost, revenue from grants, fees/other revenue, and tax levy/fund balance use.
- Foundational public health services both at the federal and state level are being looked at as a baseline for requirements for governmental public health. This will be further explored in 2024 at a State and local level to consider what the gaps are and what changes need to happen.
- Competitive and ongoing grants were discussed as well as the gaps in funding. Grants are ending and we don't often have sustainable funding sources for important work
- Finding new dollars and funding is something that the department is always looking at.
- County Map viewed and discussed looking at where public health services are provided in our area.
- The health department also has several multi-jurisdictional responsibilities for several different areas including- Nurse Family Partnership, HIV Partner Services, Wisconsin Well Woman Program.
- There are currently 72 FTE in the department, payroll makes up the largest part of the Health Department budget.
- The importance of having a City/County Health Department to serve the entire community including rural areas was discussed.
- The department collaborates with CVTC, UWEC, local school districts and medical providers. Most of which are housed in the City of Eau Claire.

2. BOH roles/responsibilities

- Overview of BOH roles/responsibilities were discussed.
- Board obligations are related to policy and not necessarily on day-to-day operations which are delegated to the Director.
- Differences between BOH responsibilities vs other department heads or boards were discussed.
- BOH priorities form (2020-2024) discussion on how to move forward with making that a more usable document. No final conclusion but plan for more discussion.
- The importance of being engaged in advocacy-sometimes as a board of health member and sometimes as a community member was discussed.

- Governance Functions from NALBOH was discussed. This included the topics of policy development, resource stewardship, legal authority, partner engagement, continuous improvement, and oversight.
- WAHLDAB is always looking for board of health members to be part of their Statewide board and is an opportunity to consider State level advocacy.
- The board expressed their appreciation for making the financial updates to the board.
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Requests from Board members for future agenda items to be given consideration

- a. Further discussion on Board of Health Priorities and Actions
- b. Follow up discussion on Public Health Foundational Services.

Next scheduled BOH meeting is December 13, 2023 at 5:15 p.m.

Don Bodeau adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.