

Regular Board of Health Minutes November 9, 2020

The monthly meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 8:30 am at the County Board Room at the Administrative Center on Monday, November 9, 2020 by Chairperson Kim Kroll.

Members present were Linda Teske, Jeffrey Vollenweider, Sr., Julie Janicsek, Cindy Kinnard, Milt Swagel, Julie Thoreson, Virginia Haske and Kathy Janosky.

Members excused: None

Members unexcused: None.

Public present were: None.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Vollenweider, Sr. and seconded by Virginia Haske to approve the November 9, 2020 agenda as mailed. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Julie Thoreson and seconded by Julie Janicsek to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 meeting as mailed. The motion carried.

Citizen input: None

COVID-19 update was given by Cindy. As of Friday, November 6, 2020 the County was at 1,289 cases; however, approximately 35 cases came through over the weekend. Currently we have 119 active cases and it seems that we are leveling off and have approximately 15-20 new cases per day. We currently have 8 contact tracers including Cindy and the Public Health Staff. We have hired four additional workers to help with contact tracing and we are able to contact all positives and any close contacts and are the only County in the area that is still completing all investigations. There are currently three testing sites in Kewaunee County; they are Door County Medical in Algoma, Bellin Health and Prevea-Urgent Care both in Kewaunee. Cindy indicated that several testing sites in Brown County will be closing due to the weather but the Brown County Fairgrounds will be opening a drive through testing site soon. Cindy advised that she has completed a separate contract with the CDC in order to obtain COVID-19 vaccine which is anticipated to be available at the end of this year or the beginning of 2021. The State will be supplying the vaccine along with all supplies to vaccinate individuals. The vaccine will be a 2 dose series with the second dose being given 28 days from the first dose. The current vaccine does need to be kept in a deep freeze which means we would need to use dry ice which we do not have and may cause a shorter shelf life and will also result in the Department carrying smaller quantities of the vaccine at a time. A more stable vaccine is anticipated to be available later in 2021. Priority will be given to Healthcare Workers, Senior Citizens, High Risk Individuals and people residing in Nursing Homes or CBRF facilities.

Cindy indicated that area schools are holding their own, with no huge surges in cases. The Health Department currently has spreadsheets for each district that keeps track of positive students and staff and those listed as contacts. There was an outbreak at one of the CBRF facilities in Kewaunee County resulting in almost all residents testing positive and several staff members. We are assisting the facility and there were 5 deaths as a result. Also, this past week two other facilities had positive residents at their facilities. Outbreak investigations have been opened at these two facilities as well. A question arose, and Cindy confirmed that individuals are being swabbed for influenza and COVID-19 which the State is monitoring. Another question arose, and Cindy indicated that Door County has seen a surge in cases also and Cindy believes it pertains to their tourism and people visiting the area.

Cindy handed out the Public Health Department Resolution Notes and Resolution with budget adjustments for the 2020 year. The amount of \$47,123 reflected on the Resolution Notes from Paul Kunesh is the current amount of increases to the grants. The Resolution was already approved at last month's Finance Committee Meeting and County Board Meeting.

The flu season is in full swing and the Public Health Staff have administered 244 adult shots at the office and clinics in Algoma and Luxemburg. We have also been into the public and parochial schools in the County and have administered 497 flu shots. Due to COVID-19 we still have groups of students at several schools that will need influenza vaccinations and the department plans to complete this month.

Cindy addressed the September and October Monthly Reports and indicated that WIC numbers continued to hold steady each month. Immunization numbers increased greatly in October due to influenza vaccinations being given to adults and children. Communicable Diseases numbers continued to increase due to COVID-19 testing.

Cindy reported on School Health and indicated that Hearing, Vision and Scoliosis testing has been completed at all Parochial schools in the County. The Public Schools have chosen to wait until spring to have the nurse come in to do screenings. The PALS Program was started by Jessica DePas which is the senior exercise classes but due to the spike in cases the sessions have been moved to Spring. Jessica did a fantastic job with the classes that were completed. We will be once again holding the Giving Tree event in honor of Sara Malay which is a food drive over the holiday season.

Cindy received the beach testing report for 2020 and indicated that at Selner Beach 53 samples were taken with one advisory and Crescent Beach had 53 samples with 3 advisories and one closure. A question arose and Cindy indicated that the last few years quality has improved and she believes mitigation on the beaches with plants and reducing drainage has been helping.

Cindy indicated that she has been advised that continued ELC funding will be received for Contact Tracing through November 2022 in the amount of \$318,000. These monies will begin on January 2021 and will result in less levy spending.

Cindy handed out September financial report and advised that we are currently on track for spending and the grant monies will be spent in their entirety by the end of November with the exception of Women, Infant and Children grant. Rachel Bauer's hours come from this grant and the grant will be used by the end of December. COVID-19 grants monies will continue to be used through the end of the year which will decrease of the amount of levy dollars being used in the County Nurse and County Immunization.

Travel requests: None.

Overtime to report. Cindy advised that the overtime report handed out to each Board Member was printed by Paul Kunesch and reflects overtime by the Health Department for the month of October. Cindy indicated all overtime has been paid out of the COVID-19 Contact Tracing grant fund.

The upcoming meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Other items as authorized by law: A question arose about the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards-Board of Health Informative Training which was held in September, 2020 and Cindy indicated it was not taped but she would check if there were minutes or a summary for members who were unable to attend.

A motion was made by Virginia Haske and seconded by Kathy Janosky to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 am. The motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deanne Schultz