

Regular Board of Health Minutes December 14, 2020 **AMENDED**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 8:31 am at the County Board Room at the Administrative Center on Monday, December 14, 2020 by Chairperson Kim Kroll.

Members present were Linda Teske, Julie Janicsek, Cindy Kinnard, Milt Swagel, Julie Thoreson, Kathy Janosky and Virginia Haske (attending via Zoom).

Members excused: Jeffrey Vollenweider, Sr.

Members unexcused: **None**

Public present were: None.

A motion was made by Milt Swagel and seconded by Kathy Janosky to approve the December 14, 2020 agenda as mailed. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Julie Thoreson and seconded by Milt Swagel to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2020 meeting as mailed. The motion carried.

Citizen input: None

COVID-19 update was given by Cindy. As of Friday, December 11, 2020 the County was at 1,909 cases; with 124 active cases. There was a considerable increase of deaths since last month with 25 and the majority being from CBRFs and nursing homes. We are seeing an average of 15-25 new cases per day and believe that any delay in receiving tests are due to shipping issues to labs. Currently, the schools are holding their own and we only had Luxemburg-Casco Primary close due to staffing issues related to COVID-19. Last week there were big changes with the new guidelines on quarantine but a 14 day quarantine when in close contact with a positive case is still the rule. A person who stays asymptomatic however, can be released at day 7 or 10 but will receive an email for the remaining 14 days at 7 am and 5 pm from the Health Department and must respond to questions on self monitoring.

Cindy stressed the we do not make the rules for the school to follow, the DPI rules how schools handle their cases and we as a Health Department try to guide and make recommendations. Cindy advised that she met with the Luxemburg-Casco COVID-19 team and they plan to continue to follow the 14 day quarantine and will meet with Kewaunee this Tuesday to discuss their guidelines. If Kewaunee or Algoma School Districts plan to go along with the new guidelines, the Health Department will be involved as we would then need to send out those emails for self monitoring to individuals to complete the 14 day quarantine. Currently we attend weekly meetings with the school nurses and Cindy also attends any meeting or School Board meetings at area School Districts that she is asked to.

Since the end of October outbreaks have been seen at our long-term care facilities in the County. We have been following and in contact daily answering questions concerning staff, residents and testing. The Health department has no control over visitation and rules by the CBRFs or nursing homes. The Department of Quality Assurance through the State sets all guidance for the facilities to follow. The health Departments help to share this guidance.

Cindy advised that the COVID-19 vaccine was shipped out of Michigan this morning and Wisconsin will initially receive 49,500 doses of Pfizer which will go to ICUs and long-term care facilities. We have not received any notification when we will receive our doses. When we do the first doses will be administered to essential workers at clinics, nursing homes and long-term care facilities. The first vaccine to be released is from Pfizer which is a deep freeze (-80 at all times) and if the temperature cannot be maintained it does deplete its shelf life. If we receive this vaccine we are unable to maintain that temperature and we will only have five days to dispense our doses. This vaccine is a two-dose series, being 21 days apart and will come in a powder form and will need to be reconstituted. The other vaccine which is going for emergency approval this week is from Moderna and will not be deep freeze but a frozen vaccine, capable of being stored in a normal freezer. This vaccine is also a 2-dose series given 28 days apart. Cindy advised that she will keep the Board Members posted as to any vaccine that we will receive. Cindy further indicated that the Pfizer vaccine is proven to be 90 percent effective and Moderna is proven to be 94 percent effective.

Grant updates were given by Cindy: There are two small grants that were received recently (1) Women, Infant and Children received monies for a signature pad with the anticipation of going paperless in 2021. (2) Deanne Schultz applied and received a \$600 grant to purchase car seats to help low income families afford the proper seat. Deanne is a certified car seat technician and legally cannot allow a family to use an expired seat, so this program will help out families in the area. Paperwork was submitted to the State regarding CARES spending and the anticipated monies that we will spend. Adjustments will be made by the State for the end of the year.

Cindy reported that we still have about 10 adult influenza shots and about 100 doses for children available. The adult flu is \$30.00 or we can bill Medicare Part B, Humana or United Healthcare supplements. The children's influenza is free for ages 6 months to 18 years of age. We increased the number of adult flu shots given this year but the children's was down this year due to quarantines/school closures and a decrease in the number of shots given at the Algoma School District. We will increase social media over the holidays for parents wanting to bring their children in for flu shots. Cindy further advised that the flu season is starting to hit Wisconsin and it is more important this year for people to get flu shots with COVID-19.

Cindy addressed the November Monthly Report and indicated that WIC numbers continued to hold steady this month and we are one of only a few counties that are having clients come into

the office. Immunizations for the month were up due to finishing influenza in two schools Communicable Diseases numbers reported were 2,030 with 601 being confirmed of which most were COVID with a few being STDs and GI illnesses. The Fun and Fit Program for the parochial schools continues but not in person at this point, we are doing virtually and written communication with the schools that agreed.

Cindy indicated that the annual Giving Tree in Memory of Sara is going well with over \$1,300 already collected along with numerous bags of non-perishable food items already under the tree in the Human Services waiting room. The collection goes until December 31st with all monies and food items being distributed equally to the three food pantries in the County.

Cindy handed out October financial report and November will be out in the next few days. October and November will reflect grant spending has been completed with the exception of Women, Infant and Children due to staff wage expenses through December 31st. Public Health staff to include Cindy, Rachel Bauer, Aly Martin and Jessica DePas all do contact tracing along with four contacted contact tracers. Cindy advised that County Nurse and Immunization will not be spent down and the projected return to the County is between \$25,000-\$35,000 as a result of the CARES funding received

Travel requests: None.

Overtime to report. Cindy advised that every Saturday a Public Health Employee and a contract contact tracer work anywhere from 3-7 hours for COVID. The average hours are 4 for the Public Health Employee for overtime and the contact tracer gets straight hourly pay since they are contracted. All overtime monies are paid through the CARES funding and no County dollars are used.

The upcoming meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 4, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Other items as authorized by law: None.

A motion was made by Julie Thoreson 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

VETERANS SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING

December 14, 2020

KEWAUNEE COUNTY BOARD ROOM

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 a.m. by Chairperson Kim Kroll.

Roll Call:

Members present were Chairperson Kim Kroll, Milt Swagel, Linda Teske, and CVSO Rob Stearns. Virginia Haske and Jeffrey Vollenweider were excused.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Milt Swagel and seconded by Linda Teske to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

Approval of September Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Milt Swagel and seconded by Linda Teske to approve the September 14, 2020 minutes. The motion carried.

Department Operations:

CVSO Stearns reviewed the monthly reports. Due to the ongoing pandemic, many veterans and family members are reluctant to come into the office. The office is doing more work via phone, e-mail and physical mail.

CVSO Stearns explained how the office does claims with veterans and widow's during the current pandemic. The office is doing more Intent to File forms to lock in the dates so that the benefits are not lost but can be worked on over a 12-month period. The office is also utilizing electronic signatures to complete the necessary forms.

Travel Notifications:

None

Overtime:

None

Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law:

CVSO Stearns explained that the Senate has approved the addition of disabilities that the VA will connected with Agent Orange. These disabilities include Parkinsonism, Bladder Cancer and Hypothyroidism. It now goes to the President's desk for his approval. There is hopes that Hypertension will be added in the future.

CVSO Stearns announced that the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has approved a grant that now allows the Wisconsin GI Bill to be expanded to private colleges. They payments will not be equal to the benefits at a UW or Tech School, as private school are more expensive, it will be prorated.

Chairperson Kroll led a discussion on the request from CVSO Stearns in regards to the frequency of the Committee meetings. He requested them to be held quarterly, Chairperson Kroll believes bimonthly is recommended as the Committee doesn't agree with stretching out the meetings. The Committee will meet in January to readdress.

Next Meeting Dates:

The next meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. at the Kewaunee County Board Room.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Milt Swagel and seconded by Linda Teske. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara LaCrosse".

Tara LaCrosse
Recording Secretary