

MARATHON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2019

Present: John Robinson, Kue Her, Dean Danner, Sandi Cihlar, Michael McGrail, Lori Shepherd, Laura Scudiere, Mary Ann Crosby

MCHD Staff: Joan Theurer, Melissa Moore, Dale Grosskurth, Judy Burrows, Chris Weisgram

Guests:

1. Call to Order

John Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

2. Public Comment Period

None

3. Approval of the Minutes of the December 4, 2018 Board of Health Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes made by Dean Danner. Second by Sandi Cihlar. Motion approved.

4. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution

A. None

5. Policy Discussion and Possible Action

A. Overview of the draft products for the 2019-2023 Marathon County Health Department Strategic Plan

Joan shared that the final stages of writing the Health Department's strategic plan is under way. Draft documents were shared with the Board of Health, including: Mission, Vision, Core Values, Essential Services, Program Areas; Goals, Outcome Objectives, Strategies; and Roadmap for Synergy. Joan shared that two different plans are being prepared, one to be used to guide the work of Health Department Staff, the Board of Health, and County Administration, as well as a more extensive version to meet public health accreditation standards. Joan asked the Board members what they thought might be missing or unclear.

Discussion on adding a strategy to support the Goal 1 objective for Board of Health members to participate in a shared learning experience to further their understanding and ability to apply concepts on health equity when making policy decisions.

Discussion on broadening the strategy for Goal 3 regarding media partnerships to include use of social media. Discussion on the need to clarify language the Health Department being a chief health strategist for the community.

Joan asked Board members to share what they thought the characteristics of the final plan would be, so that they would be more likely to pick it up and use it. Ideas included stating the intended outcomes, noting the need for resources for development of staff, agenda focus for Board of Health meetings, defining in common terms Health Equity.

Board members were asked what would inspire them to use the document when they receive it. Discussion on how to keep the information in front of them, looking at goals quarterly for areas where there are ties to Community Health Improvement Plan and the County Strategic Plan.

Joan shared the strategic planning work group will be meeting later today and she will incorporate suggestions from the Board. Printed copies will be available after the end of the month.

Motion to accept the strategic plan goals and strategies, incorporating the revisions as suggested made by Laura Scudiere. Seconded by Lori Shepherd. Motion approved

- B. Share plans for the AOD Partnership to hold an educational Marijuana Symposium series in the spring of 2019

Joan shared context for the issue of marijuana, and that a symposium series has been planned with financial support from Ascension St. Clare's Hospital. Melissa Moore shared that many in the community do not have an understanding of the impacts of marijuana on youth, families, health, business and communities. The Board was provided an overview document, which outlined what will be covered at the Marijuana Symposium series scheduled for the coming spring. Judy Burrows shared that it is expected that additional conversations will come as a result of the symposium series.

Three of the dates for the series are scheduled, Feb. 5, 28, and May 6. An additional session will be scheduled sometime in March. Additional information will be sent out via email to the Board members.

Melissa shared that as part of the regular AOD Partnership meeting on February 5th at 11:30 a.m., the Chronic State video will be viewed. Those interested in attending the viewing of the video are welcome to attend.

- C. Identify public health policy opportunities based on the review of best practices in the area of harm reduction from the Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of Drug Misuse and Abuse Marathon County Government report dated September 10, 2018

Joan shared an overview of the work being done by the Health Department as lead on the Marathon County Strategic Plan objective, to prevent and mitigate the impact of drug misuse and abuse. The issue of opiates is included in five areas of the state's health plan. Joan highlighted data comparing how Marathon County residents have been affected by drug abuse and misuse as compared to the State of Wisconsin.

Strategies to address the issue in the County include the following areas: Social and economic, prevention, treatment, harm reduction, law enforcement and justice, safety response services.

Joan indicated she will plan to walk through the strategies at meetings during the next six months, starting with the topic of harm reduction.

Discussion on whether there would be an opportunity to capture resources to serve veterans in the community.

- D. Determine the focus for the Board of Health's legislative educational meeting to be held on February 25, 2019

Joan shared that issues discussed at the last meeting included behavioral health, drug misuse and abuse, adverse childhood experience, as well as Medicaid expansion, and how public health is funded or not funded. Joan asked the Board what role they thought staff should play for the topics, and what role they should play.

Discussion on having Board members portray the topics, with staff support, as community problems. The format would be a presentation of the issues, what are the opportunities, and what is needed from the legislature. Board members will partner with a staff lead on specific topics to co-present to the legislators. Information on specific requests for the legislators will be prepared for the Board to review at the February Board of Health meeting.

- E. Report from the Health & Human Services Committee Meeting on Policy Issues impacting Public Health (Standing Agenda Item)

No meeting was held in December.

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

- A. Accomplishments from the 2018 Health Officer Plan of Work and scope for 2019

Joan shared accomplishments from the 2018 Health Officer Plan of Work. Highlights included the progress on the Health Department strategic plan, implementation of a system to ensure department policies and procedures are up to date, continuation as fiscal agent for the Northern Regional Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs, efforts to secure additional public health funding, Marathon County Pulse data platform, continued quality improvement initiatives, and promoting a strong organizational culture.

For 2019, actions will include looking at how to move forward the strategic plan, using Marathon County Pulse data to support the 2019-2021 LIFE Report, and leading on two strategic objectives for the County's strategic plan. Another area to be looked at is to increase understanding of health equity, and how to incorporate principles into the work of the health department, and policies that impact the community.

John Robinson congratulated Joan and the health department staff for a job well done during 2018, given some of the challenges presented, and the corresponding response.

John requested at a future meeting having an informal discussion on the strengths of Board members, and how they are working together, and areas to strengthen to work better. The Board could do a self-assessment and discuss the results. Joan will explore board evaluation tools including tools from National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH).

7. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

- A. None

8. Announcements

- A. Other

9. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location, Future Agenda Items: February 5, 2019

10. Confirm the February 5, 2019 meeting date

11. Share tentative agenda items:

- A. 2019 Licensing Fee
- B. Continuing the review of policy opportunities from the Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of Drug Misuse and Abuse Marathon County Government report
- C. 2019 Health Officer Plan of Work

Motion to adjourn made by Kue Her. Seconded by Sandi Cihlar. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Shepherd, Secretary
Chris Weisgram, Recorder