

**MARATHON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
February 5, 2019

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

MCHD Staff: Sam Pinzl, Melissa Moore, Hannah Schommer, Judy Burrows, Dale Grosskurth, Eileen Eckardt

Guests:

**1. Call to Order**

John Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m.

**2. Public Comment Period**

Joan Theurer unable to join the meeting.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the January 8, 2019 Board of Health Meeting**

**Motion to approve the minutes made by Lori Shepherd. Second by Dean Danner. Motion approved.**

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

A. None

**5. Policy Discussion and Possible Action**

A. Set fees for the 2019-2020 licensing year

Dale Grosskurth shared that a 3% increase occurred in 2018, and provided additional background information regarding progress in having licensing program fees cover the costs of program oversight. The proposed increase for 2019 is also 3%, and would still require \$31,160 in levy to support the program.

Discussion on how fees in Marathon County compare to those of the State. Dale shared that currently fees are higher than the State's program. Due to the merger of state programs, there may be an associated future restructuring of fees.

Discussion on the possibility of implementing a higher percentage fee increase to reduce the reliance on levy funds.

**Motion to increase to 5% in 2019 for licensing fees by Laura Scudiere. Second by Michael McGrail.**

Discussion on the impact of increasing the fees at a higher level on smaller businesses. An increase to 5% would result in approximately \$8,000 less potentially needed from tax levy.

**After discussion the Motion was approved.**

B. Confirm educational focus for the February 25, 2019 Board of Health Legislative Educational Meeting

Judy Burrows shared information on what has happened so far regarding planning for the meeting. Judy introduced Sam Pinzl, who will talk about ACEs at the legislative meeting, Melissa Moore will talk about Substance Abuse, and Hannah Schommer will talk about Behavioral Health.

Judy provided an overview of the topics that will be covered at the meeting with legislators, and how the meeting will be structured.

- John Robinson, and Joan Theurer will start the meeting with introductions, and providing a general overview of public health.
- ACEs will be the first health priority covered, as it is foundational to the other priorities. Dr. Shepherd will be introducing the topic and sharing the specific request for the topic, and Sam will provide comments on local efforts.
- Behavioral Health will be introduced by Laura Scudiere, with Hannah Schommer sharing initiatives underway in Marathon County. Laura will share a related story with the legislators, and present the specific request for Behavioral Health
- Substance Abuse will be introduced by Laura Scudiere. Melissa Moore will share data around cigarette and vaping use by youth, as well as alcohol and marijuana use.
- Public Health Funding, and the need for Medicaid Expansion will be the final topics presented.

Judy asked if the Board members could provide input on the specific requests to be made to the legislators. Discussion on considering presenting the specific request at the start of each topic or at the start of the meeting during the overview, and again following the presentation of information about the issue.

- ACEs – continue funding family visiting programs; continue strong funding for 4K education
- Behavioral Health – current legislation inhibits children’s access to crisis services (Youth crisis stabilization funding);
  - Discussion on additional requests to consider, including funding to address increased suicide rates and prevention, and legislation to allow inmates to suspend Medicaid benefits
- Substance Abuse – more support for prevention; new substance abuse prevention funding that is not specific to a drug; look and learn about the impact of new or changed marijuana legislation in other states when considering policy changes in Wisconsin.

Ask the legislators how we can help them with information and providing guidance on policy issues. Judy will be reaching out to Board members for final details to be addressed.

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

Judy shared that the harm reduction section of the report provided at the last meeting, and pointed out specific topics such as having policies in place regarding naloxone usage, and availability in places such as schools.

Discussion on what areas of County government would benefit from having policies in place for availability of naloxone, such as social services, veterans, etc. The various departments could be assessed first, to determine what they think could be most useful. Judy indicated some work could be done to find out what other counties and health care agencies have in place.

Judy shared that the remaining information included in the document was provided for information.

Discussion on looking into how to best provide harm reduction services to the entire county, including Western Marathon County. Eileen Eckardt shared that due to the sparse population of that area of the County, it has not been looked into as far as providing harm reduction services, but there are other agencies providing services in those areas. The Health Department may not always be the agency providing the services, but could facilitate identifying where there are service gaps, and working with other agencies to cover those areas.

D. Report from the Health & Human Services Committee Meeting on Policy Issues impacting Public Health

Mary Ann Crosby shared that the meeting had been postponed due to weather.

**6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports**

This agenda item will be postponed to a later meeting, due to the Health Officer being unable to attend the meeting.

- A. Presentation of the Medical College of Wisconsin 2018 Teaching Award (8:30AM)
- B. Share what the impact of the government shutdown would have had on food insecurity programs (e.g., Women, Infants and Children) and action planning that was happening to lessen the impact on families
- C. 2019 Health Officer Plan of Work

**7. Announcements**

- A. Other

**8. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location, Future Agenda Items:**

- A. Confirm the February 25, 2019 Legislative Educational meeting
- B. Share tentative agenda items for March 5, 2019
  - a. Share published 2019-2023 Marathon County Health Department Strategic Plan
  - b. Board of Health self-assessment tool
  - c. 2019 Marathon County Dashboard measures
  - d. Continuing the review of policy opportunities from the Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of Drug Misuse and Abuse Marathon County Government report

Sandi Cihlar shared that Julie Wilems Van Dijk has been named Deputy Secretary of Health Services for the State of Wisconsin.

**Motion to adjourn made by Laura Scudiere. Second by Lori Shepherd. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Shepherd, Secretary  
Chris Weisgram, Recorder