

**MARATHON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
May 7, 2019

Present: John Robison, Kue Her, Michael McGrail (via Telephone), Dean Danner, Laura Scudiere, Lori Shepherd, Mary Ann Crosby

MCHD Staff: Joan Theurer, Dale Grosskurth, Eileen Eckardt

Guests:

**1. Call to Order**

John Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m.

**2. Public Comment Period**

None

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the March 5, 2019 Board of Health Meeting**

**Motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2019 Board of Health meeting made by Laura Scudiere. Seconded by Lori Shepherd. Motion approved.**

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

- A. Review the Board of Health membership requirements in relationship to Wisconsin Statute, Chapter 251.03 and determine the merits of broadening background requirements

Joan Theurer shared that Julie Fox has stepped down from the Board of Health. After reviewing the Board of Health's bylaws, it was determined they are stricter than what is required by State Statute 251.03. Joan is recommending that the Board of Health amend the bylaws to strike the statement that refers to including a veterinarian and a dentist.

The Board discussed whether or not having someone serve as an advisor to the Board would be beneficial. Joan shared that having liaisons from the dental and veterinary communities would be to have a spokesperson from those fields, acting as liaison in our communities. Joan and Dale Grosskurth indicated when needing technical assistance staff work closely with the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services – Division of Public Health staff on animal health issues and the Children's Health Alliance for oral health.

John Robinson shared that this would fall under Chapter 2 of the County ordinances, and would typically take place at the organizational meeting, but there are provisions that allow for changes with 2/3 majority.

**Motion by Dean Danner to amend County ordinance chapter 205 to incorporate the language related to governance, specifically to not include the references to including a veterinarian, dentist, registered nurse, and physician as stated in the current Board of Health bylaws, and instead reference Wisconsin Statute. Second by Michael McGrail. Motion approved.**

**5. Policy Discussion and Possible Action**

- A. Update on state and county discussions regarding the 2019-2021 Biennial State of Wisconsin Budget
  - i. WPHA/WALHDAB legislative priorities including Medicaid Expansion
  - ii. Wisconsin Counties Association budget summary
  - iii. Marathon County legislative priorities

Joan shared documents included in the packet, and highlighted what is being proposed for Medicaid expansion. Estimates are that an additional 82,000 Wisconsin residents would be covered, impacting about 1,600 in Marathon County. Joan walked through a budget fact sheet outlining how Marathon County would benefit from the proposed Medicaid expansion.

John Robinson shared that Representative Shankland of Portage County hosted a forum, which provided good conversation on issues such as access to health care, benefits and concerns with expansion of Medicare, and discussion of other ongoing public health prevention programs and needs. Joan shared that there was support of the concept that there is a need for affordable health care, and there needs to be increased funding for preventable health care.

Laura Scudiere shared that the state secretary of health services did a site visit at NCHC. The opportunity was taken to familiarize her with the health needs of the community, including behavioral health and substance use. Programs such as the CART team were highlighted.

Joan shared the State Public Health Council met last Friday and there was substantial conversation around Medicaid expansion, and the benefits to the residents of Wisconsin and furthering prevention programs.

Joan shared there will be a process in Marathon County to identify which provisions of the proposed budget should be priorities. John Robinson shared that this will allow the County Board to have a specific list of priorities to bring to legislators. Discussion will be taking place at the Executive Committee meeting.

Joan suggested a motion be made to support Medicaid expansion, enabling her to speak as Health Officer on behalf of the Board of Health in community conversations taking place on the issue.

John Robinson suggested the Board of Health recommend to the County Board that Medicaid expansion be included as a budget priority.

Joan asked those connected to health systems to make sure their systems are aware of the proposed language for Medicaid expansion, having resources available on the Department of Health Services website.

**Motion by Lori Shepherd that the Board of Health recommends the County Board to include Medicaid expansion into the county's budget priorities, given the health and economic benefits to Marathon County. Seconded by Michael McGrail. Motion approved.**

- B. Determine the merits and scope of conducting a Board of Health self-assessment based on the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards

Joan shared that several meetings ago it was asked if there was merit in the Board doing a self-assessment and tasked her to look for a self-assessment tool. The National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) Public Health Governing Entity Assessment Instrument was reviewed.

The Board discussed options for looking at how the Board works together, how diverse and participatory it is, and how to improve those areas. John Robinson suggested having a facilitated discussion to look at strengths, what is needed to understand roles, ensure participation, diverse views, and how to strengthen diversity of the Board. Lori Shepherd suggested having some intended outcomes identified before starting the assessment.

Dean Danner offered to look through the example non-profit assessment tool to determine if there are questions that could be used to do a more abbreviated assessment.

Joan will draft a tool to be considered at the June meeting. The Board was asked if they prefer an assessment or a facilitated discussion, indicating there is benefit in doing a self-assessment followed up by a facilitated discussion.

- C. Report from the Health & Human Services Committee March 25 and April 22, 2019 meeting on policy issues impacting public health

Mary Ann Crosby provided an update from previous meetings of the Health & Human Services Committee

- Video on how brains are developed
- Governor's budget proposals
- Reviewed WCA state budget highlights
- Discussion on proposed Medicaid expansion

Joan shared that part of the work being done with the committee is to educate on Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma Informed Care. Staff to the committee will be completing an inventory on best practices to begin the process of identifying program and service gaps.

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

- A. Update on the progress in carrying out the 2018-2022 Marathon County Strategic Plan Objective Strategies which the department has a lead or contributing role

Joan shared that as lead for objective 3.7, and 7.2, the health department will be hosting meetings with other county departments to identify what has been accomplished in the past year, as well as looking at strategies and gaps. A plan is being developed, and a report back to county administration will be prepared. In addition, Dale Grosskurth has been contributing information to the objective 6.3 water quality, and Joan has been contributing to the objective 3.3 on childhood success.

John Robinson requested a briefing on the issue of water quality at future meeting.

- B. Update on initial activities to further the 2019-2023 Marathon County Health Department Strategic Plan

Joan shared the department is moving forward with forming a health equity work group, and redesigning health department web pages on the County website. The department is also looking into ways to continue to be innovative, and will review public health competencies in relationship to job standards for program professional positions.

**7. Announcements**

- A. Share news of Marathon County Health Department receiving the Prevent Blindness Wisconsin 2019 20/20 Service Award

Joan shared that Vicki Anthony, Hearing & Vision Screening Coordinator was recognized, and will be receiving the award later this month.

Joan and John Robinson shared Eileen Eckardt is being recognized as 2019 YWCA's Woman of Vision.

Joan shared Aaron Ruff being a member of the Central Wisconsin Offroad Cycling Coalition was nominated for the Wausau Region Chamber of Commerce 2019 Small Business of the Year Award.

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

**A. Confirm the June 4, 2019 meeting and tentative agenda items**

- a. Highlight information learned from the Marijuana and Youth Series
- b. Report out on research done on other counties' policy on the administration of Naloxone

**9. Adjourn**

**Motion to adjourn made by Laura Scudiere. Seconded by Dean Danner. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Shepherd, Secretary  
Chris Weisgram, Recorder