

MARATHON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2020

Present: John Robinson, Dean Danner, Kue Her, Tiffany Lee, Sandi Cihlar, Mary Ann Crosby, Lori Shepherd

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

Others Present: Donna Krause

1. Call to Order

John Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:48 a.m.

2. Public Comment Period

Donna Krause shared comments and distributed articles related to research around medical marijuana.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the December 3, 2019 Board of Health Meeting

Motion by Sandi Cihlar to approve the December 3, 2019 minutes. Seconded by Dean Danner. The motion was approved.

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

A. None

5. Policy Discussion and Possible Action

A. Determine next steps in adopting Marathon County Board of Health Statement on Marijuana and the Impact on the Public's Health

John Robinson shared that the draft was provided at the last meeting, and additional articles have been received for further information. Melissa Moore and Judy Burrows shared that no changes have been made to the draft document. Judy Burrows shared that impacts of policy changes in neighboring states will likely be seen locally.

The Board held discussion on proposals being considered at the State level, and the purpose of the statement. Joan Theurer clarified that the original intent of the statement was to provide talking points, and a credible source of information for Board members, with consistent language.

Melissa Moore shared that reports have been developed in other states covering things to consider when states consider legalization.

John Robinson suggested including that the statement was written with information available at the time of the report, given the frequency of new research developments.

The Board held discussion on the merits of adopting the statement, including having the facts as they are currently known, and the statements reads neutral for the purposes of education and consideration.

Melissa Moore clarified that the statement focuses more on the data aspect of the issue, rather than public opinion.

Lori Shepherd motioned to accept and utilize the statement on marijuana and the impact on the public's health, and review the statement at least every two years. Seconded by Kue Her. Motion approved.

B. Determine the 2020-2021 Licensing Fee

Joan Theurer highlighted points from the overview document provided. In 2018, the licensing fees collected cover 82% of the program costs as reported for Priority Based Budgeting. Joan also noted the license fee history table, and explained the reason for fluctuations in revenues and expenses. Impacts include varying numbers of licensed facilities year to year, full time equivalent staff, health insurance premium costs, and staff turnover.

Joan shared fees in 2019 covered a portion of indirect program costs in light of staff vacancy. Joan reviewed the potential revenue increases with associated fee increases.

Lori Shepherd asked if any feedback was received from operators. Dale Grosskurth indicated none had been received.

John Robinson indicated he would be comfortable with 3% given the status of priority based budgeting, currently.

Motion to approve a fee increase of 3% for 2020 made by Dean Danner. Seconded by Mary Ann Crosby. Motion approved.

C. Update WALHDAB/WPHA Public Affairs and State of WI Department of Health Services public health policy initiatives

- i. Lead Safe Housing Grant
- ii. Other

Joan Theurer shared that this item has been included as a standing item to provide an opportunity for ongoing updates on current news and initiatives from the state public health organizations and the State of WI Department of Health Services.

Dale Grosskurth shared that the Lead Safe Housing Grant would be helpful to property owners and community members. The City of Wausau is working to be approved as the administrator of the grant, and the plan is for six properties in the first year to address lead safety issues. The Health Department's role would be to conduct the lead hazard investigations and assist in identifying eligible properties.

Discussion on the prevalence of properties in the area that are unsafe due to lead, and progress made over the last several years to address the issue.

Dale Grosskurth shared that the grant will be available to residents outside of the City of Wausau.

Joan shared that the State of WI Department of Health Services will be working on advancing public health initiatives in the areas of lead abatement, vaping, Medicaid expansion, and immunizations. There is support from the two state associations to move forward bills related to housing, including case managers, job coaches, and subsidies to help address the homelessness and housing issue.

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Overview of Public Health 3.0 and changes to the Wis. Administrative Code DHS 140 level requirements for local health departments

Joan Theurer shared a presentation on Public Health 3.0, and changes to Wisconsin Administrative Code DHS 140. Strategic collaborative partnerships are essential to supporting the work of the Health Department. Joan also reviewed the history of the impacts of public health since the start of the 20th Century, and the timeline of changes to public health's approach. Public Health 3.0 focuses on the need to address social determinants of health, with health departments taking on the role of chief (community) health strategist.

Joan Theurer provided an overview of changes to DHS 140 for local health departments at levels 1, 2, and 3. The updates included incorporation of concepts from Public Health 3.0, core functions and essential services, and foundational public health services models.

New areas of focus for DHS 140 for level 1 include emergency preparedness and response, policy and planning, leadership and organizational competencies (quality improvement, health equity, workforce).

Joan walked through the revised requirements included for level 3 departments, shared the process for a Chapter 140 review, and what is already being done to retool for Public Health 3.0, and the direction for the department going forward.

The Board discussed concerns with the significance of looking at social and economic conditions affecting health, and how the work necessary to make change will be supported.

John Robinson suggested looking at how Public Health 3.0 changes the work plan for the Health Officer, and relative to the Community Health Improvement Plan.

7. Announcements

A. Staffing Update

Joan Theurer shared that Aaron Ruff, Health Educator has resigned from the Health Department. Recruitment for the position will be under way.

B. Other

John Robinson indicated he will be calling in for the next meeting, and asked if other members will not be attending.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Shepherd, Secretary
Chris Weisgram, Recorder