

**Marathon County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2021**

Present (via Zoom): John Robinson, Craig McEwen, Lori Shepherd, Sandi Cihlar, Dean Danner, Kue Her, Tiffany Lee, Corrie Norrbom

MCHD Staff: Jenna Flynn, Hannah Schommer, Dale Grosskurth, Laura Scudiere, Eileen Eckardt, Rachel Klemp-North, Melissa Moore, Amanda Ostrowski, Aaron Ruff

Others Present: Tim Buttke, Jeff Sargent, JoAnna Bernklau, Brooke Davis, Katie Dively, Jen Smith, Erin Wells, Tara Draeger, Debi Traeder

1. Call to Order

John Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:45 AM.

2. Public Comment Period

None.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 11, 2021 Board of Health Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2021 meeting made by Sandi Cihlar. Seconded by Lori Shepherd. The motion was approved.

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

A. Election of the Board of Health Secretary

Sandy Cihlar nominated Kue Her. Motion to appoint Kue Her as Board of Health Secretary made by Corrie Norrbom. Seconded by Craig McEwen. The motion was approved. Joan Theurer will connect with Kue regarding the responsibilities of the position.

5. Policy Discussion and Possible Action

A. Update on Governor Evers 2021-23 Biennial Budget Proposal and determine public health priorities

i. Review letter to area legislators of the Board of Health budget priorities

No action taken.

ii. Share updates on the state budget process and legislative priorities

Joan Theurer shared that the Joint Committee and Finance wrap up next week, at which time the budget will go to the Legislature.

B. Policy updates from the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB) and WI Department of Health Services (standing agenda item)

Joan Theurer shared that agencies will have a better idea of COVID response funding in late summer or early fall, and that local health departments continue to look to the State for direction in terms of the pandemic response.

C. Update on the Start Right UniverCity program evaluation

Joan Theurer shared the history behind the recommendation to have an outside party evaluate the Start Right program to determine how the program benefits the community long-term. Joan also provided an update on the status of the UniverCity study being done by Barry Delin, Ph.D. affiliated with UniverCITY, University of Wisconsin System who has extensive experience in federal grant program evaluations. Mr. Delin is currently looking at all data he has received to date and will provide an initial draft by mid-to-late August, with a final draft (including recommendations) expected in mid-September.

Discussion on recognizing the limitations of the study, as well as how to provide a comprehensive program evaluation as to long-term impacts, given this would require a long-term study lasting 20-50 years, as well as very granular data that would cost a lot of money and resources to capture.

D. Update on the COVID-19 pandemic response efforts at a local and state level
i. Update on vaccination efforts in Marathon County

Joan Theurer provided an update on vaccination efforts in Marathon County, indicating that while vaccinations administered at the NTC AMI site have dropped to less than 500 per week. Corrie Norrbom shared vaccination efforts occurring through H2N partners.

ii. Update on the challenges in promoting COVID-19 prevention measures of masking, physically distance, quarantine/isolation in light of CDC's May 13 recommendations for fully vaccinated individuals

Discussion about the continued challenges promoting masking and vaccinations. Craig McEwen indicated that it is difficult to change the minds of people, but we can aim for a 70% vaccination rate. Joan Theurer indicated that the public is tired of masking and social distancing, and parents are asking school boards to reconsider the layered prevention approach to COVID, which would include discontinuing masking, social distancing and policy changes around close contacts. The proposed changes may have ramifications in the fall once school resumes.

Joan Theurer indicated that the COVID-19 vaccine is being integrated by health care providers into the standard of care, so it will be readily available to individuals even after the AMI clinic is discontinued.

E. Report from the Health & Human Services Committee June 2 meeting on policy issues impacting public health

John Robinson shared that the Committee took up amending the county ordinance for the Board of Health membership to be in keeping with state statutory language as previously adopted by the County Board in 2019.

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

- A. Report on actions being taken to address human health hazards identified at the Northern Mobile Home Park

Joan Theurer and Dale Grosskurth provide an overview on the actions being taken to address the human health hazards identified at the Northern Mobile Home Park as well as their implications. Actions that can be taken include the Health Department not renewing the license and the City of Schofield revoking the license.

- B. Update on staffing

Joan Theurer shared that Dani Parker has been hired as a Public Health Nurse, and that another vacant Public Health Nurse position will be filled as well. Laura Fischer has accepted the position of Public Health Educator. Recruitment for the two vacant administrative positions continue.

DHS has offered to assist in the recruitment for the Health Officer position to Lance Leonard.

7. Announcements

- A. Acknowledgement of Lori Shepherd, MD service to the Board of Health since May 7, 1996

On behalf of the Board, John Robinson expressed gratitude to Dr. Lori Shepherd for her 25 years of service to the Board of Health. Dr Shepherd shared that over time the Board of Health transitioned from being primarily operationally-focused to focused on policy change, and the positive impact that has had on our County.

John Robinson congratulated Joan Theurer for being awarded the 2021 Carol Graham Lifetime Achievement Award by the Wisconsin Public Health Association. The purpose of the award is to recognize special career-spanning contributions through leadership, advocacy, or service to public health in Wisconsin.

8. Policy Discussion and Possible Action (resume 8:30 AM)

- A. Defining “results” for the Community Health Priority Substance Misuse

Amanda Ostrowski presented four options to the board for discussion:

1. All Marathon County residents use substances safely.
2. All Marathon County residents are free from substance-related health and safety programs.
3. All Marathon County youth grow up substance free.
4. Marathon County residents of all ages and abilities are free from alcohol-related health and social problems.

After hearing additional ideas, discussion and clarification, the group voted on the following options:

1. All Marathon County residents use substances safely.

2. All Marathon County residents are free from substance-related health and safety programs.
3. All Marathon County youth grow up substance free.
4. Marathon County residents of all ages and abilities are free from alcohol-related health and social problems.
5. Marathon County residents of all ages and abilities will achieve well-being free from substance misuse.
6. Marathon County residents of all ages and abilities are free from the physical, emotional, and social impacts of substance misuse.

Results of the vote selected by the group are as follows:

1. Marathon County residents of all ages and abilities are free from the physical, emotional, and social impacts of substance misuse.
2. All Marathon County youth grow up substance free.

The Community Health Improvement (CHI) team will research options for Indicators that support the Result(s). The Board of Health with members of Healthy Marathon County will then determine which Indicator(s) best support the Result at a future meeting.

Melissa Moore shared that she, Hannah Schommer, and Debi Traeder will be hosting upcoming QPR trainings, and exploring “train the trainer” options within this program.

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

- A. Confirm July 13, 2021 meeting date and determine agenda topics, noting the next date is July 13
 - i. Overview of Marathon County Health Department’s Organization Culture Survey findings and next steps
 - ii. Healthy Marathon County to join for the second half of the meeting to determine “indicators” for the Community Health Priority Substance Misuse

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kue Her, Secretary
Kim Wieloch, Recorder