

**Marathon County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2021**

Meeting Location: 212 River Drive, Room 5, Wausau WI 54403
Also via Zoom

Present (in person): Kue Her, John Robinson, Sandy Cihlar, Corrie Norrbom, Craig McEwen, Tiffany Lee

MCHD Staff: Joan Theurer, Laura Scudiere, Kim Wieloch, Jon Schmunk, Dale Grosskurth

Others Present: Debi Traeder, Becky Turpin, Erin Wells, Tara Draeger

Others Present (via Zoom): Jen Smith

1. Call to Order

John Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:46 AM.

2. Public Comment Period

The following members of the public provided comments related to the COVID-19 vaccine:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Dr. Robin Baker	Wausau, Wisconsin
Dr. Lewis Smith	Wausau, Wisconsin
Jan Gartmann	Rothschild, Wisconsin
Monica Bogan	Wausau, Wisconsin
Stacy Morache	Wausau, Wisconsin
Sandy Bautsch	Wausau, Wisconsin
Michael Bautsch	Wausau, Wisconsin
Cory Wolfe	Hatley, Wisconsin
Mike Borski	Wausau, Wisconsin

Comments were limited to three minutes per speaker at the directive of the Chair. Public hearing suspended at 8:04 AM to resume regular Board of Health business and would resume, time permitting, at the conclusion of the meeting. Chair John Robinson indicated that there is no proposal for 'strike teams' to administer the vaccine.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the June 8, 2021 and July 13, 2021 Board of Health Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2021 meeting and the July 13, 2021 meeting made by Sandy Cihlar. Second by Craig McEwen. Motion approved.

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

A. None

5. Policy Discussion and Possible Action

A. Determine guiding principles for restructuring the Licensing Program fees

Joan Theurer and Dale Grosskurth spoke to the document included in the board packet referencing licensing fees. They introduced concepts and questions so Board of Health members could think through considerations. Dale spoke to the history of gradual increase of fees for the water testing program and the pool licensing program and rationale for increases:

- To align licensing fees with state categories, which takes into account both the complexity of the food-related operations and its annual gross food sales;
- To cover costs of licensing program; and
- To not subsidize businesses that are out of regulation.

Dale pointed out that the current fee structure was established prior to 1996. The following direction was asked of the Board of Health members:

- Should total indirect costs be allocated or just supervision costs? Program partly serves the general population.
- For retail food establishments, should the fee structure be based solely on complexity of operations or combination of complexity and gross annual food sales?
- For all other establishes, should fees be based on gross annual revenue, actual costs incurred to carry out work, or both?

Dale shared that the required timeline is to restructure fees by next April. John Robinson indicated that Marathon County’s goal is to recoup costs of the program in support of priority-based budgeting. He encouraged the Department to identify the actual costs of programming.

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Update on COVID-19 pandemic response efforts occurring at a local and state level

- i. Report on community-wide initiatives underway to assist individuals in making an informed decision and to ensure access to COVID-19 vaccinations.

Laura Scudiere spoke to focusing information efforts on populations that are disproportionately affected by the disease and those who are as yet undecided on vaccination. She shared that the Department is working with community partner at events and using social media as educational opportunities. Laura indicated that a multi-layered approach works best in reaching people. She also indicated that we are seeing decline in vaccinations at these events. Joan Theurer shared that the purpose of the Department’s information efforts is:

1. Providing the public with credible information so people can make informed decisions;
2. Ensuring access to vaccines by identifying barriers.

Joan shared that Marathon, Portage, Wood, and Clark Counties have had multi-county meetings to ensure that messaging about the vaccine is aligned. She also indication that the Department is organizing clinics to reach individuals who don’t have way to access clinics, such as jail inmates, visitors to the Neighbor’s Place, visitors to the Salvation Army, and homeless

individuals. The AMI clinic is also still being held at NTC and is also available for off-site clinics at businesses and events. Joan Theurer shared that medical providers have also incorporated vaccination information into their standards of care.

Corrie Norrbom spoke to the Department's collaboration with the Hmong and Hispanic Communication Network (H2N) and extensive work done with cultural to make information available on the website. She indicated that Hispanic and Hmong community health workers can gather information from their respective communities as well as disseminate it, which makes them very effective. Younger adults as well as teenagers are undecided on whether to get the vaccine.

John Robinson called for a short break at 8:37 AM. Meeting reconvened at 8:43 AM.

ii. Other – None.

B. Update on actions being taken to address human health hazards identified at the Northern Mobile Home Park

Dale Grosskurth indicated that Corporate Counsel has been working on this and that there is a meeting with the City of Schofield to talk about the permitting of park, how we can support residents, and to define roles. There has been no substantial change in conditions as of this morning.

John Robinson indicated that involvement needs to be accelerated out of concern for residents due to winter approaching, and that perhaps American Recovery Act funding could be used for housing.

C. Report from the Health & Human Services Committee August 4 meeting on policy issues impacting public health

Joan Theurer shared that she has provided an overview of Start Right program to committee members and Board to provide information and context. She asked for clarification on if evaluation of the program is based on Cost/Benefit standpoint, which is more focused on the accounting aspect, or a Return-on-Investment standpoint, which looks beyond county government and considers societal benefits/costs, as well as at long term vs. short term benefits.

D. Update on staffing

Joan shared that Kang Chu Yang has been hired as the Administrative Coordinator, Samantha Younn has been hired as the Administrative Specialist, and Mikayla Nowinsky has been hired as a Public Health Nurse. She also indicated that Lance Leonhard, County Administrator, has shared his recommendation for Laura Scudiere to fill the upcoming Health Officer vacancy. The County Board will review this recommendation at their August 24th, 2021 meeting.

7. Announcements

John Robinson announced that due to her impending departure on September 1st, 2021, this was Joan Theurer’s last meeting as Health Officer. John thanked Joan for her years of service since she began in September 2009.

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

A. Determine “indicators” for the Community Health Priority Substance Misuse

Amanda Ostrowski indicated the work being done today would be focused on selecting indicators for the conditions that were determined at previous meetings.

Melissa shared that the indicators came from Youth Risk Behavior survey, which is the gold standard for surveys – federal, state, and local. She provided definitions of the three Powers to be considered when rating the indicators: Communication Power, Proxy Power, and Data Power. Follow up item: Add prescription drug use to data development agenda.

The group rated the indicators as follows, resulting in the highlighted indicators being selected:

CONDITION: All Marathon County Youth grow up substance-free.

Indicator: Teens who drank alcohol in the past 30 days
Communication: HIGH
Proxy – HIGH
Data – HIGH

Indicator: Teens who used marijuana in the past 30 days.
Communication – HIGH
Proxy – HIGH
Data – MEDIUM

Indicator: Teens who used an electronic nicotine delivery system in the past 30 days.
Communication – HIGH
Proxy – MEDIUM
Data – MEDIUM

Indicator: Teens who smokes cigarettes in the last 30 days
Communication – HIGH
Proxy – HIGH
Data - HIGH

Indicator: Teen prescription drug abuse within the last 30 days
Communication – HIGH
Proxy – HIGH
Data – LOW

CONDITION: *Marathon County residents of all ages and abilities are free from the physical, emotional, and social impacts of substance misuse.*

Indicator: Adults who binge drink
Communication – HIGH
Proxy – HIGH
Data – MEDIUM

Indicator: Drug overdose deaths
Communication - MEDIUM
Proxy - MEDIUM
Data – MEDIUM

Indicator: Drug arrests in Marathon County
Communication - HIGH
Proxy – LOW
Data – LOW

Indicator: OWI Arrests
Communication – HIGH
Proxy – LOW
Data – LOW

Indicator: Adults who smoke
Communication – HIGH
Proxy – HIGH
Data - MEDIUM

Amanda shared next steps: Results Based Accountability has a partner program called Clear Impact. Amanda will load data into Clear Impact and disburse results within a week. Jenna and Melissa will connect with partners over the next 3-5 years to determine where we invest our resources. The group will re-evaluate in 2023 to determine what’s changing, as there is a responsibility to re-evaluate periodically so strategy can be revised if needed. The Mental Health result will be in the September meeting packet, and the group will do the same indicator determination. The October meeting may need to be moved to a different day.

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

- A. Confirm September 14, 2021 meeting date and determine agenda topics
 - i. Update on Marathon County Start Right program evaluation
 - ii. Healthy Marathon County to join for the second half of the meeting to define “results” for the Community Health Priority Mental Health

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by John Robinson; seconded by Sandy Cihlar. Meeting adjourned at 10:11 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kue Her, Secretary

Kim Wieloch, Recorder