

Marathon County Board of Health Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, April 12th, 2022, at 7:45 AM
Meeting Location: Marathon County Courthouse
Assembly Room
500 Forest Street
Wausau, WI 54403

Present - In Person: Tara Draeger, Craig McEwen, John Robinson, Kue Her

Present - Via WebEx: Dean Danner, Corrie Norrbom, Helen Luce, Tiffany Rodriguez Lee

MCHD Staff: Eileen Eckardt (Online), Dale Grosskurth, Kelsey Drysdale (Online),
Laura Fischer (Online), Rachel Klemp-North (Online),
Becky Mroczenski (Online), Amanda Ostrowski (Online),
Aaron Ruff (Online), Hannah Schommer (Online), Laura Scudiere,
Kim Wieloch, Kang Chu Yang

Others via WebEx: Edward Belongia, Tim Buttke, Sarah Dowidat, Kurt Gibbs

Others In Person: Chris Dickinson

Committee Members: John Robinson, Chair; Craig McEwen, Vice-Chair; Kue Her, Secretary;
Sandi Cihlar; Dean Danner; Tara Draeger; Tiffany Lee; Helen Luce;
Corrie Norrbom

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

2. Public Comment Period (Limit to 15 Minute)
The following members of the public provided comments. Commenters voiced concerns regarding vaccine efficacy and safety, amongst other COVID-related concerns.

Name	Residence
Robin Baker	Wausau, WI
Steve Frazier	Schofield, WI
Tanya Riehle	Wausau, WI
Melinda DeGier	Merrill, WI
Michael Bausch	Wausau, WI
Tom Schuette	Wausau, WI

Comments were limited to three minutes at the direction of the Chair and limited to the first 15 minutes.

3. Approval of the Minutes
A. March 8, 2022, Board of Health Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2022, Board of Health meeting made by Craig McEwen. Second by Tara Draeger. Motion approved.

4. Policy Discussion and Possible Action

A. None

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

A. None

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Presentation: Overview of U.S. Vaccine Safety Monitoring System by Director of Marshfield Clinic Research Institute's Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Population Health, Edward Belongia MD

In response to requests from Marathon County Board members and other residents, Dr. Belongia presented an overview of the Vaccine Safety Monitoring System within the United States. Health Officer, Laura Scudiere introduced Dr. Ed Belongia, an adjunct professor to the Department of Population Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin. He is also the Senior Epidemiologist and Director of the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Population Health at Marshfield Clinic Research Institute. Dr. Belongia has extensive experience with the vaccine safety mechanisms and structure, and he presented on the following topics: vaccine development, vaccine effectiveness, vaccine safety, and the vaccine safety reporting mechanisms conducted by the federal government.

Questions were asked regarding whether adverse event data could be tracked on a local level or if Board of Health members could review vaccine adverse events for Marathon County specifically. Dr. Belongia explained that the data was tracked by Federal systems and was not broken down this way. He reiterated that local systems, such as the Marathon County Health Department, do not have any role in vaccine adverse event surveillance as vaccine safety monitoring programs are operated and managed by federal systems.

B. Review Marathon County School-based Consortium for Youth Mental Health

Marathon County Health Department provides backbone support for the Youth School-based Consortium, which provides mental health services to several Marathon County school systems. Director of Community Health Improvement, Amanda Ostrowski shared information on the Youth Mental Health Consortium. This consortium ensures that mental health services are available to a variety of Marathon County schools. The first strategy was to increase accessibility and utilization to on-site mental health counselling services and establish telehealth services. The second strategy helped increase data knowledge and awareness of the student population. 2017 was the first-time schools collected Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data on middle school students and Marathon County teen life. The

third strategy surrounds community organizations utilizing local data to more effectively allocate resources to address youth needs within schools. There are several successes for the consortium. Athens school changed their schedule to flex an hour for students to build relationships with adults and other students. There were numerous sessions that aided students and families with mental health, coping, and relaxation. Learning opportunities were also available for parents to help students at home. Education development opportunities were created for teachers and staff.

7. Report From the Health & Human Services Committee Meeting on Policy Issues Impacting Public Health

- A. County Board Supervisor, Tim Buttke gave an update on the block fund endorsement for housing, and discussion on potential modifications to a local criminal marijuana ordinance. The ordinance was discussed at the Health and Human Services committee, and they have chosen not to modify it.

Robinson thanked Buttke for attending the Board of Health meetings for the last 2 years as today was his last day as a County Board Supervisor.

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

- A. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion.
- B. Next Board of Health Meeting: **Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 7:45 a.m.**
- C. Robinson announced and thanked board member, Sandi Cihlar for serving on the board, as today was her last day on the board.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Kue Her; second by Tara Draeger. Motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:52 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Kang Chu Yang, Recorder