

Board of Health Minutes

August 13, 2020

Attendance: Shirley Fessler, Dave Nickels, Jonathan Neils, Nicholas Muench, Shannon Wanek, and Dr. Todd Nelson Also attending: Mary Halada and Erica Loppnow Excused: Rita Metzger and Kayla Drumm Absent: Dr. Brian Konowalchuk

Regular Business:

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Dave Nickels at 5:02 p.m. The minutes of the June 11, 2020 Board of Health meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Nicholas Muench and seconded by Todd Nelson to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Nurse Manager Report:

- Coronavirus Update – Erica Loppnow stated that one PHN recently retired and four new PHNs have been hired, three of which have started in the last 2 weeks. We have LTE Communication Specialist hired that will start August 31st to assist with contact tracing and other planning activities. The staff is divided into 3 teams to provide Holiday and weekend coverage. We have been following up with positive cases within 24 hours and close contact within 48 hours. There has been challenges with individuals following the quarantine recommendations. We continue to work with schools on their re-opening plan. One of the biggest challenges is to keep up with workplace and large gathering outbreaks as well as keeping up with normal public health activities and communicable diseases. Many businesses require a letter for isolation/quarantine and that is also time consuming.

Health Officer Report

- Communicable Disease Report – Mary highlighted that there were 63 confirmed COVID-19 cases created in June and 201 created in July. There were a lot of negative test results processed as well. There was a significant number of Chlamydia cases for each month although, the overall number of Chlamydia cases have decreased over the last few months.
- Mary explained the Routes to Recovery funding from the state. This Program was created with funding from the federal CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund, which may be used to reimburse necessary, unbudgeted expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. This fund will cover any of the isolation housing for infected or at-risk individuals as well as PPE, increased workers compensation and testing or contact tracing costs above and beyond existing programs. Nicholas Muench made a motion to accept the resolution and Jon Neils seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Mary explained the resolution accepting the CARES Act funding. This money will be used to revise the pandemic and emergency preparedness plan, provide staff to perform contact tracing, develop a community testing plan, and increase lab capacity in Manitowoc County. Jon Neils made a motion to approve the resolution and Nicholas Muench seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WIC Director Report

WIC has been working virtually since April 1st and will continue to work virtually until at least the end of September. The WIC association is recommending that the virtual appointments continue until September 2021. The final caseload for May 2020 was 973 participants and 579 families; June was 951 participants with 575 families; and July initial caseload is 943 participants, 564 families. The contracted caseload is 1,067. Seasonal Framer's Market vouchers are being issued this year for families. Each eligible family received a \$30 voucher.

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The next meeting date for the Board of Health will be September 10, 2020 at 5:00 PM in the public health building. A motion to adjourn was made by Nicholas Muench and seconded by Todd Nelson. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Halada, Acting Secretary