

**OPEN MEETING MINUTES**  
**Waukesha County**  
**Public Health Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, April 14, 2022**  
**Health and Human Services Building, Room 271**

**Present Committee Members:** Froedtert Health (Andrew Dresang, Chair), ProHealth Care Hispanic Health Resource Center (Jessica Kadow, Vice-Chair), Luann Ladwig, Lake Area Free Clinic (Mary Reich), ProHealth Care (Sarah Butz)

**Absent Committee Members:** Aurora Medical Center, Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, Betty Koepsel

**HHS Board Liaisons:** Mary Baer

**Present HHS Staff Liaisons:** Ben Jones, Bridget Gnad, Theresa Imp

**Absent HHS Staff Liaisons:** Elizabeth Laatsch, Mary Jo Hamman, Mary Smith, Sarah Ward

**Guests:** Tristin Bruno

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Dresang called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: Reich moved, second by Butz to approve the Public Health Advisory Committee minutes from February 10, 2022. Motion passed without negative vote.

**3. Committee Business**

**A. Finalize Public Health Advisory Committee 2022 Meeting Schedule**

Dresang briefly discussed the Public Health Advisory Committee meeting schedule. The meeting will continue to take place from 8:00-9:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month with a recess in July. The committee will discuss the agency report assignments at the next meeting.

**4. Community Needs Presentation Discussion**

Dresang reviewed the PowerPoint presentation titled "Community Needs 2022: Champion Innovative Programs and Partnerships to Foster Optimal Health and Well-Being for All Community Members." Attendees agreed that the PowerPoint, as presented, was final and could be sent for the HHS Board presentation on April 21.

**5. Committee and Organizational Updates**

**A. Health and Human Services Board – HHS Board Liaison**

Baer shared that there are significant changes coming to the Mental Health Center (MHC). The MHC will be converting one of the units into a crisis

stabilization unit. This conversion will reduce the number of in-patient beds to 16 and allow the facility to bill Medicare for services. Downsizing will also reduce the tax levy but will allow the MHC to increase efficiency, safety, and oversight in addition to expanding crisis intervention services. There will be 24 hour, 7-day coverage under one roof.

Pandemic recovery continues as the number of cases and hospitalizations decrease. There are new variants and subvariants of COVID coming that tend to be more contagious, but the illness tends to be less serious for vaccinated individuals. Due to time delays for test results, the focus for Disease Investigators has shifted to severe disease and immunocompromised. If a child tests positive, the parents will still receive a text. If an individual over 70-years of age tests positive, they will receive a letter notification.

The County is in the third year of the five-year Strategic Plan and is looking to engage employees to help determine future goals. So far, this engagement has inspired approximately 20% of the staff to join voluntary initiatives, including two customer service improvement teams.

**B. Environmental Health Division**

Jones reported that the Environmental Health Division (EH) is undergoing some staffing changes as well as gearing up for summer and temporary licensing. Additionally, EH has implemented the new fee schedule for upcoming renewals. Retail food establishments went from a revenue-based fee structure to a risk-based fee structure. The goal was to minimize the impact to the EH budget and the impact to operators while better aligning with the number of license-types.

**C. Aging and Disability Resource Center**

Baer shared that the ADRC Community Needs presentation will include a section discussing the Social Determinants of Health.

**6. Public Health Division Reports**

• **Annual Report Review**

The committee reviewed the Annual Report. Jones will be working with the new Public Information Officer to redesign the Annual Report for next year.

• **COVID-19 Updates**

Jones reported on the status of COVID-19 infections and policies. At the end of March, the County was at about 20 cases per day. This is down from 1,300 cases per day in January. The BA.2 subvariant of Omicron is more infectious than the original Omicron variant. Cases have increased to approximately 40 cases per day since the end of March; however, there is no expectation of a major spike in cases at this point. The hope is that cases will decrease throughout the spring and summer.

Waukesha County is currently in the CDC's "green" category indicating that the risk of infection for most of the population is low and mask-wearing is not required. There have been no recent increases in hospitalizations. It is still recommended that residents get any vaccines that they are eligible for as studies show that there is additional protection provided.

The state will be updating their COVID-19 dashboard to align with the CDC's information.

The Public Health Division continues to move forward in building the health strategy position.

**7. Agency Reports**

There were no agency reports.

**8. Agency Announcements and Updates**

Reich shared that new patient enrollment at the Lake Area Free Clinic doubled in the first quarter of 2022, compared to 2021. Many of their patients are complex and require extensive case management.

Kadow stated that the Hispanic Resource Center just received approval for a bilingual Psychotherapist. This position will be housed at the Hispanic Resource Center two days per week and three days per week at the hospital.

Dresang reminded attendees that the last Saturday of April is Drug Takeback. Please share this information with community members.

Butz reported that Unite Us integration is part of ProHealth Care's Vision 2024 strategic planning. They do not yet have a timeframe for when they will launch, but it is in the plans for the next three years.

**9. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- Review how Community Needs Presentation to the HHS Board went
- Determine Agency Report assignments for the remainder of the year
- Reach out to Sixteenth Street and Advocate Aurora for new representative
- Discuss re-scheduling Randy Setzer for HHS Administrative Services Presentation

**10. Public Comment**

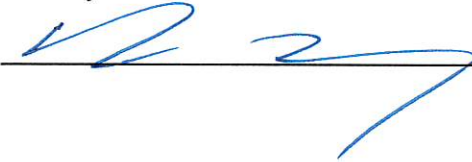
There was no public comment.

**11. Adjournment**

MOTION: Reich moved, second by Kadow to adjourn at 9:25 a.m. Motion passed without negative vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tristin Bruno.

Minutes Were Approved:



Date:

5/12/22