

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

**Waukesha County Health and Human Services
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting
Public Health Advisory Committee
Thursday, April 8, 2021**

Present Committee Members: Steven Andrews, Ross Clay, Andrew Dresang (Chair), Jessica Kadow (Vice Chair), Colleen Peebles, Mary Reich, Sarah Butz, Betty Koepsel

Absent Committee Members:

HHS Board Liaisons: Mary Baer

Present HHS Staff Liaisons: Ben Jones, Mary Smith, Theresa Imp, Bridget Gnad, Sarah Ward

Absent HHS Staff Liaisons: Mary Jo Hamman, Brittany Leising, Elizabeth Laatsch

Guests: Tristin Bruno, Kim Moore

1. Call to Order

Chair Dresang called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Reich moved, second by Clay, to approve the Public Health Advisory Committee minutes from March 11, 2021. Motion passed without negative vote.

3. Business

There was no new business.

4. Committee and Organizational Updates

A. Health and Human Services Board

Baer reviewed the Community Needs Presentation to the Board, which outlined the desire for Public Health to offer the highest-level services and care to clients within a reasonable and responsible budget. All the groups that presented, requested the funding necessary to continue current programs, as well as implementing programs for newly identified needs and the training and infrastructure changes needed to support such programming.

Some of the community needs discussed included:

- Housing Navigator pilot program
- Support for room and board during mental health treatment
- In-county and out-of-county transportation

- Respite care
- Mental health case management services
- Prescription drug management services
- Support for dental care
- Support for utility costs in winter

The consensus from the Board was generally positive; the Board recognized that many Public Health needs have been highlighted significantly due to COVID-19. The public/private collaboration over the past year has been well-received.

B. Environmental Health Division

There was no update from the Environmental Health Division.

C. Aging and Disability Resource Center (ARDC)

Smith discussed bringing staff back into the building and the plans for resuming services, conducting home visits, and re-opening the lobby by mid-May once most staff have been fully vaccinated. The planned expansion to the home-delivered meals program, which includes more hot meals as well as additional delivery days, will require additional volunteers; however, recruitment is slower due to added COVID safety measures.

The ARDC Advisory Board is interviewing agencies and partners in the community to see what should be included in the development of the Aging Unit Plan.

There has been an increase in calls to Adult Protective Services regarding financial abuse as scammers take advantage of increased social isolation. World Elder Abuse Day is June 15, and this will be one of the main topics this year.

5. Public Health Division Reports

A. Manager/Health Officer

• COVID-19 Updates

Jones shared that the latest statistics show April has had a slight increase over February and March in daily COVID-19 cases. Currently, the numbers are stable, and hospitals have no capacity concerns. The Patient Education Genius (PEG) system is in use and receiving a response rate of over 50%, which has helped decrease the contact tracing workforce.

• Vaccine

The Mass Clinic at the Expo is still open, with clinics running based on the allocation of vaccine doses. The combined efforts of the Mass Clinic, pharmacies, and other vaccinator sites have allowed the public to have easier access to vaccine appointments. Approximately 50% of eligible residents will have been vaccinated by the end of this week. Over 80% of the 65+ community has been vaccinated in Waukesha County. A main factor in the ability to vaccinate the public, regardless of the vaccinator site, is the amount of vaccine made available.

Looking forward, Waukesha County is beginning to plan for closing the Mass Clinic and transitioning to something closer to the flu vaccination model.

A close collaboration between Village Primary and the ADRC allowed vaccinations for homebound, as well as homeless shelter, patients.

The County is exploring options for ordering only second-dose vaccine to cover people who received their first dose from left-over vaccine at the end of regular clinic days.

Teams have been set-up to address vaccine hesitancy with direct outreach to groups in order to combat misinformation. A common message with accurate facts from a personal physician or other trusted community leaders will allow individuals to make informed decisions regarding the vaccine.

6. Agency Reports – GE Healthcare (Dr. Ross Clay)

Moore displayed and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation titled, “Global COVID-19 Crisis Response”.

7. Agency Announcements and Updates

Sixteenth Street Clinic is continuing to do COVID tests as necessary. The clinic also has many COVID vaccine appointments scheduled for the coming weeks.

Sixteenth Street is receiving a grant for behavioral health services in Waukesha County. The two-year grant provides \$200,000 per year to provide behavioral health services at the charter school.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Kadow moved, second by Andrews, to adjourn at 9:13 a.m. Motion passed without negative vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tristin Bruno.

Minutes Were Approved: _____ Date: _____