

Board of Health Minutes

March 9, 2023

Attendance: Shirley Fessler, Brian Konowalchuk, Leo Naidl, Jonathan Neils, Catherine Wagner, Annette Kaminsky, Nick Muench. Excused: Rita Metzger, Shannon Wanek. Also in attendance: Bob Ziegelbauer, Heather Feest, Pradeep Giriappa, Brandon Kufalk.

Regular Business:

The meeting was called to order by Jonathan Neils at 5:00 p.m. The minutes of the January 2023 Board of Health meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Shirley Fessler and seconded by Catherine Wagner to approve the minutes. Motion carried. Motion to accept agenda made by Catherine Wagner and was seconded by Shirley Fessler.

Health Officer Report:

- COVID-19 Update
 - Reported COVID-19 cases among Manitowoc County residents have declined, with a 7-day average of 7 cases/day. (Total: 25,188 cases)
 - COVID-19 hospitalizations in the NE region have declined, with a 7-day average of 41 people hospitalized/day.
 - COVID-19 deaths have slowed, with 4 deaths reported since last meeting. (Total: 220 deaths)
 - Health Department has discontinued weekly COVID-19 vaccine clinics.
 - COVID-19 antigen tests available through June.
- Community Health Improvement Plan is underway.
- 2022 Annual Report will be completed this month.
- COVID grant extended through the end of the year. Will be supporting Community Health Worker through NEWAHEC.
- Health Officer Transition
 - Stephanie Lambert is leaving her role as Health Officer. Korina Aghmar will be starting April 3rd, 2023.

Nurse Manager Report:

- Communicable Disease Report
 - COVID-19 remains the number one reported infectious disease in the County. Influenza-associated hospitalizations are the second most reported disease in January and chlamydia was the second most reported disease in February.
- Staffing update – A Public Health Nurse and a Health Technician have left the Health Department.

Environmental Health Manager Report:

- Due to a steady increase in the volume of tourist rooming houses, DHS has approved Manitowoc County Health Department to reduce frequency of tourist rooming house inspections from annual to once every two years.

WIC Director Report:

- January final caseload was 1,005 participants, 598 families. The initial February caseload was 1,014 participants, 603 families.
- Contracted caseload is 923 participants.

STI Testing Presentation:

Heather Feest and Brandon Kufalk (DHS) presented data on sexually transmitted infections and testing.

- Discussion and vote on adopting STI testing program – motion made by Nick Muench and seconded by Shirley Fessler. The motion was approved unanimously.

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:

The next meeting date for the Board of Health will be April 13, 2023 at 5:00 PM in the Public Health Building. A motion to adjourn was made by Nick Muench and seconded by Shannon Wanek. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Lambert, Acting Secretary