

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
CITY OF DE PERE, WISCONSIN – May 9, 2022**

The Board of Health of the City of De Pere, Wisconsin met in regular session on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dennis Hibray at 5:15 pm.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Jonathon Hansen, John Quigley, Dennis Hibray, Teresa Gulyas, Dr. Steve Stroman, and Dr. Michael McHenry. Also present were Deborah Armbruster, Trista Groth and Kelly Burke. No citizen attendees were present.

3. Public Comment on Matters not on the agenda

No public comments were made.

4. Approval of February 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Jonathon Hansen made a motion to approve the February 14, 2022, meeting minutes. Dr. Michael McHenry seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the 2022 De Pere Health Department Policies and Procedures

Deborah Armbruster explained that the Policies and Procedures have been updated, but there was a problem getting them to Dr. Stroman via e-mail. Dr. Stroman will look at them within the next week and sign them. No action is needed by the Board of Health.

6. Presentation of 2021 Annual Report of the De Pere Health Department

Deborah Armbruster asked if anyone had questions regarding the Annual Report. The Board thought the report was nicely done and easy to read. There were no questions on the content. Teresa Gulyas made a motion to accept the Annual Report as written. Dr. McHenry seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Update on Status of 2020-2025 De Pere Health Department Strategic Plan

Deborah Armbruster explained that the Board was to look at the Strategic Plan on a yearly basis to see if there are any additions or if we are going to stay with the plan as written. Deborah Armbruster explained that a representative from DHS had worked with the Health Department staff and some Board of Health members to develop the Strategic Plan. Through the process, it was determined that the need of the health department was to make people aware of us (Health Department) and the services we offer. The Health Department needed to be more visible in the community. To achieve this, the Health Department sent out brochures of our services. Shortly after the plan was finished, Covid-19 came, which made the community aware of the Health Department because of the communication we needed to do on a regular basis. This included contact tracing, communication with businesses, and sending two letters to each household in the city.

The Health Department is now trying to resume some of our normal services. We will be at the Farmers Market in De Pere to talk about our services. We will be at the Beer Gardens to provide vaccinations and educational material. We will continue to do Picnic & Play. The Primary focus of the Strategic Plan was to have the community learn about the Health Department. Deborah Armbruster feels we are doing that but is open to any suggestions from the Board of Health.

Dr. McHenry questioned the opportunities for a more involved Board of Health. Deborah Armbruster stated that the Board members are welcome to attend the WALHDAB meetings. Not many Board members attend, but it would be an opportunity to learn what the Health Departments are doing in Northeast Wisconsin. Dennis Hibray added that it is nice to interact with other board members at the WALHDAB meeting and nice to meet the presenters. Teresa Gulyas added that she felt it was a good opportunity to learn what other health departments are doing.

Jonathon Hansen asked if there were any public events that the Board of Health could be involved in. Deborah Armbruster stated that we have an open house with the Fire Department that Board members could potentially assist at. Teresa Gulyas suggested possibly helping at a vaccine clinic passing out masks, or something similar, to be a presence at the event. Dr. McHenry stated that it might be useful to have more visibility for the Board. Deborah Armbruster suggested a virtual town hall. Teresa Gulyas suggested attending the Beer Gardens.

Dennis Hibray asked about having Board of Health members attend staff meetings. Deborah Armbruster agreed that could happen but would recommend delaying until late June.

8. Community Health Updates regarding Outreach Activities and Communicable Disease Report

Deborah Armbruster asked if there were any questions on the data. Jonathon Hansen asked if there were any initiatives that came from the health equity trainings Danielle and Deborah attended. Deborah Armbruster replied that the trainings were more focused on African American, Asian, Hispanic, and Muslim communities. De Pere doesn't have a lot of these populations, but Deborah Armbruster stated that health equity is a focus of our Community Health Assessment Plan. Deborah is also on the Diversity and Inclusiveness and Equity team in De Pere.

Dennis Hibray asked if the De Pere Health Department does all the Covid outreach for the city. Deborah Armbruster answered that we send a letter to all the positive cases and phone calls to all the high-risk cases, especially our mature adults.

Teresa Gulyas mentioned that her Covid positive family member didn't get a letter. Kelly Burke will follow up on this to see what occurred.

9. Approval of MOU Between State of WI Department of Health Services and De Pere Health Department for Hosting and XRF Device for Lead Abatement Projects

Deborah Armbruster explained that when this topic was brought up at the last meeting, we were under the assumption that in order to house the XRF, we had to be in a lead abatement program. Due to the time commitment, we were not able to agree to that. The State then informed us we were able to just house the unit (without the time commitment of the lead program). It will be stored in a locked storage cabinet in our basement storage room. Trista Groth will be getting certified to use it. Trista will also be getting DOT training to drive with it in her vehicle. Trista Groth explained that when someone requests to use

it, she will need to verify that they are certified to use it and then she will need to keep track of it. Trista Groth will be the Radiation Safety Officer. Housing the device will be a minimal time commitment.

Dr. McHenry questioned the geographical location this XRF would be used in. Trista Groth responded that anyone could borrow it, but they need to pick it up and return it the same day. Therefore, they are limited by their location.

The state has 3 or 4 other XRF's that they are trying to get placed throughout the state. Deborah Armbruster and Trista Groth both agreed that they are comfortable being responsible for the XRF device.

Dr. Michael McHenry made a motion to accept the MOU to house the XRF in De Pere. John Quigley seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed.

10. Update on COVID-19

Deborah Armbruster provided a synopsis of what the Health Department has been doing to date. Dr. Stroman asked if there was any data on the number of positive home tests being reported. Debbie responded that we do not have any way to track that data. Positive cases will be severely underreported due to the home testing.

Dr. Stroman asked if we were testing wastewater. Deborah Armbruster responded that wastewater is being tested in De Pere and the levels have gone up a little bit. Deborah also stated that our Covid positive percentage is now in the "high" category at 8%.

Teresa Gulyas added that people who are vaccinated and boosted with mild symptoms may not see a reason to get tested.

Deborah Armbruster reported that vaccine clinic participation has been off and on. Per Deborah, we are anticipating vaccination clinics for the little children to begin in July. We are planning to put on a lot of vaccination clinics in August.

Jonathon Hansen inquired if the Health Department has done any outreach to encourage people to report positive cases from at home testing. Debbie responded that we have, and DHS has as well. However, we have only had a few reported.

Denis Hibray asked if the Federal Government would continue to fund the vaccine. Deborah responded that she had not heard any different. If the vaccine was no longer funded, it would have a huge impact on vaccinations. Deborah Armbruster added that we do have some money we could put toward vaccine clinics.

Dr. Michael McHenry inquired on how long the Health Department would have LTE staff available. Debbie responded that we have funding for most of our staff through December of 2024.

11. Future Agenda Items

Deborah Armbruster stated that the fire department received a grant that the health department would be involved in. The grant is in line with our Stay-at-Home Assistance program. Al Matzke is presenting it to Council. It will involve home visits to stroke patients and providing them Covid information. Jonathon Hansen replied that the Board of Health would not need to approve it since it is a grant through the Fire Department being approved by the Council. If the De Pere law department feels the Board of Health needs to approve it, we can hold a special meeting for that.

12. Adjournment

Jonathon Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Michael McHenry seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kelly Burke
Health Department Administrative Assistant