



Board of Health

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
<https://www.deperewi.gov/>

Regular Meeting

Minutes

Monday, February 12, 2024

5:15 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order on February 12, 2024 at Council Chambers and Virtual at 5:15 PM by Board Chair Dennis Hibray

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Pamela Gantz, Devin Perock, Teresa Gulyas, Dr. Michael McHenry, Dennis Hibray, Chrystal Woller, and Kelly Burke. Dr. Cassie Schandel was absent. Chris Culotta joined the meeting after roll call. No other members of the public were present.

3. Public Comment on Matters not on the Agenda. Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health. §6-3(f) DPMC

No public comments

4. Approval of the November 13, 2023 Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Devin Perock made a motion to approve the November 13, 2023 meeting minutes. Pamela Ganz seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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5. De Pere Health Department Staffing Update

Chrystal Woller began as the new Health Officer on January 4, 2024. Chrystal informed the Board of her background. Chrystal has worked for the city of De Pere as the Health Officer in the past. She left the city to work at St. Norbert College for about 7 years. Prior to working for De Pere the first time, she worked for Brown County Health Department as Nurse Manager. Prior to that, she worked in public health in Iowa. Prior to that she worked in public health in Oneida county, Rhinelander, WI. Chrystal explained that she has experience with both rural and municipal public health. Chrystal worked very closely with the De Pere Health Department while she was at St. Norbert College, especially during Covid. She had a great working relationship with Debbie. Organizational public health at SNC was a micro level version of public health. Chrystal explained that by working at SNC, she learned how public health policy at a jurisdictional level affects an organization.

Chrystal is from Wausau. She attended UW Oshkosh where she received her bachelor's degree in nursing. She was an OB nurse in Rhinelander, WI. Then, she moved into public health and has worked in public health ever since. She also has a master's degree in business administration from St. Norbert College.

Sara Lornson is now the Deputy Health Officer.

The LTE staff for the Health Department was discontinued in December of 2023.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

6. Results of Wis. Admin. Code Chapter Department of Health Services 140 Review from November 7, 2023

Chris Culotta, the Regional Director for the Division of Public Health Northeast Region, presented on the 140-review process, which is a minimum compliance audit process. This is done to verify that the Health Department is meeting its minimums in statute and rule.

The City of De Pere is a level 2 Health Department. Chris reported that one of the strengths of the City of De Pere is the leadership support of the Mayor, City Administrator, Board of Health, and other staff. Another strength is that the city departments cross collaborate. Also, the messaging modalities used by the Health Department are extensive including banners, social media, newspapers, mailings, flyers, movie theater ads and being present at community events.

The one recommendation from the state is to complete staff competency requirements every 2 years instead of every 3 years, which is the current process. There has been a lot of turnover in Public Health staff so staff competency is recommended every 2 years now. Chrystal Woller stated the De Pere Health Department can make that change.

Chris Culotta gave a brief explanation of the health department levels. There are 3 levels of Health Departments. Level one is the lowest level. They have a public health nurse, but low capacity. Level two has certain health officer requirements including communicable disease and 3 years experience. The level 3 Health officer will have a master's degree.

Chris Culotta presented the Board with the certificate indicating that the De Pere Health Departments meets the requirements of level 2 Health Department.

7. Discussion of the 2024 Grants for the Health Department

Chrystal Woller referred to the document in the packet that listed the grant amounts. Chrystal reported that the Public Health Infrastructure grant is new. We (De Pere Health Department) have not started using this grant yet because we are using our ARPA funding currently. The Coverdell stroke program is a contract with the Fire Department. We (health department) collaborate with the Fire Department to do home visitation and receive a stipend for our time. This Program has been renewed, so the Health Department will continue it going forward.

Chrystal stated that for many years public health has been under-funded, and our infrastructure has been weaker than it could be. She is excited that we have the funding to strengthen our infrastructure now.

Chrystal Woller reported that she submitted an extension request for the Covid Immunization / Vaccine for Children grant. If approved, this grant will be extended to June 2025. We can use this grant for other vaccine supplies, not just Covid.

The ARPA grant ends December 2024. Chrystal reported that we are looking within our dept and working with our external partners to spend this grant. These expenses must be related to recovery from Covid.

We are not seeking to obtain any new grants currently.

8. Communicable Disease Report: Annual Overview from 2023 and Quarterly Report 11/23-1/24
Chrystal Woller reported that 2023 was fairly typical. Danielle Jauquet provided a summary of communicable disease activity in the packet. De Pere still had Covid cases reported, as expected. Chlamydia is consistently our highest reported communicable disease. Danielle noted some activity with active tuberculosis. We also had some latent Tuberculosis cases for direct observed therapy. Covid numbers are not consistent from previous years due to home testing. Because De Pere participates in the municipal wastewater testing, we can monitor Covid disease activity through the wastewater. We had seven Covid outbreaks, a norovirus outbreak, and acute respiratory illness. An outbreak consists of three or more unrelated cases.
9. Environmental Health Report
Trista Groth compiled the environmental health information in the meeting packet. Chrystal Woller reported that the Common Council did approve the revised noise ordinance. Trista listed the details of the ordinance in the packet. Trista has been busy with inspections and re-inspections. Trista has also led radon awareness efforts along with other staff.
Chrystal Woller reported that the Health Department is exploring the feasibility of creating a summer intern position. One of our (health department.) grants allows for Local Health Departments to fund an internship program.
DATCP is coming in March to evaluate the De Pere Agent Program. Results will be available for the May agenda.
Trista is becoming a proctor for the food safety professional certification.
10. Outreach and Education Activities from 11/23-1/24
Chrystal Woller explained that not all meetings are listed in the outreach document as they previously were as she doesn't consider the internal meetings as outreach. Chrystal explained that the staff meeting information can be accessed, if needed, through the staff's outlook calendars or through their time records (Incode). Teresa Gulyas requested that the meetings be recorded under trainings and conferences so there is still a record of them. Chrystal agreed to record the meetings in this trainings and conferences document going forward.
11. Next Wisconsin Association for Local Health Departments and Boards Meeting (WALHDAB) on March 14, 2024
The next WALHDAB meeting is on March 14th. Chrystal Woller asked that anyone who would like to attend RSVP ahead of time as lunch is ordered for the meeting. Chrystal will send out the agenda prior to the RSVP deadline.
12. Future Agenda Items
Teresa Gulyas asked if the Health Department was addressing LGBTQ in the community. Chrystal Woller responded that Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are included in all De Pere Health Department outreach efforts. Chrystal added that through our Maternal Child Health grant, we are focusing on social connectedness.

Chrystal Woller stated that our next meeting will have our updated policies and procedures, updated standing orders, and our annual report.

The results of the Environmental Health Evaluation will also be on the agenda.

13. Adjournment

Teresa Gulyas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pamela Gantz seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Burke