

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
10:30 a.m. – Health Service Center Board Room

MINUTES

PRESENT: Judy Popelka, Robert Benishek, Richard Hurlbert, Dr. Flowers, Patty Shinnars, Holly Matucheski, Dale Dahms

ALSO PRESENT: Sheila Rine, Karen Hegranes, Ron Barger, Melissa Resch, Robin Stowe, Dave Solin and Sarah Lautzenhiser

EXCUSED: Julie Webb

1. B. Benishek called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.
  - a. Reminder to silence phones
2. Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance as listed above.
3. Approve agenda – Motion by D. Dahms, seconded by D. Hurlbert to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
4. Recognize members to be excused – Motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by J. Popelka to excuse J. Webb from this meeting. Motion carried.
5. Minutes of the August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 board meeting were approved with motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by H. Matucheski. Motion carried.
6. Public comment on agenda items, and consideration of requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas – Will review Ron's evaluation in closed session. D. Dahms would like to have a discussion regarding drug related issues in Langlade County. This topic will be included in future meetings.
7. Review bills paid. Ron mentioned revenues should exceed projections and expenditures are on track.
8. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. **Please note time changed to 10 a.m.**
9. Sarah Lautzenhiser and Robin Stowe presented information to the Board of Health on Langlade County creating a Humane Officer position. Robin stated Sarah came to the Public Safety committee and discussed her interest in becoming a Humane Officer for Langlade County. Robin reviewed the state statutes that states the county has no legal obligation to adopt a Humane Officer. The state looks to townships, villages and the city for enforcement of at large animals but not at the county. Townships do not have the resources to do this. The Sheriff's Dept. has the authority under State Statutes to enforce animal cruelty, etc. The Sheriff's Department isn't happy with catching dogs at large and will not do as a priority. The Sheriff's Department will respond to vicious animals and

animal cruelty. When animals are removed, someone has to pay for it. Robins recommendation is if we want to become more aggressive/proactive with animal control (currently we are reactive), we could have a Humane Officer (Animal Control Officer). Our goal is to basically provide education to the owner. Currently, what we had in place with the previous Humane Officer contract was a \$25 per diem. You could adopt all state animal control regulations in the form of an ordinance. Develop a contract for the Animal Control Officer and what their authority would be. Need to educate animal owners, develop action plans and if needed, assist with transition of care. When comes to enforcement, you could continue to make referral to the Sheriff's Dept. Sarah mentioned she will be taking classes at the end of September on becoming a Humane Officer. Need to consider taking this slow; realize cost is an issue; determine what the Animal Control Officer would be responsible to do. Will also need to have a public hearing if this is something we want to consider doing. When you try to regulate animals, you hear from the people, as noted during previous hearings. All towns were invited to previous meetings and filled the house. Another option would be for the towns to partner together and appoint 1 Animal Control Officer and the county would write the ordinance. Remember, the City of Antigo and Village of White Lake have regulations and ordinances that this would not necessarily apply to an appointed Animal Control Officer. B. Benishek feels the BOH shouldn't do anything at this time, but feels someone needs to speak for the animals. Sarah feels this is "doable". We can take baby steps that can be afforded. Sarah's main concerns are the complaints of animal abuse and neglect that she hears about. She states calls are made to the police and sheriff's department but feels the police and sheriff's departments don't have the resources to follow up. She would offer education and follow through and only remove the animals if necessary. She states she has a few people willing to foster animals if necessary. D. Hurlbert stated he is concerned if Sarah was to remove large animals, where she would put them. B. Benishek stated BOH will need to study this further and this will continue to be on future agendas. Sarah did state she will be attending the towns meeting on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Parrish Town Hall and Robin and Ron will both try attend.

10. Correspondence and Reports:

- a. Legislative Update – Karen passed around the WPHA grid of what the legislators are working on. It states what the bill is and if it was passed. Karen also asked the BOH if the BOH would like to sign a letter of support for the budget 2017-2019 for communicable disease prevention initiative. After discussion, Karen will write this and bring to the board next month for signatures.

11. Director's report and Personnel Update:

- a. Stephanie Thiede has accepted the full-time PH Nurse position effective Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Request to support policy that the LCHD will accept needles that are turned in by the public and/or law enforcement and dispose of via our contracted medical waste service – Ron stated this will not be advertised but the Health Department is getting a lot of foot traffic asking the Health Department to dispose of needles. This will not be part of a needle exchange program. Law enforcement is also picking up needles and they didn't know who would dispose of them. Ron would like a policy to formalize this process. There is potentially a grant for \$500 to help with disposal costs that they will look into. Ron will work on the proposed draft and bring to the meeting next month.

12. Public Health:

- a. Data report for August was passed around and discussed. Health hazards and animal bites have increased.
- b. General Public Health Update – At the Clean Sweep, 73lbs of drugs were collected along with 1.3lbs of narcotics. This is done every other year through a grant that is written.
- c. Program Updates – BHLC/CHIP/Health Coalition update – The Healthy Ways newsletter was passed around. Waiting to see the final report from the hospital on the Community Health Needs Assessment. Meghan will be invited to attend the meeting next month to share this with everyone.

AmeriCorp – Wendee is officially done. She is working at North Central Health Care in crisis.

Diaper Bank – Since this program started almost a year ago, there have been over 2000 disposable diapers, reusable wraps and inserts given out. Possibly looking at expanding this to the community as individuals are also dropping off Depends for the adult population.

School Nurse Update – School nurses invited to meeting but did not attend. No update.

13. Old Business:

- a. Public Awareness Activities – Newspaper articles were shared.

14. New Business:

- a. Conference/Workshop attendance – BOH Members. D. Dahms made a motion to allow any BOH member to necessary meetings with per diem and mileage, seconded by H. Matucheski. Motion carried. Staff list reviewed.
- b. Ron mentioned Kids Safety Day is Friday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> at the fairgrounds for 4<sup>th</sup> graders. There will be 8 safety sessions. Ron also shared the new evaluation tool from RJ. A draft was passed around and Ron mentioned that RJ will work with everyone next month in closed session to do Ron's evaluation. Karen also stated this Sat. there will be a suicide prevention walk starting at 9 a.m. at Lakepark.

15. Referrals/Recommendations for October meeting – Animal Control Officer, ongoing discussion. Policy for needle disposal. Drug situation. Ron's evaluation.

16. Motion by D. Dahms, seconded by J. Popelka to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Sheila Rine