

Iron County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, August 2, 2022

Time: 5:00pm

Place: Iron County Health Department Conference Room; 210 5th Ave N, Hurley, WI

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by John John Sendra, Board of Health Chairman. Roll Call taken. Present: Jamey Francis, John Sendra, Dr. James Rocco, Zona Wick, Joseph Pinardi. Also Present: Melissa Geach, Sue Herlevi, Denise Lotzer, Melissa DeCarlo. Absent: Paul Hagemann, Brandon Snyder, Tanner Hiller.
2. Melissa Geach acknowledge that the meeting was properly posted.
3. Jamey Frances made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded Dr. James Rocco. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. Jamey Francis made a motion to approve meeting minutes from May 17, 2022. Seconded by John Sendra. All ayes. Motion carried.
5. Public Comment: None
6. Budget Update-Jamey Frances made a motion to approve the June 2022 Monthly Budget Report, seconded by Zona Wick. All ayes. Motion carried.
7. WAHLDAB/Legislative Update:
 - a. Friday, June 24, 2022 the U.S. Supreme Court released a decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization to overturn Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pa. v. Casey, upending nearly 50 years of a constitutional right to abortion that Wisconsinites have relied upon for almost five decades. Wisconsin’s criminal abortion ban [Wis. Stat. § 940.04](#)—which originated in 1849—bans nearly all abortions in Wisconsin, including in cases of rape and incest.
 - b. Friday, July 8, 2022 the Wisconsin Supreme Court Becker vs. Dane County-Public Health Authority: Ruled that local health officials have the statutory power to issue public health orders without first getting permission from elected officials. Link to the supreme court decision: <https://www.wicourts.gov/sc/opinion/DisplayDocument.pdf?content=pdf&seqNo=542615>
8. Communicable Disease Updates:
 - a. COVID-19 Community Levels: The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) recognizes that we have entered a new phase of the pandemic. With widespread access to vaccines, tests, and effective treatments, the risk of severe health outcomes associated with COVID-19 have been greatly reduced. These tools now allow for a shift in focus to preventing severe outcomes, such as hospitalization and death, related to COVID-19 and focusing resources on those who are most vulnerable to poor outcomes. Although there is a decreased risk of severe health outcomes for many Wisconsinites, SARS-CoV-2 will continue to circulate in and pose a threat to Wisconsin’s most vulnerable populations and to the capacity of our health care systems. During this phase of the pandemic, DHS is using the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) to guide Wisconsin’s COVID-19 response activities and public recommendations.

- i. Much of June 2022 remained LOW with the exception of 1 week when it jumped to MEDIUM. July 2022 remained MEDIUM with a jump to HIGH on July 14th, ultimately returning to MEDIUM for the end of July.
 - b. Self-test COVID-19 Antigen kits are now available and being distributed throughout the county. COVID-19 testing continues with Community Testing Support Program (CTSP), PCR and Proctored Antigen testing available for community 9am-12pm, Monday-Friday.
 - c. AMI (WI DHS COVID Vaccination Vendor) provided vaccines onsite August 2 for the Open House Event. COVID vaccination clinics continue with at least 2 each month (1 each of Pfizer/Moderna).
 - d. COVID-19 Therapeutic are available for people who are at higher risk of experiencing severe COVID-19 illness COVID-19. Instructing those interested to call their healthcare provider.
 - e. Continuing disease investigation with limited contact tracing per [WI DHS Memo: BCD 2202-01](#).
 - f. Anaplasmosis (2), Campylobacteriosis (1), Giardiasis (3), Chlamydia (7)
 - g. Monkey Pox in the news and Wisconsin:
 - i. CDC is tracking the outbreak of monkeypox that has spread across several countries that don't normally report monkey pox, including the United States and Wisconsin. As of July 29, 2022 there have been 5189 cases in the US and 6 in Wisconsin. Evidence indicates that the virus is spreading mostly through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact with someone who has monkeypox. CDC and WI DHS is facilitating access to testing, vaccines and therapeutics (both of which must be released from the U.S. Strategic National Stockpile) for people who may have been exposed.
9. Building Updates:
- a. Shed: Verbal quote from Bill was approximately \$4800 for a large wood shed. This can be scaled back to a smaller size according to needs identified in storing a generator and/or snowblower. Cost for the purchase of the shed will be covered under ARPA Infrastructure Grant allocated to the Health Department. Board of Health requests decision for the purchase of shed be forwarded to Finance Board for consideration and approval.
 - b. Generator: Cost for the purchase of the generator will be covered under COVID Immunization Grant allocated to the Health Department. Quote for [battery backup system for fridge appliance](#) presented to Board of Health:
 - To provide back-up power to one K2 Scientific K210CMB (2.8 KWh/day, 115 volts)
 - For 9 hours of battery back-up: Medi-Products Model SACS1210T, List price = \$3,330
 - For 19 hours of battery back-up: Medi-Products Model SACS1220T, List price = \$3,920
 - For 29 hours of battery back-up: Medi-Products Model SACS1230T, List price = \$4,790
 - For 40 hours of battery back-up: Medi-Products Model SACS1240T, List price = \$5,690
 Representative from Generac will arrive to Health Department on Aug. 3rd to provide quote for natural gas powered generator. Board of Health requests decision for the purchase of the generator be forwarded to Finance Board for consideration and approval.

- c. Windows: Quote from Ironwood Glass for the purchase of 6 new windows for the upstairs is \$4100.00 with installation being taken care of by Bill. Cost for the purchase of the windows will be covered under ARPA Infrastructure Grant allocated to the Health Department. Zona made a motion to approve the purchase of the windows, seconded Jamey Francis. All ayes. Motion carried.
 - d. ICHD reporting concerns from the neighbor privacy and water runoff/drainage issues since the installation of larger parking lot. Continued discussion on the topic of adding stairs to handicap ramp for the convenience of patrons. No motion made by the board.
10. Health Officer Report
 - a. Fiscal updates: GYT Funding continues to December 2022 (\$1,500); Title X and GPR for Reproductive Health continues for 2022 (\$41,923); Telehealth grant for RHFP (\$29,441); Community Testing Support Program capacity continues until 2023.
 - b. Birth to 3 program is very busy with 2 times the number of referrals than during 2021. Increase in males presenting to clinic for contraceptives. Foot Care clients increased about 10-15 this year. Environmental health program busy with renewals and inspections, water lab continues with bacteria and nitrite testing, considering plans for beach and surface water testing next year. One municipal water system in Iron County has voluntarily submitted a drinking water sample to the PFAS sampling project and results reveals there were non-detected. Open House on August 2nd was a success with local vendors, food truck and immunization available to the community.
11. New Business: None
12. Next meetings will take place on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.
13. Zona Wick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm, Dr. James Rocco seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.