

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 5:00 PM  
Duck Creek Center  
2198 Glendale Avenue  
Green Bay, WI 54303

Present: Richard Schadewald, Edward Morales, Cheryl Weber, Karen Sanchez, Jay Tibbetts, Cynthia Brown-Sullivan

Excused: Susan Molenaar

Others Present: Brown County Supervisor Alex Tran, Anna Destree, Ann Steinberger, Andrea Kressin, Katie Ledvina, Megan Buczek, Kayla Gorman, Barbara Vanden Boogart, William Acker

**1. Call to Order, Welcome**

Chairman Richard Schadewald called the meeting to order.

**2. Approval / Modification of the Agenda**

MOTION: To approve agenda

Weber / Sanchez

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE

**3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of July 16, 2019.**

MOTION: To approve the minutes from July 16, 2019.

Brown Sullivan / Morales

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE

**4. Home Visitation Evaluation Results**

Andrea Kressin stated Public Health has been evaluating their current home visitation services and handed out a document dated September 2019 entitled "Home Visitation and Brown County Public Health." Andrea stated the strategies used to evaluate the program included staff listening sessions and stakeholder listening sessions. Andrea stated a decision-making matrix was used to analyze the various options for continued programming within the division based on feedback received. The plan is to phase out home visitation services and focus on population health efforts with the goal of ending in-home direct services by January 1, 2022. She stated they plan to move to an information and referral model for family health services. She stated instead of providing in-home direct services, Public Health will focus on connecting individuals and families with support from community partners. Andrea stated environmental health concerns such as lead and human health hazards will still be investigated and followed up on as appropriate. Public Health will also explore "resource navigator" concepts. Andrea stated by the end 2019, Public Health will shift the referrals received for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs to local health care providers and regional center.

Cynthia Brown Sullivan asked if the gaps will be filled by the time Public Health plans to phase out home visitation by 2022. Andrea indicated if they did implement Nurse Family Partnership, there would still be gaps. Andrea stated as a community and as one partner in the realm of early childhood, she believes they are looking at a program that could fill one part of the gap. Andrea stated this frees them up to work with partners. Edward Morales asked if there was a check sheet to keep track of the things they have done. Andrea stated they do not have a tracking mechanism. Dr. Morales stated he would like to see an outcome measurement. Anna stated that is at the heart and soul where they are headed with accreditation. She stated they would have a matrix either internally or community based.

MOTION: To support the next steps for Public Health.

Brown Sullivan / Weber

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE.

**5. Nursing Unit Update**

Ann Steinberger stated there is a TB summit November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at Liberty Hall in Kimberly. Public Health has two scholarships available and they could send two Board of Health members. If interested please see Anna or Patti by October 18, 2019.

Ann stated influenza season is beginning and they have two mass clinics scheduled and they are open to anyone 6 months through 18 years old. Public Health does not need to screen for eligibility because they are using the State 317 vaccine. They would charge for adult vaccine because they do pay for the vaccine which would be \$30.00. They are also having an additional clinic in combination with the Salvation Army's Coats for Kids.

Ann stated there still continues to be multi-state Hepatitis A outbreak. Highest risked individuals include people with unstable housing or homelessness and individuals who do illegal drugs. Ann stated they are working with the State and they are talking with other agencies to get vaccinations for Hepatitis A.

Ann stated the Wisconsin Department of Health Services is investigating chemical pneumonitis related to vaping. Ann stated as of September 12, 2019, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services is aware of 35 people who are confirmed or probable cases with an additional 20 that are under investigation. This is going on nationally with 36 states affected and 6 deaths. The only thing they have in common is vaping in the past 90 days.

Mr. Schadewald asked when Brown County ships out prisoners, do they test before they come back so they don't bring it back to Brown County. Ann stated that is something they can look at when they are talking to others. Ann stated that the Department of Corrections has been giving the State inmates Hepatitis A vaccine for about 10 years so if an inmate has been in the State Department of Corrections, more than likely they have been vaccinated.

#### **6. Community Engagement Unit Update**

Andrea handed out the 2018 Annual Report. Andrea stated she has a vacancy because one of her educators was appointed Interim Emergency Management Director. The position will remain open until an Emergency Management Director is hired. Andrea stated they hired a nurse for the hearing and vision program. Andrea stated they are shifting job titles through the budget process from Educators to Community Health Strategists and have updated the job description to align with accreditation, such as advocacy and policy efforts. Andrea stated Brown County is updating the website and they are focusing on which information the public would find most useful. Katie Ledvina stated in regard to accreditation, they are moving forward with the essential plans and the QI Plan. Katie handed out a draft of the Strategic Plan which outlines the direction public health is going from 2018-2022 and asked the Board of Health to review. Andrea stated any edits or suggestions are needed by the end of October because they will present the final draft at the November meeting.

#### **7. Environmental Unit Update**

Anna stated they had received an accepted offer for the Environmental Health Manager but due to circumstances, he has declined the position. They will be reposting the position.

Anna stated in regard to tourist rooming homes, prior to 2019, they had 54 tourist rooming homes. To date in 2019, they have 134 newly licensed tourist rooming homes and seven pending inspections. Anna stated 77 still need to be licensed. The goal for 2019 was 250 and she believes by the end of this year they will be above our goal.

Edward Morales asked how they find tourist rooming houses. Anna stated the Room Tax Commission used STR Helper which is a software that searches rental sites. It is then turned into a spreadsheet and they then look at how is licensed. Karen Sanchez asked what feedback was received. Anna stated they learned it was confusing to people because they require a license. Each municipality may or may not require a license as well. They are confused that they need both the municipality and the County license. Public Health has sent out a 3<sup>rd</sup> letter to explain.

#### **8. Health Officers Report / Budget Proposal 2020**

Anna handed out New Department Initiatives and stated in 2020 they are looking to establish a CASPER. A CASPER is a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response. Those

get used many times after a disaster occurs, to find out what the needs are and how to support people in a disaster. A CASPER can also be used before an emergency to gauge the readiness and what needs to be planned. Anna stated next year is a community health assessment year and they will have to do the CHA and CHIP again so they will get data on emergency readiness and health priorities in the community. In a non-emergency situation, they are going to go out and gather data on emergency readiness and community health priorities.

Anna stated another initiative is to contract with the WDNR to conduct compliance surveillance on Brown County Transient Non-Community (TNC) water systems which will increase their capacity to provide service and build relationships with TNC owners, and increase our lab capacity.

Anna stated another initiative is to research the feasibility of a paid on-call and overtime policy and procedure for after-hours public health emergency calls. Anna stated they get a call but no one is picking up the call. They will research what others are doing for after-hours calls, the feasibility of a paid on-call system for emergencies and what would a policy and procedure look like.

Anna also provided a funding summary, 2019 Department Initiatives Status Report, and Rates and Fees. Anna stated they have not increased fees for five years and have not considered inflation, so the 3% increase gets us to that starting point and then they will look at doing inflation going forward.

MOTION: To receive and place on file

Morales / Brown Sullivan

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE.

Anna stated they have an issue with vaping among our youth. Anna is looking for support to do a resolution that tackles strategies for the vaping epidemic. She shared Department of Health Services (DHS) Youth Tobacco Survey 2018 entitled "High School Snapshot" which shows statistics regarding e-cigarettes; document from DHS dated 9-17-29 entitled "Tobacco Prevention and Control Program: E-Cigarette Public Health Advisory-Public Health Advisory"; and sample "Resolution: To support the adoption of comprehensive commercial tobacco-free policy and procedures in all Ashland County Schools."

MOTION: To direct Corporation Counsel in cooperation with the Public Health Officer to support strategies to tackle the E-Cigarette epidemic in youth.

Brown Sullivan / Morales

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE.

**9. Public Health Legislation – Standing Item**  
None.

**10. Receive New Information on Wind Turbines – Standing Item**

Anna stated the WAHLDAB Wind Turbine Work Group had talked with Stacy from the Public Service Commission and had specific questions about the Wind Citing Counsel. Anna handed out a document with eight questions and the responses.

Anna stated with new Administration at the State level, they have again asked for support. Anna handed out a letter dated March 1, 2019 to Chuck Warzecha, Deputy Administrator, Division of Public Health, from Anna Destree, Brown County Health Officer, Kim Mueller, Fond du lac County Health Officer and RoAnn Warden, Green County Health Officer to provide support to local health agencies. Anna stated the ask was to complete a Health Impact Assessment for the State of Wisconsin; provide State guidance on a process for which residents should follow when reporting health concerns re: wind turbines; and provide clear guidance from the State for local health departments on how to address health concerns regarding wind turbines. Anna stated DHS is working on a paper which will cover a variety of items. Anna stated DHS has stated they will support the health departments.

**11. Correspondences**  
None.

**12. Comments from the Public**

Barbara Vanden Boogart, 7463 Holy Mor Road, stated when the declaration was made, Corporation

Counsel stated from their perspective that the Board of Health had the right to make the declaration as a policy maker but they did not have enforcement power; that they could make that declaration and advise to do so, but that the Health Director was the person who had the two part privilege and ability make the declaration but to enforce it. She wanted to clarify that the declaration that was made was all done under legal counsel from Corporation Counsel.

Kayla Gorman, 1350 Settlers Row, Green Bay, WI read from the following report, which is on file.

*My name is Kayla Gorman and I am a Brown County resident. I am a mother to a 19-month-old and have another baby on the way. This is my first county meeting and I'm not typically someone who speaks up in regards to politics and local issues, but now that I am a mom, have completed my own extensive research in regards to vaccinations and hopelessly watched from afar as parental rights were being stripped away from states like California, New York and Florida, I can no longer stay silent on this issue. I am here today to express my concerns of removing the personal vaccine exemption.*

*The one size fits all vaccine policies and laws, which fail to respect biodiversity and force everyone to be treated the same, places an unfair risk on a minority of unidentified individuals that are unable to survive vaccination without being harmed. Parents can, in partnership with their child's health care provider, make informed decisions that best suits their family and their own medical history, whether that decision be to fully vaccinate according to the CDC schedule, partially vaccinate, vaccinate on an alternative schedule or not vaccinate at all.*

*Prior to any medical procedure, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Service explains that the "voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential." Coercion invalidates informed consent. Infringing this right by eliminating vaccine exemptions is unethical and un-American given that pharmaceutical companies have no incentive to assure vaccine safety since Congress passed the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act in 1986. This Act eliminated pharmaceutical company liability for injuries caused by their vaccine products. We also know for a fact that these same pharmaceutical companies that make almost all of the childhood vaccines frequently lose law suits and have paid out billions for their misconduct and injuries related to their drug products since 1986. A recent example of pharma misconduct is the opioid epidemic. Just this month, Purdue Pharma has to pay up to \$12 Billion in relation to their role in the opioid epidemic. They contributed to more than 700,000 drug overdose deaths in the US since 1999. If pharma is frequently guilty of misconduct with products that they ARE liable for, they most certainly are not upstanding, well-meaning citizens when it comes to producing and evaluating safety of the vaccines that they are not liable for, that we inject into children.*

*Our children currently receive 72 doses of vaccines. This number has skyrocketed since the 1980's, when children such as myself only received 10-12 doses. Coincidentally, the CDC vaccine schedule started to grow tremendously after the Act of 1986 when Pharma was no longer liable for vaccine injuries. There are hundreds of new vaccines in the pipeline right now. If parental choice, civil rights and vaccine exemptions are taken away, we will be forced to vaccinate with any new vaccines that are released and added to the schedule in the future.*

*Did you know that there is also a newly added Adult vaccination schedule posted on the CDC website, which includes 14 vaccines? As soon as exemptions are removed, adults will no longer have a choice on whether they want to get the flu shot annually or if they want to get the HPV vaccine, or any other vaccine on the schedule. Ask yourself if you are comfortable with getting all vaccinations as well as all new future vaccinations.*

*I think it's important to remember that force is no consistent with the American story, nor is force consistent with the liberty our forefathers sought when they came to America. In fact, in his first Presidential inaugural address, Thomas Jefferson warned:*

*"All, too, will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will to be rightful must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal law must protect, and to violate would be oppression."*

*Therefore, condoning the elimination of civil rights, including the right to opposition guaranteed under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, to enforce vaccination creates a slippery slope. If we cannot be free to make informed, voluntary decisions about which pharmaceutical*

*products we are willing to risk our health and lives for, then we are not free in any sense of the word. We have to stop to think. Are the parents the caretaker of their child's body, or is the government? Aren't parents in charge of raising children and making decisions for them, or is the government? If we are forced to vaccinate according to the CDC schedule, what will be forced on us next? Coercion, will destroy, not instill, public trust in the integrity of medical practice and public health laws.*

*Where there is risk, there must be choice. We know that vaccines do cause injury to some children. The injuries vary in severity – lifelong eczema to seizures and encephalopathy and even death. These adverse reactions are acknowledged on the vaccine inserts themselves. According to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, there have been 143 deaths related to vaccinations since the beginning of this year. A recent study conducted by Harvard found that only 1% of adverse reactions to vaccines are actually reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System. This means that there may actually be over 14,000 vaccine related deaths this year alone.*

*We all want the same thing - our children to be safe and healthy. If honest science-based discussions regarding vaccinations are not even allowed to occur, as multiple social media platforms have begun to censor those with valid concerns on vaccines and their safety, how do we expect this issue to get better and the faith in the vaccination program to be restored? If parents in Wisconsin are using a personal conviction exemption for vaccination, why are we not trying to talk to parents regarding their concerns and have a mutually respectful and honest discussion? It is time for public health officials to take another step and begin hearing the concerns parents bring forth. Not everyone with concerns on the entirety of the vaccination program are uneducated and we all want what is best for our children."*

Megan Buczek, 2172 Mahogany Trail, De Pere, WI read from the following report, which is on file.

*"I'm here today to better understand the department's agenda for vaccine education within the community. Our government and media seem to be focused on the differences that separate the "pro-vaxxers" from the "anti-vaxxers", but I have been on both sides of the debate and I assure you that both sides have the same goal. They both want to make the best decision for their family's health.*

*This decision has become increasingly difficult to make when honest, unbiased information has gone extinct. We're supposed to be able to rely on our government agencies and doctors for the information we need to make informed medical decisions for our families. I represent a growing population within the community who are not concerned with who's vaccinated and who isn't, but are more concerned over the one-sided, corruptly biased information being shared which is segregating our community.*

*Newborn babies are being vaccinated for sexually transmitted diseases within hours of birth and the parents who question this practice are touted as "uneducated". A student diagnosed with Hepatitis B is not classified as a medical threat to the community, but a completely healthy student who hasn't been vaccinated for nor exposed to Hepatitis is considered a health threat. It is illegal to discriminate against the sick but it's perfectly acceptable and actually encouraged to discriminate against the unvaccinated!*

*Studies show that vaccines do not prevent the spread of disease. They can reduce or prevent the symptoms of the illness but the vaccinated can and do still carry the virus or bacteria and spread it to others in the same manner the unvaccinated do. Herd immunity was observed by scientists studying natural immunity. Their theory was that natural immunity could be replicated with vaccines. However, research confirms that individuals respond differently to vaccines and there's no way to know how long each vaccine will be effective in any given person. In fact, it's estimated that approximately 7% of the population doesn't develop antibodies at all! That would mean the 95% of the population needed to obtain herd immunity, isn't even achievable through vaccination. Additionally, vaccines are typically only tested against other vaccines, not an inert placebo. According to the manufacturer inserts vaccines have never been tested for carcinogenesis or ability to impair fertility. Chronic health conditions in our youth have risen from 12.8% to over 54% since the passing of the 1986 Childhood Immunization Act which made vaccines a liability-free*

*product. Even if vaccines helped to reduce measles cases, what if they also increase cancer rates? This is the health crisis our health department should be concerned about! The stories of those who experience life-altering side effects after contracting a vaccine preventable illness are publicized for profit. Why are the stories of those who experienced life-altering side effects from a vaccine silenced? In August, for immunization awareness month, you shared the story of Laura Brennan on your Facebook page. I look forward to seeing whose story you will share in October for vaccine injury awareness month as I implore you to break the barriers the residents of Brown County are experiencing when it comes to unbiased information."*

**13. All Other Business Authorized by Law**

Change the title of this agenda item in the future to New Business.

**14. Adjournment / Next Meeting Schedule**

November 19, 2019 at Sophie Beaumont location.

MOTION: To adjourn meeting

Tibbetts / Weber

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE.