

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 5:00 PM  
Virtual Meeting

Present: Richard Schadewald, Susan Molenaar, Kim Schanock, Cynthia Brown-Sullivan, Karen Sanchez, Edward Morales

Excused: None.

Others Present: Anna Destree, Andrea Kressin, Ann Steinberger, Ted Shove, Erik Pritzl

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approve / Modify Agenda  
MOTION: To approve agenda. Brown-Sullivan / Schanock  
  
MOTION CARRIED.
3. Approve / Modify Minutes of July 14, 2020  
MOTION: To approve the minutes from July 14, 2020 Brown-Sullivan / Schanock  
  
MOTION CARRIED.
4. Approve / Modify Minutes of August 11, 2020  
MOTION: To approve the minutes from August 11, 2020 Schanock / Brown-Sullivan  
  
MOTION CARRIED.
5. Review of fluoride letter  
MOTION: To suspend the rules to hear from interested parties Molenaar / Schanock  
  
MOTION CARRIED.

Andrea Hay, Director of Communications for the Green Bay Water Utility, 1243 Berner Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin, stated she has not seen the letter. She indicated Nancy Quirk was unable to attend and Andrea Hay is calling in on her behalf. Andrea stated Nancy would ask that the Board of Health would follow the science recommended by the CDC and the EPA which purports the use of fluoride.

Nancy Quirk, Green Bay Water Utility, stated in 1957 the Board of Health did recommend to the City of Green Bay to add fluoride and that is how we started adding fluoride and we have come back to ask for your support to support to science of the CDC and the EPA. Nancy stated she has not seen anything from those scientists that would lead her to believe that it is harmful to our citizens.

Brenda Staudenmaier, 1278 Doty Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin, stated the new letter completely ignores the large body of evidence that fluoride is harmful to the fetus and infants up to six months of age. She stated the letter ignores all the evidence of the lawsuit and studies that have been provided.

Dr. Johnny Johnson, PO Box 2450, Chiefland, FL, stated he was President of the American Fluoridation Society, who looks at the literature as well those of researchers around the United States. He stated they do research including the ones that were involved in the MIREC Study as well as the Mexican study and that a co-author, Dr. Angeles Martinez-Mier strongly and urged pregnant mothers to drink fluoridated water. Dr. Johnny Johnson cited other entities that support drinking fluoridated water.

Michael Schwartz, 322 South VanBuren Street, Green Bay, stated he is the Executive Director of Oral Health Partnership, a non-profit dental organization serving children and underinsured children in the greater Green Bay area. Mr. Schwartz stated some of the kids they serve who do not have access to toothpaste and toothbrushes that fluoridated water helps reduce their amount of cavities and is a vital health breakthrough.

Robbyn Kuester, Fluoridation Program Coordinator with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, 1 West Wilson Street, Madison. Robbyn stated she works collaboratively on community water fluoridation with the DHS staff, including the State Dental Director, epidemiologist and toxicologist. Robbyn stated community water fluoridation is a key component in their efforts to reduce the burden of oral disease. She stated studies confirm that those living in a community with fluoridated water have about a 25% reduction in cavities over those living in non-fluoridated communities.

Dr. Russell Dunkel, State Dental Director, 1 West Wilson Street, Madison. Dr. Dunkel wanted to see the latest letter and it was presented on line through web ex.

Richard Schadewald acknowledged Dr. Morales and Karen Sanchez were now in the meeting.

MOTION: To return to regular business

Schanock / Brown-Sullivan

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: To support the fluoride letter to the Policy and Protection Committee

Molenaar / Sanchez

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Health Officer's Report

a. Current and Future State

Anna Destree stated we continue to work on the COVID response objectives within our Incident Command framework. Anna stated we are watching to see what happens with COVID response funding to determine which response activities can be sustained and which ones we would need to adapt our strategies.

7. Community Engagement Unit Update

- a. COVID Outreach and Education Updates – Andrea stated our hearing and vision program requires close personal contact so they sent out a letter to all schools informing them that they will not be providing hearing and vision screenings this year. Andrea talked about the masking and prevention campaign efforts promoting our empathy driven “1 mask for” strategies.
- b. Community Isolation & Quarantine (CIQS) – Andrea stated our CIQS site is still active and we currently have 2 guests.

8. Nursing Unit Update

- a. Patient Surveillance Update - Pam Waise stated we continue to monitor our contact tracing demographics daily and weekly. We currently have 11 limited term employees that are

dedicated to contact investigation. We are currently recruiting to add to that team. Pam stated with regard to our school partnership, we did have a training day with six individuals which are part of the school's internal contact tracing team so they could help us on the UWGB campus.

b. Outbreak Management

Ann Steinberger stated we continue to assist Environmental Health with facility investigations. Information is received from different sources or we are actively reaching out because of a potential exposure. Ann stated there are no significant challenges in regards to schools at this point.

9. Environmental Update

a. Facility Outreach

Ted Shove stated Facilities outreach has shifted focus toward supporting school systems and long term care facilities and child cares. Ted also stated the lab continues to perform at a high level and currently is still only accepting samples to be analyzed via curbside pickup/drop off. Ted stated the Environmental Health staff have completed low risk inspections (i.e. pools, campgrounds, tattoo facilities) and are shifting toward restaurants and taverns, including virtual pre-inspections and scheduling inspections versus unannounced inspections.

10. Comments from the Public

Charles Collier, 5594 S County Road T, Denmark asked what role public health plays with the Village of Denmark, he has not seen a presence with rural communities. Mr. Schadewald asked Ted Shove to address this and Ted stated we have worked with the school district quite a bit. He stated we have worked and developed a relationship with a number of larger employment facilities in the area. He stated they have done elected official correspondence that goes out on a weekly basis. Ted stated we have started inspecting transient non-community water systems for facilities.

11. Adjournment / Next Meeting Schedule - NEXT MEETING: October 13, 2020 5:00 PM

MOTION: To adjourn meeting

Sanchez / Morales

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patti Zich