

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018  
5:00 PM

Present: Richard Schadewald, James Crawford, Susan Molenaar, Karen Sanchez, Jay Tibbetts, Joe Van Deurzen, Cheryl Weber

Excused: None

Staff Present: Eric Pritzl, Anna Destree, Rob Gollman, Ann Steinberger, Emily Desrochers, Kris Kovacic, Andrea Kressin, Tyler Ludeke, Patti Zich (minutes recorder)

**1. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions**

Chairman Richard Schadewald called the meeting to order.

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

MOTION: To approve agenda.

Van Deurzen / Crawford

**3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 9, 2018.**

MOTION: To approve the minutes from January 9, 2018.

Jay Tibbetts recommended a correction.

MOTION: To approve the minutes as corrected

Crawford / Van Deurzen

MOTION CARRIED.

**4. Comments from the Public**

William Acker, 3217 Nicolet Drive, President of Acker & Associates, Green Bay Wisconsin. Mr. Acker presented a paper entitled, "*An Unprecedented Attempt of a County Committee Member to Erase and Change Parts of the Public's Input to Fit His Wishes,*" dated March 13, 2017. Mr. Acker states he has been working on the issue of health effects from infrasound for about 10 years now and gave examples of unethical behavior involving the Ehrfurth home near a cooling tower, the Enz's near the Shirley Wind Turbines, an issue that involved a Wisconsin Environmental Group that provided partial funding to the Shirley Wind Report, and when Mr. Crawford submitted his amended proposed minutes for the November 14, 2017 Board of Health meeting. Mr. Acker stated those that follow the Code of Ethics for Engineers are expected to exhibit the highest standards of honesty and integrity. He stated engineering has a direct and vital impact on the quality of life for all people. Accordingly, the services provided by engineers require honesty, impartiality, fairness, and equity, and must be dedicated to the protection of the public, safety, and welfare.

**5. Report on Opiate Response Efforts**

Kris Kovacic with the Public Health Division and Tyler Luedke with the Human Services Division gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled "*Brown County Health and Human Services Responds to the Opioid Crisis.*" Tyler Luedke talked about the work they have done regarding AODA education/prevention at four area high schools. They hope to expand more with youth educational town hall opportunities. Kris stated we received \$7,300 in funding. Accomplishments to date have been a Brown County employee Drug Take Back day, campus security Naloxone trainings at St. Norbert College and UWGB, and had permanent medication drop boxes installed at the Village of Allouez and Town of Suamico. Kris stated other strategies in progress are medication lock boxes and medication deactivation units. There will also be another Drug Take Back held on April 25, 2018 from 1-3 PM at Aging and Disability Resource Center in April for all Brown County employees and marketed to ADRC consumers. Kris states we have recently been awarded an additional \$2,500 which will be used towards Youth Town Hall activities.

**6. ServSafe Budget Proposal**

Emily Desrochers provided an update on the ServSafe course. In Wisconsin all licensed establishments with 6 or more employees must have at least one certified food manager. Emily provided the Board of Health with DATCP Food Manager Requirements from [https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/foodmanager.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/foodmanager.aspx) The ServSafe course would train food services employees the fundamentals of food safety. Brown County

Public Health would be one more location that food service staff can get their certification. Emily has been certified as an instructor and as an exam proctor and she would be teaching the course in English. She is in the process of training an employee who would teach the course in Spanish. Emily gave an overview of what we would expect in the first year of this program regards costs. After the first year, the program will be assessed and adjustments will be made to better serve our community.

**7. Review of powers, duties and obligations of Board of Health**

Mr. Schadewald briefly reviewed the following documents as a refresher to the Board pertaining to their duties; 1) Chapter 35 of the Brown County Code, 2) Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 251 and 3) Wisconsin Division of Public Health document entitled "*Responsibilities of Board Members.*" Mr. Schadewald indicates their main job is to support and encourage initiatives. Dr. Tibbetts stated the Board of Health has never done an evaluation on the Health Officer. Erik Pritzi stated because of the current County structure, the County Executive would do the appointments, confirmations, evaluations and assessments. Mr. Schadewald states that although not required in statute, some Boards of Health may have it written in their local policy that they are responsible for the evaluation of the Health Officer.

**8. Environmental Division update**

Rob stated he ordered a tattoo establishment closed in January. The facility did not have hot or cold water in the restroom at the hand wash sink and was not keeping records as required. The establishment has not reopened. Rob indicated the Environmental Division is moving to the Highway Department facilities at the end of November and they are working on the layout for that building. The Department of Agriculture has scheduled an on-site assessment of our agent licensing program for December so we are working on getting ready for that. Rob discussed the ServSafe program and the importance of offering it in Spanish.

**9. Nursing Division update**

Ann Steinberger provided a written report. Influenza activity has peaked the first week of February although high activity can be expected for several more weeks. Ann stated there have been no influenza-associated pediatric deaths in the State of Wisconsin but there has been some nationwide. Ann states we had 3 cases of TB disease in 2017 and 2 cases have recently completed TB treatment. Ann stated that due to the unusual nature of a suspect case, additional testing was completed the CDC and patient tested positive for Leishmania species which is a vector-borne parasite transmitted by sandflies. Ann stated two of her nurses are working on immunization assurance by setting up work groups, reaching out to providers and other health departments on how to increase vaccination rates throughout the lifespan, starting with adolescent vaccines. Ann stated we had one confirmed case of the Seoul Virus in 2017 and it was traced throughout the US and Canada and United Kingdom. There was an article written in the MMWR in which one of our nurses was listed as a contributor. Ann reviewed the statistics for reportable diseases and conditions.

**10. Community Engagement Division Update**

Andrea Kressin stated the Alcohol and Drug Taskforce is working to align the priorities with the Drug Alliance including having youth, policy, awareness and access focus workgroups. The Mental Health Taskforce strategies are making sure there is a navigation platform in place, screening, and peer support and recovery coaching. The Nutrition and Physical Activity Taskforce is looking at physical activity and food choices and creating culture change in our area. The Oral Health Coalition is now in sustain mode. Andrea stated as Public Health is moving toward population based programs and because of the physical limitations at Sophie Beaumont, we are looking at community type car seat and safe sleep events versus the one on one direct services. She is identifying partners we can work with. Andrea stated in regards to our block grants, we belong to the Brown County Coalition for Suicide Prevention and we are continuing to offer QPR training. Since 2008, we have trained nearly 28,000 individuals in our community how to ask that question and what resources are available. In 2017, we have trained 6,914 individuals and nearly 5,000 were youth in our middle schools and high schools. Andrea stated we have certified four breastfeeding-friendly childcare sites this year and are on track to certify sixteen.

**11. Health Officer's Report**

Anna reported there is a meeting tomorrow with neighborhood associations in regard to rat traps. Anna will be presenting CDC's education materials on Seal Up! Trap Up! Clean Up! to demonstrate what can be done to prevent rodent infestations. Anna stated at the next general staff meeting we will be working on strategic planning and internal move planning. The goal of our strategic plan will be accreditation and incorporating trauma informed care practices into Public Health in the next five years. Anna stated we are going to use ICS (incident command system) in our move process to have a clear chain of command. Anna stated the

"This is Public Health: Then and Now Flu Clinic" will be on October 17, 2018 at Heritage Hill in celebration of Brown County's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Dr. Tibbetts asked Anna if she had any follow up in regard to the WAHL DAB workgroup working with local health departments to develop talking points related to wind turbines. Anna stated that the WAHL DAB work group met and invited the PSC to the last meeting. She stated next year is when the PSC Wind Citing Report is due. Anna stated that she sent the State a list of everything we have and asked them to review and let us know what documents they would like from us. She indicated she will do the same for the PSC.

**12. Receive new information on wind turbines – Standing Item**

Barb Vanden Boogart, 7463 Holly-Mor Road, Greenleaf.

Barbara submitted a statement entitled "*Lab Test Confirms Inaudible Wind Turbine Sound Causes Adverse Impacts On People,*" a document entitled "*Subjective perception of wind turbine noise – The stereo approach,*" by Steven Edwin Cooper and Chris Chan dated December 2017 and document entitled "*Sensing but not Hearing: The Problem of Wind Turbine Noise (Interview with acoustician Steven Cooper, AU,*" by Sherri Lang dated February 2, 2018. She stated inaudible sound pulsations occurring at infrasonic rates emitted by wind turbines has been shown to cause perceptible sensations in a landmark laboratory experiment. Barbara states Dr. Cooper's paper shows he can reproduce in his laboratory the acoustic characteristics of wind turbine sound pressure pulsations occurring at infrasonic rates found in homes of people living near utility scale wind turbines, who have filed complaints of adverse sensations and health effects and these inaudible acoustic conditions reliably trigger in self-identified "sensitive people" sensations and adverse effects associated with the complaints by people who live near the footprint of utility scale wind turbines. Barbara further states that wind turbine sound emissions consisting of dynamically modulated pressure pulsations at infrasonic rates synchronized to the Blade Pass Frequency, have been shown to cause sensations and other adverse effects under controlled laboratory conditions. Barbara states alternate explanations, such as the so-called "NOCEBO" effect, are no longer acceptable as counter arguments, since direct cause and effect has been established. Barbara read excerpts from Steve Edwin Cooper's publication.

William Acker, 3217 Nicolet Drive, Green Bay

Mr. Acker stated a lawsuit in the Lake Wind Energy Park in Mason County, Michigan has been settled with 17 families but because of a gag order the Plaintiff's signed, there is little information regarding the details. Mr. Acker submitted a document which compared the two facilities (Lake Wind Energy Park and Shirley Wind Project) entitled "*Comparison of Shirley Wind to the Lake Wind Energy Park That Caused Physical Harm to 17 Residents Who Sued Lake Wind and Won Their Case on June 16, 2014,*" by William Acker dated March 13, 2018. Mr. Acker also submitted document entitled "*Pathway to disease: Australian court links wind turbine noise with possible diseases,*" by Natalie McGregor, and Hamilton Spectator dated February 15, 2018. Mr. Acker stated in Australia there is the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (ATT) who conducts independent merits review of administrative decisions made under Commonwealth laws. Recently they were asked to review health effects from wind turbines. Mr. Acker stated the conclusions drawn by the Judges was there numerous recorded instances of wind turbine noise which was above 40 dBA – a recognized threshold for annoyance and sleep disturbance. He stated they found there is a significant proportion of the sound emitted by the wind turbines in the infrasound range therefore the best way of accurately measuring wind turbine noise is through raw unweighted measurements which are not averaged across time and are then subjected to detailed narrow band analysis. Mr. Acker stated the dBA weighting system is not designed to measure the sound and is not an appropriate way of measuring it. Mr. Acker stated there is an established association between noise annoyance and some diseases, including hypertension and cardiovascular disease, possibly mediated in part by disturbed sleep and/or psychological stress/distress. He stated these were the conclusions of the two judges.

Dr. Tibbetts submitted document entitled "*Wind power – Jammers for the heart: Mainz researchers investigate the consequences of infrasound,*" dated March 5, 2018. Mr. Tibbetts stated Christian-Friedrich Vahl had a friend that was in a wind turbine farm and was complaining of the usual symptoms and that Professor Vahl wanted to look at the cardiac situation as far as heart response. He states Dr. Vahl had a preparation of viable heart tissue and hooked it up to a strain gauge, and subjected it to infrasound. Dr. Tibbetts stated the finding was that the contractility of the heart muscle was reduced by 20%. Dr. Tibbetts stated his conclusions were that the fundamental question of whether the infrasound can affect the heart muscle was answered. Dr. Tibbetts states this report is not yet available but will be in about six months.

**13. Correspondences**

None.

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

**15. Annual Election of Board of Health Chairperson, Vice Chairperson per Chapter 35.01(5) of the Brown County Code of Ordinances**

NOMINATION: Richard Schadewald for Chairperson.

Van Deurzen / Tibbetts

MOTION: To elect Richard Schadewald as Chairperson by unanimous consent. Tibbetts / Van Deurzen

MOTION CARRIED

NOMINATION: James Crawford as Vice-Chairperson.

Van Deurzen / Weber

MOTION: To elect James Crawford as vice-chairperson

Ayes: Richard Schadewald, James Crawford, Karen Sanchez, Joe Van Deurzen, Cheryl Weber

Nays: Jay Tibbetts

MOTION CARRIED

**16. Adjournment / Next Meeting**

MOTION: To adjourn meeting

Weber / Van Deurzen

MOTION CARRIED

N EXT MEETING: May 8, 2018 5:00 PM