
**BAYFIELD COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 – 5:00 PM**

Present: Jeremy Oswald, Madelaine Rekemeyer, Jeffrey Silbert, Terri Kramolis (off at 5:45 PM), Fred Strand, Mary Dougherty

Absent: Elaine Kopp, Dr. Deb Dryer, Ellen Braddock

Staff: Amy Jarecki, Sara Wartman, Michelle Simone (left at 5:46 PM)

- 1. Call the Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Chairman Oswald.
- 2. Approval August 9, 2022, Meeting Minutes:** *A motion to approve the August 9, 2022 meeting minutes was made by Strand; motion seconded by Kramolis. Motion carried.*
- 3. Public Comment:** Brandon Lende, Town of Barksdale citizen, gave public comment on the placement of a condom dispenser in the Washburn Library. He expressed concern over young children coming across the condom dispenser and the informational materials being provided. He also questioned if the library was an appropriate placement for the dispenser. He asked the Board of Health what the reasoning was behind the dispenser and the placement of the dispenser.
- 4. Presentation of the Environmental Health – Animal Bite & Rabies Prevention Program with Michelle Simone:** Simone, Environmental Health Sanitarian, gave a presentation on the role of the Health Department when dealing with animal bites and rabies testing. Since Bayfield County doesn't have a Humane Officer, the Bayfield County Sheriffs Department handles all of the animal bite calls that happen in Bayfield County. Once the animal bite is reported, most often by a medical facility, the Sheriffs Department writes up the report and then forwards said report to the Health Department. Simone, who handles these type of incidents, will then follow up. Most of the incidents involve dog bites and bat bites. With rabies being a fatal disease if not caught in time, it's very important for the report and follow up to be done in a timely manner.
- 5. Review of YTD Health Department Budget:** Wartman presented the report of the year to date budget, which is right where it needs to be.
- 6. Review and Possible Action Regarding 2023 Environmental Health Fee Schedule:** Wartman wanted to increase all fees by 3% (three percent) however, when discussing this with the Environmental Health staff, there was talk that the state was going to be increasing certain fees in 2023, so they felt those fees could be left for the

time being. Each fee was looked at and the staff time spent on that particular inspection was analyzed. This was similar to the time study that was done in the past. Some fees got decreased, due to the state adjusting those fees on their end. *A motion to approve the proposed 2023 Environmental Health fee schedule was made by Dougherty; motion seconded by Rekemeyer; motion passed.*

- 7. Update Regarding Implementation of the Granicus Program for Short-Term Rental Monitoring & Compliance:** Wartman presented the board with information on how the Granicus Program has been working in the month that we have gone live. The program does not cross reference with any sort of data base that the Zoning Department has currently. Zoning has indicated that they are not currently ready to interface with this program. When they are ready, they will meet with Simone and a rep from Granicus to get set up. Once the Granicus program finds properties that they deem to be non-compliant (not holding a license, but currently renting), they will generate a letter to be sent. Simone then double checks the info to make sure that this property is not licensed before sending out the letter. A letter along with a photo of the advertisement is sent to the owners informing them that they are out of compliance.
- 8. Update Regarding Implementation of Patagonia for Clinic Use:** We purchased an electronic medical record in 2022 for implementation in our clinic, specifically for the Reproductive Health/Family Planning Program. The system went live in early October. Wartman gave a brief review of the program and its applicability for charting and scheduling appointments, in addition to billing for services electronically through Electronic Super Bill. The only concern the Board had was the cost of the program to the Health Department. The cost was more at the start, which included set up and training, but the Family Planning grant is able to cover the cost of the program.
- 9. Update on Health Department Staffing:** There is currently one vacancy in the Health Department. We had a resignation in late summer that went into effect in September. There is currently a 0.43 FTE (full time employee) Licensed Practical Nurse position vacant that has yet to be posted. All other staff positions have been filled. The part-time Fit Families position may have hours increased in order to meet the program deliverable of 25 (twenty-five) participants, which is currently sitting at 15 (fifteen).
- 10. Update on Health Department Programs and Services:** The Health Department has changed the process for contact tracing for those individuals who are Covid-19 positive. We will no longer follow up on those individuals who have tested positive and are under the age of 65 (sixty-five) unless they are hospitalized. We encourage everyone who tests positive to call our office if they have questions and/or concerns, but our nursing staff has turned their focus onto other programs that have been put on the back burner the last two (2) years. The Health Department has been trying to grow the outreach part of the Family Planning program for the last few years. Getting partnered with different members of the community is a big part of the outreach plan. We reached out to each school's health educators and school counselors making sure they are aware of the resources we offer to their older students. We worked on an outreach campaign, installing condom dispensers in bars across the county. The



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dispensers are set up in the restrooms. It is up to the discretion of the bar owner if the dispenser is installed in their establishment.

We have a nurse who takes time to drive around the county, checking on the dispensers and filling them when needed. The Washburn Library was suggested as a place to install a dispenser from members of the LGBTQ population, who feel that the library is their safe place. Wartman will bring any concerns to the attention of the nurse heading up the project and it will be discussed.

11. **Committee Input:** Silbert gave input on the placement of the condom dispenser in the Washburn Library. While he wouldn't have thought of the library as a choice for the placement of a dispenser and he understands the concerns, there is a need for the outreach.
12. **Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 5:00 pm, in the Bayfield County EOC and remotely via Teams.
13. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Jarecki

Amy Jarecki, Office Manager