Minutes
Board of Health Meeting
Members attended via a Zoom online meeting due to COVID19
November 9, 2021

Present: Brandon Robertson, Warren Humphrey, Jadwiga Gocłowski, Jeff Shea, Erica Robertson, Maria Capriola, Stephanie Johnson, Jennifer Kertanis

Not enough members for a quorum so cannot move any actions forward

NOTES:

Brandon Roberts:
Not officially calling meeting to order since don’t have a quorum
Request updates and clinics, what coming up with budget, general updates, and any questions

Jennifer Kertanis:
- Working on budget. Will be in a good place financially for foreseeable future due to increase in per capita rate. Going from $190k to $265k
- Awaiting information from state regarding ELC grant (epidemiology lab capacity) funding. Received for budget period 1 and 2. Second pot of ELC2. January 2021 through July 2023
- It is for building capacity. Data dashboard, public health nurse position,
- Audit - George scheduled to come in next Monday. Hope he will join December 7 meeting with draft to share at least a few days prior to meeting.
- Salon Regulations - not time critical but hopefully can approve at Dec meeting. Aligns with state changes.
- AFTO grants - offset food team, open gov software, hardware like field tablets. Applying again. Engages newer team members in grant writing and food safety. $5-20k
- Environmental team on autopilot - as busy as ever. All set with Diane at the helm
- COVID
  - Weekly updates on Fridays
  - Still in substantial category in district, county and state
  - Average 80 case/week for contact tracing
  - Managing with staff but challenging when gearing up to do clinics
  - Seen plateau of cases over past 2 weeks, but no decrease
  - Vaccination clinics - working collaboratively with schools
    - 6 clinics planned
    - First this Friday
    - 3 different locations
    - Stephanie managing many different moving parts
      - Vaccine, supplies, sites, volunteers, logistics, MRC request
    - Stephanie provides update regarding
• Have decided at this point to not provide boosters except for homebound (JCK)
  ▪ Haven't seen a huge demand and there are many other locations providing
• Screen and Stay
  ▪ New options from governor for schools
  ▪ Under certain circumstances close contacts in school will be allowed to stay in learning environment if parents agree to screen for symptoms
  ▪ Meeting with superintendents today
  ▪ FVHD has been taking an approach of limiting quarantines and number of kids impacted
    ▪ 40 total quarantine events in October
    ▪ 398 students impacted by quarantine
    ▪ Averaging 9 kids per event at elementary level
    ▪ Averaging 4 kids per event at high school level
  ▪ All of our schools will use Screen and Stay where they can
    ▪ Will address nuances at case-by-case level
    ▪ Some schools don't believe it will make much of an impact because snack and lunch in classroom and those kids not eligible
    ▪ Other schools where no lunch or snack in classroom may more impact
    ▪ LHD was given no information prior to roll out, weren't included in discussions which is frustration given that we are the ones that support the schools in operationalizing
    ▪ Fortunately, our superintendents shared with us in advance
      ▪ Pattern of DPH keeping us out of the loop and then we must manage
• Public Health Nurse
  ▪ Not a good fit - parted ways amicably
  ▪ Will regroup once we get through the clinics
  ▪ Very challenging position to fill
• Question from Eric Robertson regarding planned budget
  ▪ Jennifer Kertanis said can provide strategic budget
  ▪ Warren Humphrey said would be useful for all the towns
• Jennifer Kertanis request for a van
  ▪ Should we consider putting into the budget (Jeff and Brandon both agree)
  ▪ Would need to consider maintenance, insurance, and storage (Jadwega)
  ▪ Warren states business case for lease vs. buy
• Maria Capriola
  ▪ Consider ARPA money available from towns
  ▪ Consider what is needed infrastructure
  ▪ Purchase our building - Frank is considering selling
    ▪ Possibly sublease the other side
    ▪ Savings would likely cover building and property maintenance
    ▪ Rent is currently $74k/year
  ▪ ARPA money needs to be spent down by 2026
  ▪ Possibly create an Ad Hoc committee to see how this funding can support FVHD
    ▪ Erica Robertson, Maria Capriola, Jadwega
    ▪ Engage FVHD to come up with ideas
      ▪ Capital improvement
      ▪ Process improvement
      ▪ Jennifer requests summary from board - Maria to send
    ▪ Brandon to send letter to associated towns to earmark % of funds for health district
• Erica Robertson notes that she is very interested to see how Friday's clinic goes
• End meeting 12:56pm