



Washtenaw County Board of Health

Minutes

April 26, 2019, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
555 Towner St., Room 2102B, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Present: Felicia Brabec (Phone), James Carty (Phone), Richard Fleece, Leon Golson, Neel Hajra, Peter Jacobson, Joanne Pohl, Elisabeth Vanderpool
Absent: Kathleen Stroud, Morgan Williams
Staff: Ellen Rabinowitz, Jimena Loveluck, Elizabeth Adeleye, Russell O'Brien
Guests: Jessie Jones

1. Call to Order

Joanne Pohl called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion by P. Jacobson, seconded by N. Hajra, to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Approval of March 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes (Action)

Motion by R. Fleece, seconded by P. Jacobson, to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2019 meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

5. Consent Agenda (Action)

- **Executive Committee Report (03/20/19)**

Motion by N. Hajra, seconded by P. Jacobson, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

6. WCHD Strategic Plan Update

Jessie Jones, Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), presented on the draft Washtenaw County Health Department (WCHD) Strategic Plan for 2019-2024. She discussed the strategic planning process to date, the practical vision, the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges (SWOC) analysis, strategic priorities, goals, and next steps.

Comments and questions:

Peter Jacobson asked about Strategic Priority 3, Centering Community. He suggested that we need to define the concept clearly because it can mean different things to different people. Peter encouraged including the value for each of the goals. He said we can't get to the 4th goal of advocating for and maximizing resources unless we can convince the community and leaders of the value. He also said it is important to not only speak to one portion of the community. How do we take the 3rd goal and communicate it differently to various parts of the community?

Ellen said that this builds on the current strategic plan with a new framework with Public Health 3.0 concepts integrated into the plan. Ellen will send a summary on Public Health 3.0 to the board.

Jessie said the next steps include putting together an action plan for each strategic priority and goal that will be finalized in early May. There will be staff input sessions for feedback. The full draft plan will be shared at the June Board of Health meeting.



Washtenaw County Board of Health

Richard Fleece said his only concern is that it covers so much. If any of this is diluted at all and we can't deliver, public trust can be lost. Advocating for resources is a major priority. Richard said that when this presentation is made to the Board of Commissioners (BOC), it should be stressed that one of the strengths of the Health Department is the ability to respond and be nimble.

Elisabeth asked who the audience is going to be and what "Centering Community" means. Jessie said this is an internal plan, so the audience is going to be staff and they will work on providing definitions to clarify.

7. Measles Outbreak Update

Laura Bauman gave an update on the measles outbreak. We are on day 21 of the original confirmed case and the end of the incubation period for them. Michigan currently has 43 measles cases. In the past month, Washtenaw County has had 16 suspect cases reported. Fourteen have been ruled out, 1 case was a false positive, and we are still waiting on results for the last case.

Laura said she is very proud of the staff response and added work done by nurses. A lot of work was done on the first case, which turned out to be a false positive. Ellen said that the response from the Jewish Community Center and Liberty Athletic Club was very positive and shows trust in the Health Department.

Peter asked if the Michigan cases are the result of antivaxxers. Laura said that the Washtenaw County case was not. Ellen said that the Oakland County cases are part of a community that does not vaccinate.

Ellen spent a lot of time speaking about this at the BOC last week. This is a good advocacy example to use for demonstrating need for additional more resources.

8. BOC Liaison Report

Felicia Brabec shared that she went to the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) Membership Conference last week. There are many things happening nationally around Health In All Policies and racial equity work in general. The work we are doing in Washtenaw County is being noticed by people around the country.

9. Old Business

• 4/18/19 BOC Working Session Debrief

Ellen presented an update on the BOC working Session. Leon and Joanne were there representing the Board of Health (BOH). Ellen talked about the resource challenges and the Health Department's great work. Leon said that the commissioners seem like they want to help. Joanne commented that there seems to be tremendous support for our work and the session was totally positive. Ellen added that she sees a commitment to looking at parity in salaries, with the county's compensation study.

• Gun Violence Data

Kathleen Stroud asked for a better presentation of gun violence data. Board members were given a flyer with firearm injury data for Washtenaw County from 2018. Ellen is hoping that Scott Menzel, WISD Superintendent and Derrick Jackson, Director of Community Engagement Sheriff's Office, can come to the May meeting to share their work on gun violence prevention. The new flyer will be added to the website.



Washtenaw County Board of Health

10. New Business

- **Succession Planning**

The posting for the Health Officer position came down and there are 3 interviews happening next week. The hiring committee is made up of 2 BOH members, 2 staff members from the leadership team, and the County Administrator. The plan is to do 1 round of interviews and then have 1 or more finalists do a second interview with the BOC Leadership Group. The State and the BOC must approve the final selection. The goal is to have the position filled by the end of June.

- **Accreditation**

State accreditation cycle 7 will take place at the beginning of June. They will be looking at contract compliance with the minimum program requirements (MPRs) in the essential local public health services. This year Washtenaw County Health Department will be participating in a pilot program that also reviews quality improvement efforts. The purpose of the pilot is to align state accreditation with national accreditation standards.

- **Joanne Pohl**

Joanne submitted her letter of resignation to the BOC. May will be her last meeting. Joanne said she will miss this deeply and is very impressed with the Health Department. Board members thanked Joanne for her dedication and service to the community for many years.

11. Adjournment

Motion by N. Hajra, seconded by P. Jacobson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 AM.

Minutes taken by Russell O'Brien