

**WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL MEETING
BOH MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2021**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-07 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR PRITZKER, THIS MEETING IS HELD VIRTUALLY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS APP. WILL COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS WILL BE ATTENDING THE MEETING REMOTELY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO DO THE SAME.

The special meeting of the Board of Health held via virtual conference call was called to order at 3:00 p.m., Mr. Zelko, President presiding.

ROLL CALL/ QUORUM PRESENT

MEMBERS PRESENT

James Zelko, President
Billie Terrell, PhD., Vice President
John Cicero, Secretary
Donald Gould
Paul Hertzmann
Gary Lipinski, M.D.
Teena Mackey
Nanci Reiland
Margaret Tyson

MEMBERS ABSENT

George Pitsilos, M.D.
Edgar Ramos, PsyD.
Scott Soderquist, D.D.S.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan McGrath, Assistant State's Attorney
Marie Lindsay, Governing Council, Chair
Mitch Schaben, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
South West Immigrant Project (SWIP), Staff
Spanish Community Center, Staff
Mike Fricilone, County Board

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Zelko welcomed everyone to the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Olenek thanked the Board members for participating in this special meeting called to form a BOH COVID-19 Response Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Various individuals representing the LatinX community from Will County regions began to express concerns regarding the level of funding in the proposed budget for COVID response initiatives. Questions were also posed as to how the Health Department plans to effectively reach the black and brown communities to ensure equitable distribution of information as well as vaccine distribution. Mr. Zelko asked to table the conversation and if the in-depth concerns could be addressed after the remaining agenda items are discussed, allowing the attendees the opportunity to hear the updates in the program.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 RESPONSE (ED)

Ms. Olenek presented several supporting documents regarding the Mass Vaccination Funding Request and provided a comprehensive discussion regarding the needs / purpose of the request. During the discussion, Ms. Olenek reported how the massive initiative will require ample funding.

Ms. Olenek stressed the point made by President Zelko of the importance of forming a formal committee to approve appropriations necessary in a timely manner. Discussions ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

DISSOLUTION OF COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Moved: (Dr. Terrell second Mr. Cicero) The Compensation Committee was formed to assist with the process for wage increases, physician salaries, personnel / staffing changes. The subcommittee consisted of Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, and Mr. Gould. The Board of Health is seeking to disband the Compensation Committee in order to form the COVID-19 Response Committee for purposes of supporting the efforts of the department in the COVID-19 Response Initiative. The approves to disband the request to disband the Compensation Committee.

Motion Carried

Roll Call: Mr. Zelko, "Aye", Dr. Terrell, "Aye", Mr. Cicero, "Aye", Dr. Lipinski "Aye", Ms. Mackey "Aye", Ms. Reiland, "Aye," and Ms. Tyson, "Aye."

FORMATION / APPOINTMENT OF COVID-19 RESPONSE COMMITTEE

The COVID-19 Response Committee is being formed to assist with the purposes of supporting the efforts of the department in the COVID-19 Response Initiative. The subcommittee will consist of Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Ms. Reiland, Ms. Tyson, and Ms. Mackey. The COVID19 Committee will meet every 2nd Wednesday and every 4th Wednesday of the month at 3:00pm (on an as needed basis).

Moved: (Mr. Cicero second Dr. Terrell) To appoint Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Ms. Reiland, Ms. Tyson, Ms. Mackey to the committee. The Board of Health approves the appointees and dates as presented.

Motion Carried

Roll Call: Mr. Zelko, "Aye", Dr. Terrell, "Aye", Mr. Cicero, "Aye", Dr. Lipinski "Aye", Ms. Mackey "Aye", Ms. Reiland, "Aye," and Ms. Tyson, "Aye."

EXECUTIVE SESSION RE: EMPLOYMENT / LEGAL MATTERS - NONE

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS – NONE

PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

The South West Immigrant Project (SWIP) staff inquired and shared their concern regarding the budget for bilingual efforts. Ms. Olenek shared the increased budget from the last discussion. There was still concern regarding the budget. Ms. Jackson included how the translation process internally has been refined and it is now easier to translate documents, surveys, and miscellaneous communications using internal staff. Ms. Olenek also shared how larger documents will be sent to a translation company to translate those documents in a timely matter.

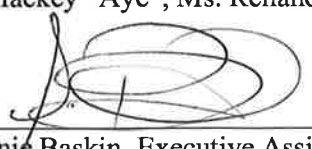
The Spanish Community Center staff and SWIP shared concerns about the equitable distribution of vaccination. Ms. Jackson shared how we are using data to determine where vaccination efforts need to be expanded to reach the black and brown communities. Ms. Jackson shared, she has a meeting with both the SCC and SWIP on Friday to begin discussions regarding reaching the black and brown communities and the possibility of planning vaccination clinics for these communities.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:50p.m. a motion was made by (Ms. Mackey, second Dr. Terrell) to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Mr. Zelko, "Aye", Dr. Terrell, "Aye", Mr. Cicero, "Aye", Ms. Mackey "Aye", Ms. Reiland, "Aye," and Ms. Tyson, "Aye."

By: 
John Cicero, Secretary
Will County Board of Health

By: 
Stephanie Baskin, Executive Assistant
Will County Health Department