



**WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOH MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 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 monthly meeting of the Board of Health held via virtual conference call was called to order at 3:01 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
Edgar Ramos, PsyD.
Nanci Reiland
Scott Soderquist, D.D.S.
Margaret Tyson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Lipinski, M.D.
George Pitsilos, M.D.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan McGrath, Assistant State's Attorney
Marie Lindsay, Governing Council, Chair
Alderman Ben Dietz, City of Wilmington
Mike Fricilone, County Board
Elizabeth Cervantes, Co-Founder, Southwest Immigrant Project
Tanner Simeon-Cox, SSIP, Staff

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Zelko welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their participation.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Olenek announced, sadly David Partida, Mental Health Counselor passed away. Mr. Partida has worked for the Health Department close to 25 years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mr. Gould shared sentiments from Mimi Cowen, County Board Speaker regarding Board member's accessibility to the public to have the ability to respond to the public's comments. Mr. Gould noted the County Board's office is receiving inquiries regarding Board of Health contacts. Mr. Gould suggested a department issued email address to communicate with the public.

Mr. Cicero suggested a department email for the Board that could be assessed by designated HD staff. Mr. Zelko suggested Mr. Melei put together some options, look at other County models, and bring back options / staff response protocols / logistics to the Board next meeting.

Alderman Diez inquired about plans to extend the vaccine to any of the Community Partners / Pharmacy or a potential vaccination site in the community? Ms. Jackson mentioned the HD is in the process of planning mass vaccinations for other areas of the County that are not currently being reached. Working closely with EMA to build a large mass vaccination clinic; looking at locations across the County. The drawback to planning is the HD is conducting 5-6 clinics in different locations daily. At the moment, there is a severe shortage of vaccines. Once the vaccine allotment picks up, the mass vaccination roll-out plans will continue. Brief discussion ensued.

Alderman Dietz thanked the HD for holding a vaccination program for the local school district educators to receive the vaccinations. Mr. Zelko inquired if the schools have had any COVID incidents since opening. Alderman Dietz said, “yes, the School Board & Superintendent notified the community of the cases as well as the contact tracing efforts.”

Ms. Cervantes, SSIP inquired about the communication process for partnering with community-based organizations and the HD’s plan for mobile vaccinations. Ms. Jackson provided clarification regarding the clinics we provide daily vaccinations to (i.e. Kodo, CVS, Walgreens, etc.). Ms. Olenek also mentioned the community partners referenced, provide their own staff and individuals who can provide the vaccine to others. Discussions ensued.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

Moved to approve the January 20, 2021 Regular Session minutes as presented.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Mr. Cicero |
| SECONDER: | Ms. Reiland |
| AYES: | Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Mr. Gould, Mr. Hertzmann, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson |

Mr. Gould exited the meeting at 3:45p.m.

TREASURER’S REPORT AND DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL REPORTS

- o Ms. Bilotta commented County staff is in Report Builder training for D365, the new financial system. The County was able to pull together several reporting systems to produce the sample documents included in the packet.
- o Ms. Bilotta discussed the sample reports included in the packet. Discussions ensued.
- ↓ Mr. Cicero will reach out to Ms. Bilotta for further discussions offline.

REPORTS FROM DIVISIONS

Reports were provided in the packet by the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Division Directors, and Media Services Manager.

Administrative Services (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

- o Report of activities were provided in the packet for the Board’s review.
- o Ms. Bilotta reported installation starts next week for the outdoor LED sign for the CHC.
- o Ms. Bilotta noted continued discussions ensue with Leopardo regarding the rooftop units.
- o Ms. Bilotta added maintenance have been making sure the snow plowing / removal is maintained as needed.

Behavioral Health Programs (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

- o Report of activities were provided in the packet for the Board’s review.
- o Dr. Troiani provided a brief employment history on David Partida and the caseloads that will need to disperse to other staff.
- o Dr. Troiani mentioned as of February 20th, BH has collected \$104,593.67 in deposits.

Chief Executive Officer – CHC (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

Report of activities were provided in the packet for the Board’s review.

Chief Medical Officer – CHC (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

- Report of activities were provided in the packet for the Board’s review.
- Dr. Byrd mentioned Mr. Zelko referenced outbreak detection at the previous Board meeting; Dr. Byrd included the data in her report. Mr. Zelko inquired why there has been a decrease in cases? Dr. Byrd noted due to the rapid rollout of the vaccine and the universal masking has helped contribute to the decline.

Environmental Health and Lab (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

- Report of activities were provided in the packet for the Board’s review.
- Mr. Casey reported final invoices went out to mobile units and seasonal food facilities.
- Mr. Casey noted due to a staff transfer, lab numbers will be lower next month.

Family Health Services – (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

- Reports of activities were provided in the packet for the Board’s review.
- Ms. VanderBoegh reported WIC has achieved 101% of their assigned caseload.

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

Due to the vaccination roll-out, Ms. Weber was not able to provide a written report. Ms. Weber reported EP&R has no updates at this time.

Media Services (Presented Monthly Reports for the month of February)

- Mr. Brandy updated the Board on past/upcoming events scheduled.
- Mr. Brandy shared his sentiments regarding everyone working hard and the team efforts shown during this pandemic.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 RESPONSE (ED)

Ms. Olenek provided the following updates:

- Vaccination count updates (78k vaccinations 21k-fully vaccinated 3% of the population).
- SIREN sent out dose’s allocation amount for the State of Illinois (365,000). This week, State of IL only received 55,000.
- Provided MVP strategies / COVID Response.
- Elaborations regarding the Contact Tracing Program. Mr. Patel provided a brief update. Brief discussion ensued.

SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT PROGRAM DASA/LICENSE (BH)

Dr. Troiani mentioned a channel has been added on Microsoft Teams to establish a State of Illinois preparation group which provides timelines/ responsibilities / deliverables.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #21-10 MASS VACCINATION GRANT (ADM)

The Will County Health Department (WCHD) obtained an IDPH COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Grant to help prevent transmission of COVID-19 through mass vaccination efforts and to help defray costs associated with the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine as well as relieve some of the financial burdens associated with responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Award of \$1,750,000 provides one-time funding to help support this initiative including assistance with salaries, necessary supplies, contractual assistance, and technology related costs. The project period for this grant is 12/1/2020 through 11/30/2021. The Board of Health approves the appropriation of funds to the FY2021 Will County Health Department budget.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Dr. Terrell |
| SECONDER: | Ms. Reiland |
| AYES: | Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Mr. Hertzmann, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson |

RESOLUTION #21-11 HRSA HYPERTENSION GRANT APPROPRIATION (CHC)

The CHC obtained FY2021 funding for the National Hypertension Control Initiative: Addressing Disparities among Racial and Ethnic Minorities from HRSA on 1/14/2021. The Award of \$122,580 provides supplemental funding over three years to implement evidence-based practices. Some of the award will be carried forward to FY2022 and FY2023 and some will be used to offset existing staffing and expenses. The Board of Health approves the additional appropriation of funds to the FY2021 Will County Health Department and Community Health Center budget.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Ms. Mackey |
| SECONDER: | Mr. Cicero |
| AYES: | Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Mr. Hertzmann, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson |

RESOLUTION #21-12 NCCHC APPROPRIATION (CHC)

The CHC was notified of an award of \$24,807 from Centene Insurance in collaboration with the National Council of Community Health Centers (NCCHC) to increase telehealth solutions. The Award of \$24,807 provides one-time funding to support this initiative by providing Behavior Health patients with smart phones to enable the facilitation of virtual on-line appointments, monthly telephone minute cards, and 25% salary support for a licensed clinical social worker. The Board of Health approves the appropriation of funds to the FY2021 WCHD & CHC budget.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Dr. Terrell |
| SECONDER: | Ms. Reiland |
| AYES: | Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Mr. Hertzmann, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson |

RESOLUTION #21-13 APPROVAL OF NEW HOSPITAL CODES & COVID FEES (CHC)

The CHC provides medical, behavioral health, family planning, and hospital evaluation services, and procedures. The CHC Governing Council approved the new hospital codes/fees and COVID-19 vaccine fees at the February 3, 2021 meeting. The Board of Health approves new hospital codes/fees and COVID-19 vaccine fees.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Ms. Tyson |
| SECONDER: | Dr. Terrell |
| AYES: | Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Mr. Hertzmann, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson |

Mr. Hertzmann exited the meeting at 4:41p.m.

RESOLUTION #21-14 APPROPRIATION COUNTY CARES FUNDING FOR MASS VACCINATION EFFORTS (CHC)

Mr. Fricilone discussed the role the County Board’s involvement in making sure the HD is receiving adequate funding during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Fricilone’s concerns was why the HD is not requesting anticipated funds from the County Board? Mr. Zelko noted it’s not that the HD does not need or have use for the funds, the opportunity came up with the IDPH grant before this opportunity was discussed with County Board. Mr. Zelko stated communication was provided to the County Board with the logistics. Mr. Fricilone noted the verbiage will be changed to a “draw down concept / loan” rather than an award. The Resolution was shared on the screen for review.

The WCHD has requested funding in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 from the County Board’s anticipated new expenses to assist with the COVID-19 Mass Vaccination initiative. The funding will help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 through mass vaccination efforts and help defray costs associated with the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as relieve some of the financial burdens associated with responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Award of \$3,000,000 provides support this initiative including assistance with salaries, website enhancements, necessary medical and non-medical supplies, contractual assistance, technology related costs, and other clinic related expenses. The Board of Health approves the additional appropriation of funds to the FY2021 WCHD budget pending the language preference by County Board with respect to the wording “award” changed to “loan”.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Dr. Terrell
SECONDER: Ms. Tyson
AYES: Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson

VACATION TIME LOSS (ED)

Ms. Olenek discussed the inquires from the management team of time off loss since the inception of the pandemic. The Boards recommendation is to give management a year or more time frame to use vacation time. Ms. Olenek will bring documentation back to the Board documenting managements cumulative and individual time loss. Mr. Zelko asked to convey to management how appreciative the Board is for their hard work and willing to provide compensation the best way conceivable.

A cash option was suggested by Ms. Tyson, Ms. Olenek noted unfortunately the HD does not have the funds in reserve for cash payouts. Mr. Fricilone mentioned another relief bill is being considered which would include revenue replacement. The County may receive \$130mm and could provide funding to the HD to assist with a cash payout.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RE: PERSONNEL / LEGAL MATTERS – NONE

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL STATUS REPORT FOR THE WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

To approve all personnel changes for the Will County Health Department for the month of March.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Dr. Terrell
SECONDER: Ms. Reiland
AYES: Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Mr. Zelko reminded the audience the COVID-19 response committee is meeting virtually next Wednesday, February 24th. Ms. Baskin will send the link to those who want to join.

Dr. Terrell extended a thank you to the staff and management for all their hard work and efforts.


PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Simeon Cox, SSIP had questions regarding transparency and accountability regarding an equitable vaccine rollout plan in the community and addressing the disparities. Mr. Simeon-Cox inquired about the HD's role with the disparities and equitable distribution. 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 noted we have hired an individual leading the effort for the MVP campaign. Discussions ensued regarding the efforts being made by the HD to reach out to address the Spanish community's needs, including meetings set for with The Spanish Community Center staff and SSIP.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:17p.m. a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Mr. Cicero
SECONDER: Ms. Tyson
AYES: Mr. Zelko, Dr. Terrell, Mr. Cicero, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Reiland, Dr. Ramos, Dr. Soderquist, Ms. Tyson

By: 
John Cicero, Secretary

By: 
Stephanie Baskin, Executive Assistant