

Board of Health: Kenosha County Division of Health**Meeting Minutes: 12.08.20**

Virtual Webex Meeting, 12:00 Noon

Agenda Item	Talking Points	Action Step (Who & When)
Call to Order, Chairman	The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm by Dr. Gerlach, President. (00:00:04).	
Approval of Minutes of November 10, 2020	Motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020 by Julia Robinson, seconded by John O'Day. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (00:08:07)	
Public Comments	No public comments (00:00:09 – 00:00:23)	
President's Comments	Dr. Gerlach stated that those individuals hospitalized in the ICU tend to be sicker, but overall system numbers for Aurora are coming down slightly for hospitalizations. Vaccine looks very promising. (00:00:24 – 00:01:16)	
Health Officer/Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. 2021 Meeting Scheduleb. BOH Attendance in relation to By-Lawsc. COVID Update	<p>Pre-COVID there had been talks about having monthly Board of Health meetings in 2021. Would like to see the board more active with policy, etc. so starting in January, meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at noon. Everyone in agreement.</p> <p>Our By-Laws have not yet been approved by the County Board. This should happen in January. Jen encouraged members to advocate for these By-Laws at the meeting so that we can modernize our Board and fill our remaining vacancy.</p> <p><i>Per Article 6.1 – Board members are expected to provide notice to the Board, through the Health Officer/Director or their designee, if they are unable to attend Board meetings in writing at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable efforts will be made to schedule meetings during times that work for all Board members. We have not followed this in the past but starting in 2021 we will strictly adhere to this.</i></p> <p><i>Per Article 6.4 - Board Members who miss four (4) meetings in a row or miss at least half of the meetings in a year may be referred to the County Board with a recommendation that the board member be removed from office under Wis. Stat. §17.12. Will also adhere to this starting January 2021.</i></p> <p>The person that the County Executive had put forth to fill our vacancy is now retiring. We are looking for another candidate to fill this vacancy focusing on meeting the diversity of the community and relating to some social determinant of health.</p>	

	<p>Hospitalizations are up in our county between our two health care systems. Have seen an increase in deaths with 88 since October 10th. Potential for 115 – 150 deaths by Feb. 1st. Our hospital systems, Medical Examiner's office and Funeral homes are taxed because of this increase. The percent positive rate has remained steady between 31% – 35% (1 in 3 people being tested are positive). Overall, in the southeastern region, hospitalizations are up 250% since the April peak.</p> <p>National Guard testing is ending unless we can find an appropriate indoor facility to meet their criteria for colder month testing. The Kenosha Community Health Center will be moving downtown next week to their new testing site. Modern Apothecary/Kenosha Fire Department testing will continue into 2021. UW-Parkside antigen testing will be extended.</p> <p>Disease Investigation is at 100% reaching out to all positives. Contact tracing is still minimal. Many partners have been trained on this. Vaccine planning is being scaled up. 127,500 people in Kenosha County need to be 2-dose vaccinated to reach herd immunity. Focus is on getting as many partners as we can signed up through the CDC Vaccine Provider Agreement.</p> <p>Many of our schools have gone virtual. Have seen an increase in the number of business complaints (not masking, etc.). Masks and thermometers can be picked up at the Job Center as we are not delivering any longer. By January 1st, goal is to get back to our public health services at 80%.</p> <p>What can the Board of Health do? 1). Support our public health staff; 2). Consistent vaccine messaging that the COVID vaccine is safe. General questions on vaccines, testing, supporting health department staff, etc. (00:01:20 – 00:33:40)</p>	
Corporation Counsel's Report	Appreciates all the work that the health department is doing under difficult circumstances. (00:33:44 – 00:34:30)	
Other Business as Allowed by Law	Discussion on how to support the staff and the different media outlets used to educate the public. (00:34:50 – 00:39:05)	
Closing Board Comments	Next meeting January 12, 2021 (00:39:12)	
Adjournment	<p>Motion to adjourn meeting by Mark Modory, seconded by John O'Day. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. (00:39:16)</p> <p>Prepared by Karen Kersting, Board of Health Secretary</p> <p>Respectfully submitted by Jen Freiheit, Health Officer/Director</p>	

Present: Dr. Diane Gerlach, John O'Day, Dr. James Foster, Jen Freiheit, Mark Modory, John Moyer, Julia Robinson, Dr. Rita Ventura, Liane Blanck, WGTD
Absent: Sharmain Harris, Dr. Regner-Hodge