

Meeting Minutes - Approved BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MADISON AND DANE COUNTY

Thursday, February 21, 2008

5:30 PM

119 E. Olin Ave.
Water Utility Offices

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 -

Lauren Cnare; Jeff Kostelic; Susan J. Zahner; Judith M. Wilcox; Linda D. Oakley; Lori Kay and William C. Sonzogni

Excused: 1 -

Alan I. Schwartzstein

Others Present: Thomas Schlenker, Tommye Schneider, Pamela Abel (recorder), Patricia Frazak, David Caes, Cheryl Dell' Accio, Barb Tiedje, Travis Myren, Suzanne Leimontas, Nina Buske, Marsha Furry, Topf Wells, Kirsti Sorsa, Mary Mraz, Shannon Maier, Carol Johnson Hohol, Larry Legro

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Zahner, to Approve the Minutes.
The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

PUBLIC COMMENT - 5 minute limit per speaker

Jack Bernfeld – AFSCME (Former Staff Rep for County Locals, Associate Director of Council 40) – There was little preparation on how a merger would impact employees despite the length of time to transition. The team has been bargaining since June of last year and has had fourteen meetings. There has been good work done on the classification structure. There is frustration on the lack of progress toward a final solution. The latest study done estimated \$168,000 for transition and though likely to cost more, the city and county seem surprised at the cost and unwilling to spend the money. Employees doing the same work while making less than their county counterparts is causing morale problems. The proposal to delay implementation compounds the difficulties and causes doubt about whether they want to accomplish this. The union would support a reasonable transition period. This Board could use its influence to resolve this in a timely manner.

Carol Johnson Hohol - Vice President of AFSCME Local 1871 - An 11 year Dane County employee works as a Nutritionist for the WIC program. She would like to encourage the Board to be more involved in future budgeting and staffing needs for the department. Staff reductions were mentioned by Dr. Schlenker and would be detrimental to the functions of the department. Employee morale is at all time low. She would also encourage a more active role in monitoring and improving the employee work environment in WIC program.

Shannon Maier – President of AFSCME Local 720 – She is a member of the bargaining team and spoke about how these long negotiations cause the morale to decline in the department. One example is that work rules for the department were issued that conflict with the union contract and there are several contracts to consider. Members she represents thought the discussion on district reports was discouraging. At the very least some acknowledgement about the discord is needed and that people have the right to feel upset. Some staff thinks it is more a take over, not a merger. She asked the Board look at what is right for employees and help make it happen at a faster pace.

David Ahrens - UW Population Health Institute – Ahrens came to speak about raising public awareness for the television program “Unnatural Causes” being aired on Public Television. The medical school is sponsoring forum to bring in people who are involved with different aspects in different communities. He is interested in Board endorsement. Public Health staff is involved in planning and promoting this.

One person submitted written testimony which is attached.

09376 Written Testimony of employee of Public Health for Madison and Dane County

Attachments: [WrittenTestimony employee of Public Health Madison Dane County.pdf](#)

09381

Attachments: [Handout Unnatural Causes info.pdf](#)

REPORTS

4. **09235** Chair's Report

Attachments: [Chair Report 2 21 08 Board of Health Meeting.pdf](#)

This Report was Accepted

The Chair, excused for the meeting, had a written report distributed. He will work with UW School of Medicine and Public Health on curriculum development. Schwartzstein and Schlenker will work on an abstract for presentation at the NALBOH annual meeting on the city-county merger and encourages others to submit one. Zahner is suggesting one for the criteria for the director performance evaluation. Elections are in June and Chair will not be a candidate so members should consider running.

5. [09236](#) Director Report

Attachments: [Director Report Board of Health 2 21 08.pdf](#)

This Report was Accept

Schlenker mentioned land use in the county and how much more staff are drawn in to commenting on proposals about the public health implications; examples are the Water Utility discussion about long term placement for wells, filters for manganese, the Heffron corporation building in a subdivision near Mazomanie and new septic technologies. Recently he and John Hausbeck were asked to testify about Pumpkin Hollow residential building near Interstate 90 and the effects of air pollution. Our department has certain expertise but not enough resources to do this on a regular basis. He will update the Board in one year to determine possible staffing needs. He will be attending the first session of the environmental health leadership course and hopes that helps the department.

The labor management meetings have been frustrating for management and staff. There are money and other issues also such as operational differences. He sees that staff is stressed and prior to the merger it was due to anticipation but now there are other stressors. This was exacerbated by district reports and subsequently his staff message. His statements in the video were interpreted as layoffs but that has never been discussed and he reassured staff last week that never crossed mind. Schlenker's reference to city mouse/country mouse in the interview was told to him by a county employee and is based on a classic fable. Dr. Schlenker was saddened that the reference was misinterpreted by and offended some staff but was something he could not control. The comment about dressing better was made by Eve Galanter (host) in a humorous tone.

DIVISION REPORTS - 20 minutes

6. Environmental Health - Tommye Schneider

Animal Services – There have been an outbreak of issues; a dangerous pit bull that was euthanized and a farm with 15 horses not being taken care of and another where 37 cows were neglected. The weather has not helped in trying to work on these although orders have been issued. The Environmental Health Supervisor job closes tomorrow so that hired will help. She has worked with staff on developing a plan for county private well sampling. Some of our lakes have been placed by the DNR on an impairment list. Schneider will be attending a meeting with DNR to explore this and find money to do clean up. There is still no decision about a place to move the section and this is problematic. The County is working on it but there is a domino effect to moving staff and the county has told her that they need to move to a county facility. The Board requested the environmental health move and labor negotiations are placed on the March agenda for action.

7. Operations - David Caes

The accounting systems and forms are coming into shape. In two weeks, contract for services will begin.

8. Communicable Disease and Health Promotion - Patricia Frazak

Frazak gave an update on the Corscot fund. There have been two requests for care of tuberculosis support during isolation and treatment. One is a more complex case that requires out of state travel for specialized care. Staff is working with NACCHO grant funds in three neighborhoods to create a relationship of trust and community to build capacity in the event of a disaster. We are still promoting getting the flu vaccine. The southern region of the state is seeing a moderate level of activity. A handout was provided on new initiatives in the prenatal and family health programs.

[09382](#)

Attachments: [Perinatal & Family Health Program initiatives.pdf](#)

REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

9. Executive - Schwartzstein - No report

10. Budget - Kostelic - No report

11. Bylaws -

A meeting is being scheduled for March 3 at 11:30 CCB Rom 356

12. Administrative Hearing - Zahner - No report

13. Personnel - Oakley

A meeting will be scheduled to conduct a review of director performance evaluation process.

OLD BUSINESS - 5 minutes

14. Approval Process for Department Policy Initiatives

NEW BUSINESS - 20 minutes

15. [09247](#) Grant from United Way for Give Kids A Smile

Attachments: [2008.02 BOH Res Give Kids A Smile 2 21 08.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Kay, seconded by Sonzogni, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the Health Department. The motion passed

by voice vote/other.

16. [09238](#) Dane County Board Resolution 252, 2007-2008 on Staff Changes

Attachments: [CoRes252StaffChanges BOH 2 21 08.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Kostelic, to Forward to County Personnel and Finance Committee with the Recommendation for Approval. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

17. [09255](#) Board of Health Resolution #2008-03 Authorization to Sign Contracts and Agreements

Attachments: [2008 03 BOH Res AuthorityToSignContracts 2 21 08.pdf](#)
[MGO 4-26 attach to signature authority res 2008 03.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Kostelic, to Adopt With Amendment(s). The motion passed by voice vote/other.

This resolution incorporates the comments of the Board from the last meeting. Still needed in input on several items. Page 2, the Board confirmed the language on Purchase of Health Service contracts, if identified in our operating budget there is no need for the Board to see again. Similarly, a grant continuation can be processed if listed in the adopted budget and new grants need to be seen by the Board, Council and County Board. For donated items, strike all language after Department, so it reads "Agreements for donated items where there is no exchange of funds and there are no obligations on the part of the Department." Finally, confirm language on Agreements for Provision of Services if Board is notified through the budget process.

18. [09119](#) 2008 Public Health Contract with the Department of Natural Resources for Testing Transient Non-Community Public Water Systems.

A motion was made by Oakley, seconded by Sonzogni, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

19. Safe Food Advisory Committee Appointments - Schneider

This was a city committee with members appointed by the Mayor. They have been in limbo since the merger. It should be changed to split appointments between the Mayor and County Executive. It was recommended that the county appointee talk to Topf Wells and the city appointee talk to Janet Piraino as soon as conveniently possible.

20. [09237](#) Consideration for Request to Allow a Holding Tank in Township of Sun Prairie

Attachments: [Consider Installation of Waste Holding Tank in Township of Sun Prairie.pdf](#)

This person wants to place a small photo studio in a back building and have a holding tank instead of a full septic system. There is precedence to allow this. The Board recommends the department make these decisions since they have the expertise.

21. Address the Approval Issue of Environmental Health Appeals - Board OR Department

The department should make the decision regarding these issues and the appeals should come before the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kay, seconded by Cnare, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Moved to adjourn at 6:58 p.m.