

## **Taylor County Board of Health**

January 21, 2022

3<sup>rd</sup> floor County Board Room

**Call Meeting To Order:** Rollie Thums called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**Members Present:** Rolland Thums, Carol Tuma, Earl Hinkel, Diane Albrecht and Dr. Sally Nazer

**Members Absent:** Tim Hansen

**Other Attendees in person:** Patty Krug and Michelle Cahoon

**Approve Minutes:** A motion was made by Diane Albrecht and seconded by Earl Hinkel to approve the December 2021 minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

**Approve Agenda:** A motion was made by Diane Albrecht and seconded by Carol Tuma to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None

**Monthly Bills:** A motion was made by Earl Hinkel and seconded by Diane Albrecht to approve the December 2021 bills as submitted. Motion carried.

### **Update on Programs:**

#### Agent Status Program:

1. Patty informed the committee, Anthony, EHS continues to complete inspections and providing information to community members who are interested in opening a licensed facility. Karen RN has been certified to read water test results submitted to our lab. Patty informed the committee the state of Wisconsin starting in July 2022 will increase the reimbursement to DHS of collected licensing fees to 12% and 13% the following year. The committee will need to review our current fees at a future meeting.

#### Public Health Activities

1. New Public Health Director will be Michelle Cahoon. Patty explained the process for interviewing, the background and skill set Michelle has for her selection as the new health officer. Michelle provided information to the board some of her identified priorities and plans for the agency.
2. Medical Director for Health Department: Patty informed the committee, Dr. Valentijn, pediatrician, Aspirus Medford has agreed to be our medical director. Patty informed the committee we do not have a medical doctor representative for the committee at this time due to the covid surge and limited time. The state has been informed.
3. Covid Update: Patty and Michelle updated the committee on the current status related to the covid surge, work with schools and industries, community testing, AMI Vaccination team collaboration with DHS, our agency and Aspirus Medford to increase opportunities for access to the COVID vaccine, weekend hours, new CDC guidance for covid and the potential need to move to crisis standards for disease investigations due to limited staff with Patty retiring.

4. Approve/Reject updated job descriptions: Patty presented the public health specialist position. She discussed this position is part of the Taylor County Health Department Strategic Plan developed with staff and board members identified need for the value and skill set this position will provide moving the agency forward for programs and assessments. A motion by Earl Hinkel and seconded by Sally Nazer to approve the job description for the public health specialist. Motion carried.
5. Approve/Reject filling job vacancies: Patty asked the committee for a motion to approve filling the Public Health Specialist position once Carlson company has provided the county with its position in the wage scale and approved by the personnel committee. This position is a grant funded position. A motion was made by Earl Hinkel and seconded by Diane Albrecht to approved filling this position with the conditions a noted by Patty Krug. Motion carried.
6. Approve/Reject 2022 Dietician and Environmental Health Specialist Contracts. A motion was made by Earl Hinkel and seconded by Sally Nazer to approve the 2021 addendum dietician contract as presented. Motion carried. A motion was made by Earl Hinkel and seconded by Diane Albrecht to approve the 2022 Dietician and Environment Health Specialist contract as presented. Motion carried.
7. Additional activities: Discussion was brought forward of how to move forward with programming and participation in community events as an agency with Covid. The agency is currently reviewing the Taylor County Resource Guide for families updating resources for families.
8. Update on Grants: Patty reported waiting for the state to provide the directions for submitting our workforce development grant which was in place October 2021 to increase our staff capacity. She reports she is this funding to increase the WIC clerk to full time for public health activities and the public health program specialist position.

**Scheduled Trainings/Conferences:**

Public Health Operations Conference: February 2022

Virtual Rabies Control Program : Feb 2022

State of Wisconsin Emergency Management-March 2022

**Review of Human Health Hazard Investigations:** None

**Communicable Disease Investigations:** Patty reported continued investigations for reported illnesses of COVID, gastric illnesses and influenza hospitalizations.

**Correspondence:** None

**Other meetings attended by committee members:** None

**Discussion between board members and Health Department employees regarding various operational topics. No action will be taken on any of the topics discussed:** The committee discussed fluoride varnish program and the community health improvement plan data in a day meeting. Patty thanked the board for their support during her tenure as public health director.

**Next Committee Meeting:** The next meeting of the Taylor County Board of Health Committee will be Friday, March 18, 2022 at 9:30 am.

**Adjournment:** A motion by Diane Albrecht and seconded by Earl Hinkel to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 am. Motion carried.

**Respectfully submitted:** Patty Krug, Health Officer