



North Shore Health Department – Board of Health Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2021

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order on Thursday, November 18th at 7:11 pm by Kathleen Platt

- 1) Roll Call: Present- Gary Lewis, Chelsea Holtz, Kristine Peterka. Christopher Okunseri, Debesh Mazumdar, Kathleen Platt. Absent- Rosalyn McFarland, Christopher Simenz, Ellen Schupper

A quorum was present

- 2) Persons Desiring to be Heard: There were no persons desiring to be heard
- 3) Minutes of August 19th were reviewed by members, motion to approve made by Kris Peterka, seconded by Debesh Mazumdar and passed

- 4) Health Department Administrative Items

- Health Director/Officer Transition: The Village of Brown Deer is continuing to search for a Health Officer meeting requirements for a Level III Health Department. Multiple Health Officer positions remain open across the state and per recent survey, there has been a 47% turnover in Health Officer positions in Wisconsin since the beginning of the pandemic. This can be a stressful time to begin a leadership role in public health, however there are also new opportunities and challenges. There was discussion about the possible change to a Level II Health Department.
- Environmental Health: Brad continues to work without the position shared with Washington/ Ozaukee Health Department as that position has not been filled. He is working with North Shore Fire Rescue to draft an ordinance that would be adopted by all municipalities, NSFR would take the lead on this and present to all village boards/ city council. The ordinance would include a joint inspection for general food and fire safety for each food truck license. It is scheduled to be presented to Glendale City Council prior to the end of this year, when the current City Manager is leaving.
- 2022 Budget update:
 - The general operating budget has been submitted to Brown Deer's Village Board and accepted, includes a 3% increase overall, and adjustments in community contributions as per previous formula.
 - In addition, we have separate funding for COVID response, Epi/ lab capacity (ELC), Immunization supplement grant and ARPA funding for COVID recovery. These grants have various restrictions; some cannot be used for any vaccination activities, others can only be used for vaccination activities, and they also have varying start and end dates, out as far as 12/31/2024 (ARPA). Right now we have received approximately \$1,794,000 in COVID grant allocations. These funds are currently being used to pay our COVID- only staff, including vaccinator staff and contact tracing/ case management staff, along with supplies and some core staff time responding to COVID. It is challenging to keep the two budgets separate and expense/ revenue allocations within the restrictions for each grant; Brown Deer fiscal staff has worked closely with us on this.
 - Our COVID-only staff currently consists of 11 Limited Term Employment nurses who work varying levels of hours for case follow up and school liaison and vaccination clinic work, and one vaccine assistant with us on a short term contract through a staffing agency to help with vaccine clinics and billing.

- 5) North Shore COVID-19 Update

- a) We continue to experience a surge in cases, especially in children, and remain in crisis mode

for follow up- providing guidance to case for isolation and quarantine requirements, but not creating contact investigation for each identified contact. As of October, we had assisted with management of 33 COVID outbreaks in 2021 (schools, businesses, Long Term Care)

- b) We continue to vaccinate adults (and 12-17 year olds) for first/ second doses, third doses and booster doses. In addition, we have provided 1st dose vaccinations to approximately 700 children between the ages of 5 and 11, since vaccination for that age range has been approved. As of October, we had given 9,295 vaccinations.
- c) We continue to work closely with schools on their mitigation plans, and case information. We meet with the school district superintendents every other week to discuss ongoing plans and case data. Each school, including parochial and private schools, have a nurse liaison here at the health department for guidance and follow up with cases.
- d) We have completed the majority of our flu vaccines for the season, will continue to provide flu vaccinations for people who have not received them. We again had a high demand for the high dose vaccine and will keep that in mind as we get ready to order for next year. That ordering takes place each February.
- e) Chief Whitaker at North Shore Fire is submitting a grant request for funding to adjust the renovation of station 82 (Glendale) to include space and infrastructure for the North Shore Health Department. We are not required to accept the funding if we receive it but it may be a first step toward consolidation of our two offices.

Next meeting, February 17th, 2022

- 6) Adjournment Motion to adjourn made by Chris Okunseri, seconded by Kris Peterka and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Dated: November 18, 2021

Kathleen S Platt

North Shore Health Department Health Officer, Secretary