



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

BOARD OF HEALTH

*Ruthie Burich-Weatherly, Caroline Gomez-Tom, Bria Grant,
Ald. Chantia Lewis, Julia Means, LaNelle Ramey, Ericka
Sinclair, and Wujie Zhang*

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

5:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Updated 4/13/20, 4:00pm

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8266744550352622094>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Dr. Marylyn Ranta, LaNelle Ramey, Julia Means, Caroline Gomez-Tom, Bria Grant, Ruthie Burich-Weatherly, Ericka Sinclair, Wujie Zhang, Health Commissioner Kowalik, Dr. Griselle Torres, Michael Stevenson, Lilliann Paine

Not Present: Ald. Chanita Lewis

2. Communication from the Commissioner regarding department updates

New Hires

Dr. Heather Paradis, Deputy Commissioner for Medical Services

Will support medical services for the Milwaukee Health Department

Marlaina Jackson, Deputy Commissioner for Community Health

Will support Community Health services for the Milwaukee Health Department

Rocio Serna, Human Resource Director

Will support Human Resources for the Milwaukee Health Department

Marcella Miller, Strong Baby Manager

Shawn Benjamin, Public Information Officer

Will support Communication and Social Media services for the Milwaukee Health Department

Promotions

Carly Hegarty, Director of Consumer Environmental Health

Hannah Kraussel, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Resignation

Ofelia R. Mondragon, BBM, Home Environment Health Manager

3. Board of Health role in supporting the MHD and the community during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Incident command emergency operation center (EOC) in place and MHD Health Department branches:
Policy Innovation and Engagement, Community Health, Environmental health and Medical Services have been very actively involved.
- Also participating in the county Unified EOC and Joint Information Center
- Alderpersons provided regular updates.
- Lab processing COVID -19 samples since 03/05/2020. Currently only testing top priority specimens as determined by CDC/DHS guidance
- First COVID-19 case was 03/13/2020
- Public Health Emergency declared
 - City and subsequently at a county level
 - Commissioner of Health currently also has response oversight for all 11 public health jurisdictions in Milwaukee County
 - Collaborating with the City of Milwaukee Police Department and Common Council to address challenges with using Chapter 252 to protect the public from the threat of Covid-19
- In order to meet provide more timely case investigation; contact tracing and follow-up, responsibilities are being shared with the Wisconsin DHS.
- Providing follow up with complaints and enforcement public health emergency preparedness in general
- Assisting with the formation of isolation and facilities for COVID + individuals who are homeless.
- Maintaining essential levels of clinical service at health department locations.
- Advancing Healthier Wisconsin Grant – application completed in partnership with the county with input from the Office of African- American affairs form MCW and other consultants
- Participating in CDC Household Transmission Study
 - o The Wisconsin Department of Health Services, North Shore Health Department, City of Milwaukee
Public Health Laboratory, City of Milwaukee Department of Health, Wauwatosa Health Department, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are conducting a study of household transmission of COVID-19. This investigation aims to understand the secondary attack rate of the virus in household settings, risk factors for spread in the household, and how many household members become infected with the virus and remain asymptomatic.
 - o Additionally, the study will look at whether the results from a nasal self-swab done in the home are the same as the results of a nasal swab taken by a health professional at the same time. If the results support the use of self-swabbing, this may benefit both patients and healthcare providers. The goal is to enroll 20-30 households over the next couple of weeks, with each household participating for 14 days. Results of this study will be shared when they become available

Expectations of the Board - Greg Kruse and Peter Block answered general questions from Board members

5. Adjournment

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