



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, Dr. Ian Martin, Julia Means, LaNelle
Ramey, Ericka Sinclair, and Wujie Zhang*

Thursday, June 3, 2021

5:30 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

This is a virtual meeting. Please join from your computer, tablet or smartphone using the link provided below or by calling the number provided.

<http://bit.ly/mkebohealth>

1. Call to order

2. Roll call

Present: Ruthie Burich-Weatherly, Caroline Gomez-Tom, Bria Grant, Ald.
Chantia Lewis, Julia Means, LaNelle Ramey, Ericka Sinclair, Dr. Ian Martin

Not Present: Wujie Zhang

3. Approval of meeting minutes from May 2021

Board Member Gomez-Tom motioned to approve, Board Member Sinclair seconded, motion passed with none opposed.

4. Communication from MHD Health Commissioner, Kirsten Johnson.

- a. COVID/Vaccine updates/Mask
- b. Introduce Myra Edwards and Arnita Holman
- c. Questions

[210143](#)

Communication relating to those documents submitted to the Board of Health for its meetings in 2021.

Commissioner Johnson presented an update on MHD's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, including the decision to let the health order expire on June 1st following the CDC's updated mask guidance. The burden of COVID-19 is decreasing significantly in Milwaukee and vaccination efforts, including mobile pop-up clinics continue to be operated by MHD staff and community partners.

5. **Sexual and Reproductive Health Program Update**
 - a. **Communication by Julie Katrichis and Dr. Paradis**
 - b. **Questions**

Julie Katrichis and Sexual and Reproductive Health program manager Stephanie Zaas presented an update on the program, including a concerning rise in the incidence of syphilis beginning in the middle of 2020. The program noted a need for an investment in staffing disease intervention specialists, outreach and partnership building with the community, support for strategic planning, and technological support to address this trend.

6. **CDC Grant update by Bailey Murph (National Initiative to address COVID19 Health Disparities)**
 - a. **Questions**

Deputy Commissioner of Policy, Innovation and Engagement Murph presented an update on a grant awarded from the CDC for \$6.6 million to continue to respond to racial disparities in the COVID-19 Pandemic through May 2023.

Standing Agenda Items

1. **Discussion of DHS 140 certification**
 - a. **Updates, communications update and timeline**
 - b. **Questions**

An action plan was submitted to DHS on May 19, 2021.

2. **Lead Program**
 - a. **Updates, communications update and timeline**
 - b. **Questions**

Deputy Commissioner of Environmental Health Tyler Weber introduced himself and Marivel Montejano, Director of Home Environmental Health presented an update on the department's lead program and efforts to respond to and abate incidence of lead poisoning in children. Marivel shared successes including 2018 MHD Plan of Correction has been closed as of March 23rd, 2021, completed follow-up on all 112 historic properties identified on the Wisconsin DHS correction plan, implementation, Public Health Nurses and Lead Risk Assessor case conferencing, and Quickbase database, documentation and reporting enhancements. Remaining challenges include absentee landlords in the city of Milwaukee, contractor capacity, and staffing capacity as the program is operating below staff levels, hiring delays, retention of staff, LRA pay equity with other city similar positions.

3. **Strategic Planning**
 - a. **Internal Health Dept. Planning**
 - b. **Planning that includes BOH**

MHD is currently in the process of identifying a consultant to facilitate the department's strategic planning, and will continue to engage the board throughout this process.

4. **Milwaukee Health Department branch collaboration updates**
 - a. **Presentation and discussion from BOH members on branch collaborations**

Updates were tabled until the next meeting.

5. **Future agenda items**
 - a. **July Mtg will be in person. Details to follow.**

Board Member Gomez-Tom motioned to cancel July's meeting and meet again in August, Ald. Lewis seconded the motion, and the board agreed to this decision.

6. **Adjournment**

Board Member Gomez-Tom motioned to adjourn, Dr. Martin seconded and the motion passed with none opposed.

This meeting will be webcast live at www.milwaukee.gov/channel25.

In the event that Common Council members who are not members of this committee attend this meeting, this meeting may also simultaneously constitute a meeting of the Common Council or any of the following committees: Community and Economic Development, Finance and Personnel, Judiciary and Legislation, Licenses, Public Safety and Health, Public Works, Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development, and/or Steering and Rules. Whether a simultaneous meeting is occurring depends on whether the presence of one or more of the Common Council member results in a quorum of the Common Council or any of the above committees, and, if there is a quorum of another committee, whether any agenda items listed above involve matters within that committee's realm of authority. In the event that a simultaneous meeting is occurring, no action other than information gathering will be taken at the simultaneous meeting.

Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities through sign language interpreters or auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request this service, contact the City Clerk's Office ADA Coordinator at 286-2998, (FAX)286-3456, (TDD)286-2025 or by writing to the Coordinator at Room 205, City Hall, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Persons engaged in lobbying as defined in s. 305-43-4 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances are required to register with the City Clerk's Office License Division. Registered lobbyists appearing before a Common Council committee are required to identify themselves as such. More information is available at <http://city.milwaukee.gov/Lobbying>.