

Madison County Board of Health Meeting

Thursday, July 27, 2023, 6:00 pm

Members Present

Dr. Robert Adams DDS, Chair
Dr. Suzanne Sheldon, DVM
Hanna Hardin, Pharmacist
Larry Peek, Engineer
Dr. Melissa Robinson MD. Ex Officio

Diana Rogers, RN, Public
Jeremy Hensley, Commissioner
Cheryl Conway, PhD, RN
Joey Chandler, Public
Caleb Massey, RN

Members Absent

Crystal Webb, Public

Diana Rogers, RN Public

Regular Meeting Special Meeting

I. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions

Chair Adams called the Madison County Board of Health Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on July 27th, 2023.

Approval of

a. Agenda

Chair Adams asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Suzanne Sheldon made a motion that the agenda be approved as written and Joey Chandler seconded the motion. The Board voted and the agenda was unanimously approved as written.

b. Board of Health May 25 Minutes

Chair Adams asked for a motion to approve the May 25 minutes, Larry Peek made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Suzanne Sheldon seconded the motion. The board voted and the minutes were unanimously approved as written.

II. Public Input Session

No members of the public were in attendance.

III. Announcements

Historic Plaque

Chair Adams provided an update that the Historic Plaque has been successfully installed, next to the water fountain in the upstairs lobby. The plaque was very nicely made. Additionally, he shared that once the plaque was in place, he forwarded pictures to Jan, who expressed her satisfaction with the outcome.

Case Management Service

Tammy reported to the Board of Health (BOH) that she received an email from our Regional State Consultant. In this email, the consultant mentioned that she highlighted our county as the top performer in her jurisdiction and forwarded this information to her superiors at the state level. Board members expressed their appreciation for the work and dedication and asked that it be shared with the staff.

Med Assist Event

The Med Assist event is just around the corner, scheduled for August 11, 2023. We're thrilled to announce that we already had 200 sign-ups this week, but we're aiming even higher – our goal is to hit 500 pre-signups! Also, we're on the lookout for ten more volunteers to join our team. County Residents can sign up for the over-the-counter medications at the event. We have 16 booths committed to come and share information about their agency.

During the event, we'll have medical providers on-site who can help answer any questions participants might have about over-the-counter medications. If someone you know doesn't have a smartphone and can't sign up, – you can register on their behalf.

Dr. Sheldon gave us an update on the vaccine clinic situation. Unfortunately, there's no grant money available right now to set up a free vaccine clinic for our residents. However, Dr. Sheldon is taking the initiative and will be reaching out to her pet group. She's dedicated to making a low-cost vaccine clinic a reality.

We hope to have 1000 people attend the event. Board members

Opioid Survey

Tammy requested everyone to complete the opioid survey. Our county commissioners want to hear from the community about how the community wants to spend this restricted money. The Health Department is not competing for the money as we currently have grant funds to support our opioid-related programs. We want to hear from individuals and their families who have been impacted by substance abuse. The County commissioners have chosen a track. Tammy is in a small workgroup that is working to collect and analyze the data, as well as to understand the directives associated with the track. Commissioner/BOH member Jeremy Hensley added that we could choose from two tracks and the commissioners chose to begin with track A. "We can also switch tracks and needed." The opioid settlements are coming in two waves. Wave one is occurring now with the second wave of monies to begin soon. One of the things the community is telling us is they want more distribution of Narcan. However, we currently have a significant supply of Narcan, so we can communicate with the community and meet this need at this time without spending the opioid settlement money on this activity. Dr. Sheldon asked what the expiration date for Narcan is and Tammy said about one to two years. Robin reported that the last batch had a 2025 expiration. Use what you have. It's not going to hurt anyone. If you need Narcan for personal use, we can train you how to use it and provide you with the Narcan. Sometimes people may need more than one dose. Dr. Robinson stressed that you need to monitor the person because they may need more. EMS should always be called if Narcan is used. All county department heads have been trained and now have Narcan available in all county offices. Next week, at the Health Department, all staff will be trained in the administration of Narcan. Dr. Sheldon discussed Xylazine. Xylazine- Slang name "tranq". Xylazine is a non-opioid sedative or tranquilizer that was first developed in 1962 by the pharmaceutical company Bayer. The FDA did not approve xylazine for use in humans, but the FDA did approve the drug for veterinary medicine in 1972. Xylazine is typically injected but can also be swallowed or sniffed. Xylazine is often combined with fentanyl, heroin, or cocaine. The drug is relatively inexpensive and often combined with these pricier substances as a low-cost way to increase as a low-cost way increase drug effects or increase the dealer's profits from the substances that are typically sold by weight. Dr. Robinson briefly discussed Hollar Harm Reduction. Hollar Harm does syringe exchange. They are submitting; the empty bags and those are being tested to determine the contents that were in them. Thus far Xylazine has not shown up here in Madison County. Dr. Robinson and Tammy both stressed the ultimate goal of syringe exchange is to help get the individual into treatment and no longer using substances.

IV. **New Business**

a. Fee schedule dental

Chair Adams led the discussion of the dental fee schedule. We have had time to review and analyze what other Health departments and private practices are charging. Chair Adams stated that after review they decided to go with the payment from the insurance companies. We serve people who have private insurance because they like the providers and services at the MCHD. The BOH reviewed the documents provided to them and Dr. Adams answered their questions. Dr. Adams stated, "We need to look at the dental fee schedule more often."

Chair Adams then called for a motion to approve the presented dental fee schedule. Caleb Massey made the motion to approve the dental fee schedule and Larry Peek seconded it. Following the motion and second, the board conducted a vote, resulting in unanimous approval of the dental fee schedule. The next step would involve presenting the approved dental fee schedule to the County Commissioners for their consideration or further action.

Communicable Disease Annual Report

Robin reported the annual communicable disease report to the Board of Health. The board reviewed the report and asked questions. Robin and Dr. Robinson answered questions concerning the report and related issues. Communicable Disease Activities 2022

Communicable Disease Activities 2022

1. Meningococcal disease was a 65-year-old male. No known exposure to other cases. Was hospitalized and survived. Had to provide prophylaxis to 4 contacts of the case with antibiotics.
2. E. coli case was in a child. Unknown how the child obtained the illness.
3. Group A Streptococcal Invasive disease was in a 50-year-old male. Had been scratched by his cat multiple times, which resulted in the patient being hospitalized for 19 days.
4. Haemophilus influenzae invasive disease was in a 92-year-old male. Had been in contact with sick family members and was immunosuppressed.
5. Hepatitis C Chronic cases for Madison County reported totaled 22. Down from 38 last year.

Disease Summary & Control Measures Implemented YTD 2023

1. 17 positive lab results for Lyme disease that did not meet the case definition, mostly because the lab work that was collected did not meet what CDC and NC want to be collected or the medical provider did not document symptoms appropriately. 10 cases of Lyme disease have been counted by NC due to meeting the case definition.
2. Possible hepatitis B case investigated. The patient had been vaccinated per verbal report when he was younger. Spoke with the provider to obtain additional lab work. In the end, turned out to not count as a case of hepatitis B.
3. Pneumococcal meningitis case's wife was interviewed. The patient was sick for ~3 weeks prior. Educated her on the importance of contact monitoring for symptoms and getting checked if symptoms develop.
4. A possible CRE (carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae) case that lived in a skilled nursing facility was reported. An investigation was completed. The facility was notified to put the patient on contact isolation precautions. The lab test completed by the hospital was not correct and had to be retested. Upon retesting, the case was ruled out and did not meet the case definition.

C. ADA Report:

Tammy reviewed the ADA report with the Board members. This is an accreditation benchmark. We have already addressed several concerns. Bradley Hodges is working with our maintenance department to correct some additional items.

- 1. Insulation has been placed around the sink drains and pipes in all public restrooms.**
- 2. The cabinet in the Dental Public Restroom has been removed and placed in the hall next to the door. It has been replaced with compliant shelving.**
- 3. Maintenance tickets have been entered to have the Handicap Parking areas both the top and bottom parking lots repainted for compliance as well as new signposts installed where needed to be compliant. (The signs themselves are pending approval for purchases)**
- 4. All public walking path areas have been reorganized to comply with 36" clearance standards.**
5. The shelf for urine samples in the Clinic Patient Bathroom has arrived but has not been installed.
6. Johnnie is working on vinyl lettering for the front window stating, "How can we make your visit easier?"

The items in bold are required items. Numbers 5 and 6 are recommended.

V. Administrative Report

a. Medical Director's Report Dr. Robinson reported on the following:

• Lyme

	Jan	Feb	March	May	June	July
Reported but criteria unmet	0	1	1	2	11	6

Suspect (likely did not meet stringent state requirements)	0	0	0	2	2	0
Confirmed	0	0	2	1	3	3
Under investigation	0	0	0	0	0	2

• Otherwise, currently routine.

MAT program

- Program is growing since its inception in 2019 (zero patients) to 62 active patients. This growth serves the needs of the county and financially benefits Health Dept, with 36 insured patients and 26 covered by grants.
- Retention rate compares favorably to nationally reported #'s
 - o 4-year retention 62%. (Typically, only 50% at 3 years)
 - o 6-month retention rate is consistently around 90% for the past 18 months (No comparison available)
- Kudos to Rachel Potter for grant writing:
 - o Dogwood Health Trust \$150,000/yr starting October 2023 for uninsured pt's plus \$200 towards SDOH
 - o Office of Rural Health Medication Assistance Program \$28,850 grant approved Vaya grant submitted for Peer Support Specialist Plus \$500/pt SD

The Board of Health requested that the message be conveyed to Rachel, expressing gratitude for her dedicated efforts in managing and writing the grants, while managing her other responsibilities.

b. Health Director Report

Staffing Report: Vacancies: EH Specialist, School Nurse

- *Salary Adjustments and Salary Study Meetings*
In July staff got 3% salary adjustments for all county employees. The County Commissioners have hired a firm to do Salary Studies. Those meetings started last week. The company will be working to understand the duties of staff and comparing that with other counties and jobs with the same responsibilities.
- *Animal Control, Rabies Vaccinator*
Animal control remains with the County. There is a new director for Animal Control, Pia Cash. Tammy has been working with the new team. Currently, the animal shelter has only one Rabies vaccinator and they are planning to get others certified.
- *EH has a new car. Several months ago, one of the environmental health vehicles was involved in an accident. This car has been replaced.*
- *Playground update*
 - o *Fence and walking trail, possible adult equipment grant*
We have submitted a grant to Dogwood Health to purchase some adult exercise equipment, a mommy and me swing. There is still grading work to be done at the playground and a drainage ditch on site to work with. The grant will help pay for the these things. In addition, we will have a program for pregnant women and new moms to encourage exercise and healthy eating as well as a program for young children

that will involve having a Triple P-certified RN read a story to the children. The book goes along with a Triple P parenting lesson.

- *Audits
 - *ADA Report*
 - *Women Health -Robin did a great job with the Audit.**
- *MCHD Building Expansion project to begin on August 1*
- *Several Building projects occurring (Lab cabinet, counter and countertop installation, drainage projects, parking project)*
- *Reaccreditation process in final 3 months, very time-consuming for the leadership team*
- *Opioid Block Grant updates- Improvements for the Lab, new cabinets.*
- *Purchases:
 - *Vehicle and fuel, funds for lab renovation and vaccine refrigerator, funds to support patients in MAT program, training and travel to substance use out of state prevention conference, Narcan, fentanyl test strips, eye washing station, laptops, e-scribe fees, electronic medical record fees, refrigerator, electronic sign on medical park drive, communication equipment for exam rooms, numerous county departments who serve individuals with SUD and their families were able to benefit from these funds**
- *Cost Settlement - desk audit occurring, will delay our payment*
- *Master of Public Health Intern*

Tammy is supervising a Master's in public health intern this semester. Tremendous help with the opioid survey and has been helping Matthew Wilson at the County Manager's office.
- *Lending Library*

A group has contacted us and wants to put a small lending library out front; it will have adult and children's books.
- *Determination of worker status*
- *Mental Health Awareness Training for adults and youth*

Bendik Clark has been implementing Mental Health Awareness Training.
- *Electric Informational Sign*

This will be a digital sign once everything is completed. Requires

c. Financial Reports

Tammy presented the financial report to the Board of Health:
As we close out the fiscal year (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) I am pleased to provide you with an update on our financial performance. Through unwavering dedication, diligence, careful monitoring, and planning, we have again accomplished financial achievements that have resulted in savings for our local taxpayers.

Key Financial Highlights:

- **Effective utilization of COVID Funds:** In response to the COVID pandemic, we received funding to address the challenges posed by this unprecedented situation. We deployed these resources strategically to offset expenses.
 - **Successful support from ARPA Funds:** Regional ARPA funds were able to support the MCHD's travel and training requirements over the past year. This resulted in savings of \$10,500.
 - **Funding Exciting Projects:** Leveraging the COVID funds also presented us with an opportunity to move forward with projects that will benefit our residents and strengthen our services. The most exciting of these is the building expansion project that does not involve any taxpayer funding. This expansion will provide
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us with the capacity to offer additional services to our community, thus enhancing our ability to meet evolving needs.

- **Demonstrating Financial Responsibility:** We acknowledge that county resources are limited, and we take our responsibility as stewards of public funds seriously. Our commitment to prudent financial management is reflected in our efforts to maximize the impact of every dollar spent, ensuring that the community receives the most value from our investment.
- **Community Impact:** By saving taxpayer money, we have demonstrated our commitment to responsible financial management, therefore supporting the well-being of our community members.
- **Impact on Community Health:** The utilization of funds and the initiation of new projects will have a significant impact on community health.
- Please review the annual revenue and expense report for line-item adjustments as well as totals. Overall, our **total revenue** for the past fiscal year was \$3,091,019.18. The county had committed \$1,277,330 for the annual services. The combined total equals **\$4,368,349.18**
- As you know public health is an essential program in counties as the health of our residents is dependent upon our services. Things like rabies, TB, STDs, and contaminated drinking water can be fatal and cause significant harm to our residents if left untreated, undiagnosed, and not controlled. These are essential services provided to our residents through local funds. We also provide many other services that improve the health and well-being of residents.
- We saw some of our expenses and services increase this past year. Total expenses were **\$4,060,303**. This left savings to our local taxpayers of **\$307,446**.
- As we conclude this fiscal year, our focus remains on sustaining the positive momentum. We will continue to evaluate our financial practices in order to meet future challenges and opportunities. We realize that community needs are continually evolving, and we are dedicated to being proactive in addressing emerging health challenges.

VI. Other Business

a. Generator

Joey Chandler updated the board on the Generator:

He spoke with Aaron Blythe with Carolina Energy. Aaron went through the proposal with him. The generator is made by a new manufacturer that they have started working with. Joey stated that he feels like they did well-taking care of the county for what we're getting. They built in an extended service contract. As for when we'll get the generator, it's planned to be shipped by the end of November. But there are some things that need to happen before we can start using it. It'll take about one to two weeks to get things ready once we know exactly when it's arriving. Aaron's hoping, they can have it all set up and running by the start of next year, though bad weather might slow things down.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Adams asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Sheldon made a motion to adjourn, and Caleb Massey seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:56 pm.

Dr. Robert Adams DDS, Chairman

Tammy Cody, MHS, Health Director

Next Meeting: September 28, 2023, at 6pm
