



MINUTES
Le Sueur – Waseca Community Health Board
Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Members present: DeAnne Malterer, Brad Milbrath, David Preisler, Dennis Tietz, Steve Rohlffing, John King, and Doug Christopherson

Others present: Sarah Berry, Megan Kirby, Sam Holicky-James, Leah Cameron, Josh Ramaker, Seth Hurias, Pam Tietz, Josh Beulke, Rito Ayala, Kristen Pfarr, Vicki Neidt, Ken Bentson, Jill Courtney, Jen Williamson, Michael Johnson, Nicole Jarvis, Andrew Nicolin, Joe Martin, and Jeremy Allen (MN Prairie)

1. **Call to Order** at 1:31pm by Chair Dave Preisler
 - a. Review/Approval of Agenda.
 - i. Motion to approve agenda by John King; second by Brad Milbrath. Motion carried.
 - b. Review/Approval of April 1, 2025, minutes
 - i. Motion to approve the minutes of April 1, 2025, by Brad Milbrath; second by Dennis Tietz. Motion carried.
 - c. Review recent items signed by Board agent- Sarah Berry
 - i. Funding letter and grant agreement for Minnesota Public Health Infrastructure grant.
2. Community Health Advisory Committee
 - a. Introduction of proposed members
 - i. 11 members who have been identified, two of which are potential members who were unable to attend today.
 - b. Approve Final Advisory Committee Agreement
 - i. Correction for item 5a: to meet no less than four times a year.
 - ii. Mileage reimbursement to follow Federal rate addition request from the Board.
 - iii. Steve Rohlffing motion to approve the Community Health Advisory Committee Agreement, DeAnne Malterer second. Motion carried.
 - c. Resolution to establish Community Health Advisory Committee and its members: Motion to approve resolution as it stands with nine members, made by Brad Milbrath second by Dennis to appoint nine members: Seth Hurias, Pam Tietz, Josh Beulke, Rito Ayala, Kristen Pfarr, Vicki Neidt, Ken Bentson, Jill Courtney, and Jen Williamson; of the possible 10 members to the Le Sueur-Waseca Community Healthy Advisory Committee. Motion carried.
3. Updates from the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee – DeAnne Malterer

Community Health Board

LE SUEUR-WASECA

Time is being spent hearing reports from work groups. The Data Modernization Work Group is looking at statewide data systems and how to use them better and provide capacity in rural counties. Next week they will review using infrastructure funds and investigate data funds for epidemiology work and will analyze if Olmstead County's model is something that can be used in the rural areas. SCHSAC is still waiting on State budget and what the federal government will do. MDH on the State level will have small pots of funding available for opioid education money and a good portion will come back to MDH. Federal funding cutbacks are significantly impacting MDH.

4. Review of Infectious Disease Burden – Prepared by Colin Ayers presented by Josh Ramaker
Chlamydia rates continue to be the highest. We are still promoting the Double Dutch program in efforts to improve sexually transmitted infections and diseases. Campylobacter is also high. COVID Cases have decreased, influenza was higher and difficult to overcome this year. The Federal Corrections facility is also impacting case numbers for Waseca County. Our LPH is working on a measles campaign (in partnership with CRPHI) currently, the first post went out yesterday and we also received a HAN the same day so the timing was spot on.
5. Funds overview – Sarah Berry
Foundational areas and capabilities work is being covered by braided funding-utilizing multiple funding sources towards certain aims. An example is of funds used for our Healthy Families- Family Home Visiting supports/programs. Community Health: SHIP FTE's are not final, still awaiting final funding notification from the State. Environmental Health 1.0 FTE in each county, Waseca County, has healthy housing funding supporting the position as well. WIC: shared images compare the cost of living for Le Sueur and Waseca from 2023 data. WIC is prescriptive budget for food, SNAP is more open but restricts from alcohol and deli- prepared foods. WIC and SNAP benefits now allow participant to swipe card at checkout, the allowable items come off and leaves a remainder balance for participant to pay. US House FARM bill is looking at shifting for SNAP, WIC is not included right now. Nebraska is piloting a few things, and one is that SNAP does not allow pop purchases currently and Iowa is also moving that way. Jeremy believes this is a request the State would make to the USDA, unless federal government would make it across the program.
6. Environmental Health Fee Update – Josh Ramaker & Andrew Nicolin
Andrew continues to do great work in Le Sueur County and is currently offering services across both counties. New Environmental Health Specialist was hired in Waseca County and will starting later in June. There are substantial proposed changes for the fee schedule, and our surrounding counties are paying State fees. There is also a new fee: Technology fee, \$5 in each category. Plan Review Fee Schedule is also proposed to increase but not as significantly. If fees move forward both counties will still endure levy needs. Local level services are very vital for our economy. Andrew is providing quick

Commented [MK1]: In attached fee schedule Le Sueur County address needs to be changed to 130 S. Park Avenue.



turnaround in services. New establishment is a building that has never served for food whereas a remodel change is when there is a change that is significant enough to revisit the operating plan. Fees were last changed in 2018. Need to consider a large change in a short time because of following State fee schedule versus an incremental adjustment to increase fees. Examples from State fees: Category 3 is the most seen (85% of our inspection time) establishment, we are there two to four times and going back and forth in other communications 25 times. Short term rentals fees seem more inaccurate because less time is done working with them. Doug Christopherson commented, "Any increase will be a positive levy impact." DeAnne Malterer shared, "If we go away from State fees, we will be asking local staff to do local analysis that has been done by the State in the past." All operators are making increased payments on several items for operation. Consideration to not charge the \$5 technology fee. EH manager is being utilized by both counties and is a sufficient system. Discussion around whether the proposed fees on the recommended fees list too low for the amount of time. Reinspection fee is not charged currently until the 3rd visit, hoping to promote the education provided to the establishment. Motion to adopt the fee structure with removal of technology fee contingent on State adopting it, made by Steve Rohlfing; second by DeAnne Malterer. Motion carried.

7. Preliminary 2026 Budget – Leah Cameron

Grant matches and splits between the agencies presented. The SHIP \$172,000 award is tentative at this moment. Minimal change for grant splits, with exception of time Colin was spending in COVID that time has been switch to Cannabis. There is a 0.02 miss of Colin's time that is currently being billed to Opioid Grant. 2026 preliminary budget for the CHB amounts are based off last year's awards because we have not received award amounts yet. MCIT insurance policy and Mileage for CHBA will be billed to LPH Grant. Some grants list salaries and fringes together, and they are not broken out if that's how it is presented to us, so that is how they are written on the presentation. Innovative Grant funds are budgeted for Waseca to funnel money for the contract. EMR adjustment expected in 2027, but unaware which county will make change if it is identified as a need. WIC split is based on participation rates, which have changed per county. This budget is just CHB grants we are receiving and the disbursement, not individual county grants. The levy contribution is not imbedded in the report.

8. Infrastructure Grant – Sarah Berry

a. Timeline for work: RFP proposed to open and hope to have a contractor on board 8/1/25. Two to three months on initial assessments of our processes. Develop recommendations based on this assessment around 1/1/26. Schedule to meet in June as a full Board to receive recommendations. Draft budgets are planned to be ready June 2026. Grant goes until June 2027.

b. RFP review and approval: Asking for the contractor to make recommendations for organization structure across the two counties for CHB structure. Want to conduct interviews of work being done and provide recommendations, create action and implementation plans, and provide training for it. Requested addition third bullet to include what can be or should be



discontinued for services. Motion to approve with amendment to include language around the scope of practice made by DeAnne Malterer; second by John King. Motion Carried.

9. Consideration of an Additional Meeting Date

Board is aware of the need for a potential meeting in July or August dependent on changes at the State level and the impacts it could have on local CHB.

Motion to adjourn at 3:27pm by Steve Rohlfing; second by Brad Milbrath. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Sam Holicky for DeAnne Malterer, Secretary. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th at 1:30pm.