

**BOARD OF HEALTH COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 12, 2026**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Dan Hess, Vice Chair William "Casey" Crump (zoom) Sandy Hamburg, Lenore Lopez, Khristyne Lindgren (zoom)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED: Robb Jensen, Marcy Davies

STAFF PRESENT: Linda Conlon, Rebecca Wold, Linda Jerzak, Kyla Waksmonski, Cherie Ceresero and Joneil Tess

OTHERS PRESENT: Dorothy Skye

Call to order: Chair Hess called the meeting to order at 9:00am on the second floor of the Health & ADRC Building, 100 W. Keenan Street, Rhinelander, WI. The meeting was posted in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and the facility is handicap accessible.

Election of Vice Chair: Motion made by Hess/Lopez to appoint Casey Crump as Vice Chair of the Board of Health Committee. All ayes; motion carried.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Lopez/Hess to approve today's agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion to move around. All ayes; motion carried.

Minutes of April 14, 2026: Motion by Lopez/Hamburg to approve the April 14, 2026 Board of Health Committee minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Public Comment/Communications: None

Welcome New Board of Health Members: Hess welcomed new Board of Health members Robb Jensen and Sandy Hamburg. Hess noted that Jensen had contacted him to advise that he was unable to attend. Conlon stated that a link to orientation materials will be sent out and invited members to reach out with any questions.

Out of State Staff Report: Jerzak said she attended a five-day training in Florida to learn more about Pap tests and colposcopy procedures. She explained that Pap tests can be complicated, but new tools and apps are helping providers. A colposcopy uses a microscope to closely examine the cervix and identify abnormal areas so biopsies can be taken if needed.

Conlon said it is very helpful to have Jerzak able to provide these services locally because patients who were referred elsewhere often did not follow up. Conlon said it improves continuity of care for patients. Jerzak also stressed the importance of HPV vaccines, noting that Australia is on track to eliminate cervical cancer because of vaccination efforts. She said cervical cancer causes more than half a million deaths worldwide and that early testing and treatment are very important. Conlon added that positive HPV cases have decreased since the vaccine became available. Jerzak explained that children vaccinated before age 15 only need two doses, while older individuals need three doses.

Staff Report QI/PM – Kyla Waksmonski: Waksmonski introduced herself as a Community Health Specialist serving as the Accreditation Coordinator and the Coordinator of Quality Improvement and Performance Management. Waksmonski talked about how the department tracks its progress and tries to improve its programs. She shared a report showing data from 2025 and explained that staff have training and regularly work on improving quality.

The department tracks about 35 different metrics, including things like community health and access to services. They set high goals for these measures. Right now, about 44% of the goals are being met or exceeded, while 56% are working on approaching targets.

Conlon said data collection is critical and the department monitors performance measure data every quarter. If data is only available once per year, it is difficult to quickly fix problems.

Waksmonski talked about making sure the data they collect is useful to the public and helps improve services. Conlon said they want to keep focusing on continuous quality improvement so the department maximizes effectiveness.

Monthly/Quarterly Reports:

Communicable Disease: Wold reviewed the quarter one communicable disease report. Discussion followed.

Public Health Vending Machine: Conlon explained that there may be an opportunity to get a vending machine using grant funding. The group is currently looking into whether the machine would be beneficial for the community. Conlon reviewed some of the items that could be included in the machine, including educational materials and resources that would be also provided inside the kits. All of the items would be paid for through grant dollars, public health revenue, and/or donations. The machine would be temperature controlled. Discussion followed

Motion made by Hess/Lopez to approve the public health vending machine as presented, with funds coming from grants and public health revenue as needed All ayes; motion carried.

PFAS Update: Conlon reviewed the DNR handout with information about expanded Oneida County private well PFAS sampling as of May 3, 2026. Hess said there have been discussions about whether Oneida County should get involved right away with the new funding. She commented that the Health Department will help by educating people and sharing information about PFAS and available resources. Even if the state keeps control of the program, there are still ways the county can support residents. Discussion followed.

Board of Health Community/Nurse selection:

Conlon stated there was an opening for a nurse on the Board of He, which follows the state statutes that recommends a nurse as part of the board. Applications were received and evaluated using a selection matrix focused on nursing experience, governance, and healthcare operations, with consideration of clinical care and population health backgrounds. Five candidates applied.

Conlon reviewed the outcome of the evaluation process and recommended appointing Ann Huntoon. Hess noted he had discussed the process with Conlon the previous week and suggested Conlon and team make a recommendation for the Board to approve.

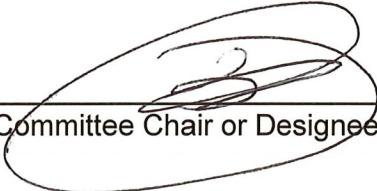
Motion made by Hess/Lopez to recommend Ann Huntoon for the nurse position on the Board of Health. All ayes; motion carried.

Vouchers, purchase orders, line item transfers and other fiscal matters:

Hess asked if everyone had reviewed the report. Conlon reviewed the process of the budgets for new members. Conlon does not have any major concerns at this time. Hess noted the presentation of the vouchers, purchase orders, line item transfers.

Date and Agenda items for next meeting: Next meeting slated for Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 9am

Public comment/communications: Skye spoke via zoom.



Committee Chair or Designee

Joneil Tess

Committee Secretary