

**BOARD OF HEALTH COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 19, 2020**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Tom Kelly, Steven Schreier, Ryan Zietlow, Dr. Amy Slette, Ann Ovsak, Billy Fried; Stephanie Sowatzka

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: Linda Conlon, Marta McMillion, Brian Desmond and Joneil Tess

OTHERS PRESENT: Jane Banning

Call to order: Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. 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.

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

Oneida County COVID-19 update and response: Conlon went over the health department's COVID-19 web pages: Onward Oneida County Re-opening Guidance & Metrics; COVID-19 Data – Local, State & National; COVID-19 – What should I do? Conlon reviewed the guidance and metrics posted online to the Onward Oneida County webpage on Friday, May 15, 2020. Conlon explained the county guidance is a result of our community working together to determine the best way to open up strategically and safely. Our county is in phase 1 generally and in Phase 2 for mass gatherings. Conlon stated there is also the Onward Oneida County Plan and Toolkit available on the website. Individuals can download the guidance and print it if they wish to have a paper copy. Conlon stated if we start to see issues, we might have to move into Moderate Mitigation, which is based on weekly monitoring of local criteria. The health department will look at each metric individually and may implement strategies to help mitigate issues that may have arose. .

Conlon asked if there were any questions about things discussed. Schreier asked in reference to mitigation, will it be self-imposed and will they be across the board? Conlon stated if a metric were yellow, we would look reasons why it is yellow and strategies to mitigate the issue. Schreier thought if we had an issue like the meatpacking industry, people are concerned it would affect everyone and not just the facility itself. Conlon stated the health department would continue to look at the data and statistics individually to help make those decisions. Slette asked how the Phases were decided. Conlon stated Oneida County should really be all be in Phase 1,

however due to several factors, including WEDC guidance for strategically and safely re-opening, a few sectors were placed in Phase 2.

Supreme Court: Legislature v. Palm update: Conlon stated the Wisconsin Supreme Court overturned the safer at home order with nothing set in place for re-opening the state. Conlon reported the health department worked with the Onward Oneida County and decided to put in guidance measures for businesses to re-open instead of an order. Desmond indicated that the ruling left many open questions for the counties.

Oneida County re-opening plan in light of Legislature v. Palm: Conlon stated the Oneida County re-opening plan looks at the regional plan as well as discussions with Onward Oneida County committee.

Public comment/communications: Kelly asked if there were any questions from the public. Jane Banning, from the town of Crescent, stated she had a concern about allowing Hodag Country Fest to happen this year. Conlon stated there is a group of people looking at this. Desmond stated there have been multiple people having questions regarding Hodag Country Fest. Banning also asked whom would she talk to about this concern. Desmond directed her to contact your own chair at Crescent, Tom Kelly, or Linda Conlon. Banning stated she hoped there is a sufficient number of staff to do follow-ups on COVID positive cases if the festival continues Conlon responded the health department has a plan in place for this.



Committee Chairman or Designee

Joneil Tess

Committee Secretary