

**BENZIE-LEELANAU DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Wednesday, February 22, 2023 2:00 p.m.
Leelanau County Government Center
6527 E Government Center
Suttons Bay MI 49682**

Chairperson Gary Sauer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Gary Sauer - Benzie County Board of Commissioners
Dr. Barbara Conley – Leelanau County Member at Large
Rhonda Nye – Benzie County Board of Commissioners – via Teams
Dr. Mark Kuiper – Benzie County Member at Large
Gwenne Allgaier – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Members Absent: None

Members Excused:

Ty Wessell – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Staff Present:

Dr. Joshua Meyerson – Medical Director
Dodie Putney – Director of Administrative Services
Eric Johnston – Director of Environmental Health
Michelle Klein - Director of Personal Health
Dan Thorell – Health Officer

Staff Excused: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes:

Motion By: Conley to approve the January 25, 2023, BOH meeting minutes.

Seconded By: Allgaier

Voice Vote: 4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused **Motion carried**

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion By: Conley to approve the agenda as presented.

Seconded By: Allgaier

Voice Vote: 4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused **Motion carried**

Public Comment – None

BLDHD BOH – By Laws Rules of Order

The By-Laws were reviewed and discussed in an earlier meeting. The BOH members who have been selected to work on the By-Laws will finish reviewing and editing the document before the March BOH meeting. The revised document will be discussed at that time.

Health Officer Update – Dan Thorell

A written report was distributed prior to the meeting for review. Please refer to it for details. The State of Michigan is going to release funding to assist local health departments with infrastructure needs. Covid

brought it to the attention of many that the current infrastructure was not adequate for the services that are needed. It was asked if the State was going to lower the educational requirements for a Sanitarian. A job description can be created that is not a “Sanitarian” but as an assistant to a Sanitarian so someone without the educational requirements can be employed in that field. April 11, 2023 is Day at the Capital sponsored by MALPH. One of the programs that needs to be brought to the legislation’s attention for additional funding is the Community Connections program. It serves a large population and assists in helping individuals maintain their health.

Accounts Payable

Motion By: Conley to approve accounts payable and pay the bills in the amount of \$165,748.01.

Seconded By: Sauer

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Kuiper – yea, Allgaier -yea

4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

January 2023 Financial Statements

Motion By: Conley to accept the financial statements as presented.

Seconded By: Allgaier

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Kuiper - yea, Allgaier- yea

4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

Environmental Health Permit Fees

Motion By: Sauer to accept the recommended temporary campground permit fee increase.

Seconded By: Kuiper

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Kuiper – yea, Allgaier -yea

4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

Discussion: The fee increase is to only cover the State of Michigan increase of the temporary campground fee. BLDHD is invoiced by the State of Michigan for the temporary campground permits that are issued. Currently, the amount of the fee that is being charged does not completely cover BLDHD’s cost of issuing these permits. BLDHD will raise these rates slightly every year to help offset the cost of administering the program and the State increases their portion of the fee every three years.

Staff Reports:

Medical Director – Dr. Joshua Meyerson

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. Through discussion it was noted that some of the tick-borne diseases that were trending upward last year may be trending upward as Munson is requiring testing for them in their tick panels. It was also mentioned that other communicable diseases, such as hepatitis may be detected more readily as physicians now have to screen for them before a patient is prescribed certain medications. It was asked if the State of Michigan has any requirements for Recreational Marijuana dispensaries to package their products to not be easily accessible by children. It was unsure if there are any standards. NWHHD has been providing clients lock boxes for their edibles or other controlled products to help eliminate minors from accessing them.

Personal Health – Michelle Klein

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. BLDHD recently implemented the use of rapid Hepatitis C screening machines. Results from a test can be completed within twenty minutes. It was asked why the number of individuals and caseloads that were allocated for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control and Navigation program was only ten. It was explained that BLDHD was allocated ten cases because HDNW had shared their allotted case load with BLDHD. If there were more clients than caseloads available, BLDHD would reach out to other nearby local health departments to see if they could assist the individual. If the other departments could not assist, than other resources would be utilized to make sure the individual receives the care that they need. It was discussed what services do and do not need parental consent for teenagers.

Environmental Health – Eric Johnston

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. The new Sanitarian, Brett Yonker, is starting on February 27, 2023. Mr. Johnston was asked if any septic issues have been found since the new District Sanitary Code went into effect. Yes, there have already been some issues uncovered. Feedback from various public members about how the new code has, overall, been generally positive. BLDHD will be hosting Food Manager Certification classes the beginning of April. There will be one in Benzie County and one in Leelanau County.

Administrative – Dodie Putney

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. The draft of the audit was released. It will be presented during the March BOH meeting. Building partners at the Benzie Community Resource Center met to review remodeling/addition plans. Because Northern Health Foundation actually owns the building, they will need to approve any plans before we ask for Board approval. There will be a meeting with the Leelanau Montessori School about renewing the lease to allow BLDHD to keep offices at that location for another three years. It was asked if the building partners that are at the Benzie Community Resource Center will have their rent increased if there is work done on the building. The base rent for all the partners has not been increased in years. For any increases in rent due to remodel or an addition to the building, a base rental increase will be done in writing.

Public Comment – None.

Board Comments – Conley asked if there could be some information presented at the next BOH meeting on what initiative BLDHD is implementing to help with the opioid addiction issue in the area.


Adjourn:

Motion By: Sauer to adjourn the BOH meeting at 3:38 p.m.

Voice Vote: 4 yeas 0 nay 0 excused **Motion carried**



Gary Sauer, Chair



Shelley Jablon, Recording Secretary