

**BENZIE-LEELANAU DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Wednesday, August 23, 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 2:03 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
Ty Wessell – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Members Absent:

Gwenne Allgaier – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Members Excused:

Dr. Mark Kuiper – Benzie County Member at Large

Staff Present:

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

Staff Excused: None

Guest:

Deb Allen – Leelanau County Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes:

Motion By: Conley to approve the July 26, 2023, BOH meeting minutes.

Seconded By: Wessell

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

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion By: Nye to approve the agenda with the addition of adding the Renovation of the Leelanau County Government Building after Public Comment.

Seconded By: Wessell

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

Discussion: Wessell asked for the renovation of the Leelanau County Government building to be added to the agenda.

Public Comment – None

Renovation of the Leelanau County Government Building

Johnston updated the BOH on the bid process that was completed by Leelanau County for the remodel of the lower level of the Leelanau County Government Building to create office space for BLDHD’s EH Department. After the first round of bids were completed and only one bid had been submitted, the BOH decided to not pursue the joint project with Leelanau County until two bids could be obtained for the project. BLDHD revised the remodel plans and another bidding process was opened up. This time three bids were obtained. All three were in the price range that both entities were willing to invest in the project. As the Leelanau County Commissioners reviewed through the contract that would be signed between BLDHD and Leelanau County it was decided that the original no base rent for fifteen years clause was too long. This clause had been suggested by the former Leelanau County Administrator. The BOH discussed that ten years would be a reasonable amount of time to agree to for no base rent in exchange for sharing the cost of the remodel. The BOH asked Ms. Deborah Allen, current Leelanau County Administrator, if the bidders also submitted a timeline of when they would be able to begin the project. The bid that was being considered would be able to begin the project in three months. The contractor along with the County were hoping to begin this project during the winter months

Motion By: Conley to allow the BLDHD staff to discuss with Leelanau County the contract to renovate and lease a portion of the lower level of the Leelanau County Government Center. The renovation agreement could not go beyond \$179,500 and BLDHD would not be charged base rent for ten years. Thorell will write a letter detailing what the BOH is supporting for this project.

Seconded By: Sauer

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Nye – yea, Wessell - yea

4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused 1 absent Motion carried

Health Officer Update- Dan Thorell

A report was distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Please refer to it for details. Last week Thorell attended a public health law training. It discussed how public health is transitioning after the pandemic. Other items discussed were how MCL333.2253, allowing the State to determine what businesses can and cannot be open, was deemed to be unconstitutional by the Courts and will no longer be used. MCL 333.2453 is under review, it relates to what powers the local health officials have on issuing orders.

Thorell was able to meet with State Representative Coffia at her monthly coffee hour, which was held in Lake Ann this past month. They discussed the sanitary code that is being considered by the State. They also discussed the importance of the CHIR program.

Accounts Payable

Motion By: Conley to approve accounts payable and pay the bills in the amount of \$298,599.57.

Seconded By: Wessell

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Nye – yea, Wessell - yea

4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused 1 absent Motion carried

July 2023 Financial Statements

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

Seconded By: Nye

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Nye-yea, Wessell- yea

4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused 1 absent Motion carried

Audit Service RFP

Motion By: Sauer to accept the RFP that was submitted by Anderson Tackman to perform auditing services for BLDHD for the next three years.

Seconded By: Conley

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Nye-yea, Wessell- yea

4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused 1 absent Motion carried

Staff Reports:

Medical Director – Dr. Joshua Meyerson

There are two new vaccines for RSV. It is recommended that older people, especially those with underlying health issues, receive a vaccine. These vaccines are single does. It is also recommended that children under eight months old and any child with underlying health issues receive a vaccine for RSV. Covid cases have increased slightly, which was to be expected. The number of cases is still lower than what it was last year.

Personal Health – Michelle Klein

A report was distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Please refer to it for details. August is Community Health Worker Appreciation month. All BLDHD's certified Community Health Workers have completed 156 hours of training, which is equivalent to a three-credit college class. All BLDHD's CHWs have 40-45 clients at a time, with over 170 contacts per month. The top items that the CHWs help clients with are transportation, food, health insurance, housing, utilities, and employment.

BLDHD had a State site visit for WIC. BLDHD received a good review. Areas that received special recognition were that BLDHD had bilingual staff members, the clinic is welcoming, the staff displayed excellent customer service and the convenience of having many other resources offered during WIC visits. BLDHD's WIC program provided \$286,504 in food benefits to 504 families in the two county region.

Environmental Health – Eric Johnston

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details.

Administrative – Dodie Putney

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details.

Public Comment – None

Board Comments – Sauer asked the BOH what their thoughts were on going back to a bi-monthly meeting schedule. It was decided to remain on the monthly meeting schedule right now as there are contracts that will need approval. If there is a month where the agenda does not contain any pressing business the meeting will be postponed until the next month.

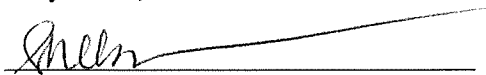
Adjourn:

Motion By: Sauer to adjourn the BOH meeting at 3:08 p.m.

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



Gary Sauer, Chair



Shelley Jablon, Recording Secretary