**WEHA Board Meeting**

**Friday, January 29, 2021, 9:00 am**

**Online Platform – Microsoft Teams**

1. **Electronic Board Activity** 
   1. Brian Hobbs made a motion to approve the provided 2021 WEHA budget. Motion was seconded by Maddie Wojciuk. There was discussion regarding the necessity to budget for the 2021 NEHA conference being that it was going to be held virtually. Votes: aye 10, nay 0. Motion carried.
2. **Meeting called to order – called to order at 9:09 am**
3. **Roll-call of Officers and directors by the President.**
   * Mitch Lohr, President
   * Carrie Pohjola, President Elect
   * Michele Williams, Director - **late**
   * Natalie Vandeveld, Director - **absent**
   * Sarah Ward, Secretary
   * Brian Hobbs, Treasurer
   * Laura Temke, Director at Large
   * Lindy Wiedmeyer, SE Dist VP – **not available today**
   * Carol Drury, NW Dist VP
   * Maddie Wojciuk, SW Dist VP
   * Trista Groth, NE Dist VP
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the last Board meeting - Trista moved to approve, Laura second motion, all in favor.**
5. **Reports of officers and committees:** 
   1. **District Vice–Presidents**
      1. **SE:** (Lindy)

**City of Milwaukee- Potential new Health Commissioner from WashOz, Kristen Johnson, common council still needs to vote – They have one open coordinator position that will be filled in-house first, will need to re-open the inspector exam- Inspectors are in the field doing inspections again, lots of COVID Complaints still**

**Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department**- 2 new staff and Public Health officer is now going to the City of Milwaukee

**West Allis-** all easing back into regular inspection work after much assistance with COVID response, updating applications / fee structure / learning the code changes

**City of Watertown/Jefferson County**- No new staff and environmentalist are still doing COVID response

**Kenosha County**- Nothing to report, just working on COVID vaccine clinics

**Wauwatosa County**- Job posting for Public Health Officer is up

**City of Greenfield**- Nothing to report at this time

**City of Racine- No report**

**Franklin-** No report

**Waukesha County**- all easing back into regular inspection work after much assistance with COVID response, updating applications / fee structure / learning the code changes.  Gearing up to help with vaccination clinics. No staff changes

**Greenfield Health Department-** Nothing to report

* + 1. **NW:** (Carol)

Rusk county: Health Officer has been out since September. Last I heard she will be out through February 10. The Director of Health and Human Services, Jeremy Jacobs is acting as HO for now. He really is learning a lot about Public Health in general so that is good.

Wood County:    we have an opening for an EH supervisor in Wood County.    The application deadline has been extended to January 31, 2021.   We have no other staff changes.

We are having repeat well testing done by DATCP as followup to 2018 targeted sampling.   This followup is looking at a neonictide pesticide imidacloprid, as well as a list of 100 other pesticides and nitrate.    This testing is being offered to all those with a previous detect for this on previous DATCP testing since 2010.   The proposed NR 140 GW standards have lowered for this pesticide.  The EU already has a moratorium on its use.   There are a number of samples in the Armenia/Port Edwards area—our area with nitrate concerns in Southern Wood Co, northern Juneau County.   Residents are being asked to participate in the testing which will happen in later spring.    One person’s original test in 2018 was over 100 times the proposed new standard.   There was no standard previously.   Residents need to volunteer for this testing.   The re-test offer was just sent out by DATCP.

Polk, St. Croix, and Sawyer county EH staff have been involved in mass vaccination clinics for covid response.

La Crosse County: Dnr and city of lacrosse are doing testing for pfas on French island due to pfas contamination. They are providing water to residents whose water is over the limits for the pfas in drinking water. State dhs/beoh toxicologist curtis hedman is helping to answer health questions that are coming in as a result of it. We are working on enhancing our data along with 5 partner counties utilizing a CDC grant for environmental health data. The State dhs/beoh was also awarded CDC grant for EH data as well as for grants in their project areas. We continue to review plans for special events for covid response.

Polk county new health officer. Starts in a week. Comes from city of Milwaukee.

* + 1. **SW:** (Maddie) – **attached**

Arthur Ness is retiring on May 7th and plans to continue to participate in WEHA

* + 1. **NE:** (Trista)

**Marathon County**: We’ve had staff redirected to COVID-19. Marathon County has had two EH staff redirected to COVID-19 Long-term care, day care, and business COVID-19 investigations since June. We’ve been fortunate to have four EH staff continuing services for Licensing and Human Health Hazard response.

**City of De Pere**: Like every health department, Covid response has been the priority. Some inspections are getting done, however the overdue list continues to grow. There has been a huge increase in the number of noise complaints, all of which are very challenging to address and are on-going. Contact tracing was the priority October – December and now vaccine planning has taken over. In the NE region, tiny little City of De Pere is providing Covid vaccine to eligible groups along with the major healthcare providers. It has been nothing short of insane in the office the last month with the phone ringing nonstop all day long. Looking forward to a more normal schedule in the months to come!

**Brown County Public Health** – EH staff have been fully involved in Covid response, therefore inspections haven’t been getting done. They are currently working on a protocol to return staff to the field. Staff continue to provide operational guidelines to various types of businesses throughout the County. The EH Lab recently passed their nitrate proficiency test, which is very exciting for their program.

* 1. **Treasurers Report** (Brian) **– Sent out, Edward Jones gone up significantly. Casual discussion about possibly cashing in some shares, or is it worthwhile/necessary. Possible discussion after COVID.**
  2. **Awards and Leadership Committee** (Natalie) **– Nothing to report from Natalie. NEHA will be virtual this year discussion about offering virtual stipends/memberships in lieu of stipends. Should we offer it as a virtual or hold off until next year? Possibly just send President Council for affiliate meetings, etc. on last day, but everybody pretty “virtualed” out and not very interested in attending. No motion needed, just budget adjusted to next year, agree that no $ spent on stipends for 2021. We will hope/plan to offer more stipends for members to attend in-person conferences in 2022. Mitch going to reach out to Kim and let her know our WI plans.**
  3. **Education and Conference Committee** (Lindy) **– Committee next meets on 4/5/21 and in August. One trunk that needs to be picked up, one needs to go to a member in CA, and one available. WEHA fall conference, going forward with regular conference in September see what kind of response we get, thought being that there will be enough vaccine available for herd immunity. It was transferred from 2020. Also, possible to cancel somewhat last minute if necessary. Haven’t meet since Feb of last year – mentorship program timing of notifying for fall conference. Need for meeting in Feb., sooner rather than later to figure out what is needed with plenty of time, Mitch will reach out to Lindy to send doodle pole to figure out a date.**
  4. **Legislative Committee** (Patty) **– Report sent out by Patty, attached**
  5. **Marketing Committee** (Carrie) **– No meeting in awhile, most team members have been busy with COVID response. Will get it up and running.**
  6. **Membership Committee** (Carol)**- up to 101 renewals, many retirees and students, beginning 2/1, late fee charged. Carol with then reach out to see what everybody is interested in, how they might like to participate. How should we reach out and find new members?**

1. **Old Business**
   1. Natalie’s transition - vacant Director Position – **If we have members who are interested do we just appoint them? Brian says Mitch can just appoint somebody, no need for election or vote to fill position until the position comes up for election. At that point it goes to election, if challenged goes to vote. Katie Matilus or Ronesha, both from DATCP, are interested. How are we going to distribute the many duties that Natalie performed? Mitch has a list of duties that he put together with Natalie to make sure we don’t forget anything. Brian suggested we open the bylaws and re-distribute/assign the duties to other positions. Good news is lots of these duties have some other folks that have been helping or are familiar with the task. Divvied up most duties for this year. Laura – EH professional of year, committee for stipends, scholarships arranged by 2 directors, website development to marketing group. Discussion about moving everything to Google Drive as an access location for everybody. Who will be responsible for historical aspect? Additional by-law changes discussed and they were put on hold until this year – including treasurer position now appointed by the board, not voted on.**
2. **New Business**
   1. **Laura, vector committee for NEHA, available on CDC site. Link to be provided to blog post. She is looking for District VP’s to send to constituents.**
   2. **Thank-you gifts for Natalie - $100 amazon gift card and $100 gift card to a local winery.**
   3. **Discussion about Art Ness retirement, should we give him a gift to show appreciation for his many years of service? Recognition likely to occur at WEHA conference in the fall.**
3. **Adjourn - Brian moved to adjourn at 11:11 a.m.**