

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE BELTRAMI COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD
January 21, 2025**

The Beltrami County Community Health Board met in regular session on January 21, 2025, at the County Board Room, County Administration Building, Bemidji, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Craig Gaasvig, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Board Members John Carlson, Joe Gould, Tim Sumner, and Scott Winger were present.

GENERAL COMMENTS - BOARD CHAIR

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No additions or corrections were made to the agenda.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Approved Agenda and Amendments

A motion to approve the agenda with no amendments was made by Board Member Carlson, seconded by Board Member Sumner, and unanimously carried.

Approved Minutes

A motion was made by Board Member Carlson and seconded by Board Member Sumner, to approve the October 15, 2024, Community Health Board Minutes. Unanimously carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Introduction and Overview

With this being the first meeting of the year 2025, Amy Bowles, Public Health Director and Community Health Board Administrator (Community Health Board Services Administrator), began the presentation with some Public Health background information.

- Beltrami County is a Single Community Health Board funded by reimbursements and grants from various sources; Federal, State and Local.
- Required to do annual reporting and to develop and implement the Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan (CHA/CHIP).
- Partnership is essential to the Boards success and the health of the community. One example was given of the group consisting of the Community Health Board, North County

Community Health Services, MN Dept of Health and Beltrami County Emergency Management work together in partnership.

- o This partnership is funded through an MDH Grant. (show website). Priorities include improving communication, awareness, and Public Health Education. Funding has supporting the new electronic public Health Library on the website and a CHB YouTube channel.

The CHBs activities in 2024 have included:

- Added funding streams.
- Policy changes.
- Remodel.
- Numerous partnerships with State, Region, and local.
- Added staffing and services.

Chris Muller, Emergency Management Director/PIO, discussed his successes in collaborating with Public Health.

- Four-year collaborative working together on COVID response
- Similar grant requirements and ability to share resources
- Better alignment of county response responsibilities
 - o Example; Red Pine Estates
 - o Emergency Management joined the Housing Collaborative
- Shared grant resources and added flexibility
 - o Example; new technology in the Emergency Management Center at the LEC
- Participation in the Northwest Coalition for emergency response
- Large upcoming project: Emergency Response, Community Shelter exercise in April

Upcoming activities in 2025:

- Reporting in the areas of
 - o Opioid Funding (a separate presentation conducted during a regular County Board Meeting) February 18, 2025
 - o Staffing and Financing updates
 - o CHA/CHIP Report
- Enhance partnerships and increase resources and services
 - o Mobile services is a wish list item

Programs & Services

Reviewed highlights of some of the Community Health Board and Beltrami County Public Health Team work together with community partnerships, identify gaps and having strategic goals to enhance programs, services and partnerships. These goals and partnerships will continue going forward into 2025.

Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan
(CHA/CHIP)


The Community Health Assessment Work Group has identified the top 10 health needs in our community and is using the survey and local and state data. This information will be used to compose the CHA. Using this data, the CHIP will follow and focus on a minimum of 2 strategic areas to improve.

Board Member Comments and Agenda Additions
None.

Next regular meeting of the County Board will be April 15, 2025, in the Board Room of the County Administration Building.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The Community Health Board meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m. by Board Chair, Craig Gaasvig.



Craig Gaasvig, Chair



Amy Bowles, Community Health System Administrator

1/24/25