

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE BELTRAMI COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD  
October 15, 2024**

The Beltrami County Community Health Board met in regular session on October 15, 2024, at the County Board Room, County Administration Building, Bemidji, Minnesota.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair John Carlson, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Board Members Craig Gaasvig, Joe Gould, Tim Sumner, and Richard Anderson 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 Anderson, seconded by Board Member Gaasvig, and unanimously carried.

Approved Minutes

A motion was made by Board Member Gould, and seconded by Board Member Gaasvig, to approve the July 16, 2024, Community Health Board Minutes. Unanimously carried.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

Programs & Services

CHB System Administrator & Public Health Director, Amy Bowles discussed the following:

- SCHSAC Conference
  - o The commissioner of health chose Beltrami County as one of the four counties to highlight, she commended us for our work and dedication to the RESET program.
  - o Highlights from keynote speaker, "Policy is Medicine." And "If you foundation was cracking, wouldn't you want to fix it."

- Partnerships
  - o PHEP and RSG funding to support Emergency Management and Emergency Preparedness. Attended the Bemidji Pride event. Completed HVA. Education and distributed emergency grab bags
  - o Innovative Communication Grant, partner with North County CHB. Created a graphic, a media policy, hired NewERA4K and a Communication Specialist to help with messaging and marketing.
  - o Evaluating and utilizing funding to support internal and external community resources to promote health regardless of zip code. Power of Inclusive Communities training, Evergreen Youth Fall Conference (lead sponsor and chair of the planning committee), HRSA partnership with Sanford and success of the Native American Advisory Committee, Goosechase subscription, and internal training for leaders.
- Public Health Services
  - o WIC (consideration of a Public Health Mobile Clinic, Baby Café, MN Diaper Bank, MN Children's Dental, Soles for Souls,

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

The Community Health Assessment Work Group has closed the Community Health Board Survey, which was open from July-Sept with 580 surveys collected. A Community Health Survey is required every 5 years, with MN Dept Health (MDH) oversight. The Work Group team is ensuring the strategic measures will thoughtfully address attainable goals that are measurably aimed at improving the health of Beltrami County.

Ms. Bowles reviewed the data collected from the survey. The results indicate the highest areas of priority in our community include:

1. Substance Use Disorder and Chemical Dependency
2. Safety and Security
3. Child Mortality couples with Birth Outcomes
4. Transportation
5. Housing

The Community Health work group would like recommendations from the CHB to ensure the work group is moving in a direction agreeable to this board. After priorities are determined and stakeholders identified, a draft CHIP will be developed and brought to the board for review and approval.

Next steps: Prioritize issues, form a strong foundation of partnerships, develop a draft CHA/CHIP, present CHA/CHIP to CHB for approval.

Commissioners' Comments and Agenda Additions

No additional agenda items were suggested.

Next regular meeting of the Community Health Board will be in January of 2025, in the Board Room of the County Administration Building.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

The Community Health Board meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m. by Committee Chair, John Carlson.



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Craig Gaasvig, Chair



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Amy Bowles, Community Health System Administrator