

Winnebago County Public Health (WCPH) Department Board of Health Minutes



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Winnebago County
Health Department

Date: October 14, 2025

Time: 7:30 to 9:30 am

Location: In Person: David Albrecht County Administration Building 112 Otter Avenue, Oshkosh WI.

Virtual: Teams: [Join the meeting now;](#)

Meeting ID: 245 749 367 599

Passcode: m7pmvv

Recordings of Winnebago County Meetings including Board of Health Meetings can be found on the Winnebago County Clerk You Tube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@winnebagocountywipublicmeeting>

WCPH staff: Send approved meeting notes in PDF form to: CountyClerk@winnebagocountywi.gov

Name of Board Member (bold= cty sup)	In person Virtual Absent	Name of Board Member (bold= cty sup)	In person Virtual Absent	Name of Board Member (bold= cty sup)	In person Virtual Absent	Name of Board Member (bold= cty sup)	In person Virtual Absent
Ralph Harrison	In person	Lucas Reinke	In person	Kate Hancock-Cooke	In person	Kim Malouf	virtual
Denise Prehn, MD	In person			Toby Vanden Heuvel	In person	Kay Horan	In person

WCPH staff/ Invited Guests/others in attendance (indicate V for virtual)					
Doug Gieryn	Alana Erickson	Ashlee Rahmlow	Wanda Tracy	Anne Boyce	Belinda DeGoey
Bev Slusarski		Megan Edwards: Solutions Recovery	County Supervisor Kristl Laux		
		County Supervisor Conley Hansen	Gordon Hintz (7:59 am)		

Topic	Who	High level overview; Important discussion points; decisions. ONLY VOTES FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING IN PERSON CAN BE COUNTED. PLEASE INDICATE THIS IN THE NOTES.	Action needed?
A. Call to Order	Chair	- Start Recording: 7:29 am - Meeting called to order at by: Ralph Harrison at 7:29 am ROLL CALL: - Names/number of in person: Ralph Harrison, Lucas Reinke, Kate Hancock-Cooke, Kay Horan, Toby Vanden Heuvel, Denise Prehn. (6 -0; 3 county supervisors, 3 resident members present) - Name/number of Virtual: Kim Malouf (7:34 am)	

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B. Roll Call	Chair	Do we have a quorum? yes <i>ONLY THOSE PRESENT COUNT FOR QUORUM AND VOTING. PLEASE INCLUDE NUMBER OF YES, NO, ABSTAIN VOTES</i> - Names/number of in person: Ralph Harrison, Lucas Reinke, Kate Hancock-Cooke, Kay Horan, Toby Vanden Heuvel, Denise Prehn. (6 total: 3 county supervisors, 3 resident members) - Name/number of Virtual: Kim Malouf (7:34 am) - Names/number of Absent: none	
C. Public Comments	Public	Megan Edwards from Solutions presented to clarify some of the comments from County Supervisor Meeting this past month and offer experience and answers regarding the budget amendment proposed by County Board Supervisor Kristl Laux related to Solutions program funding in 2026.	
D. Approval of Minutes	Chair	Motion to approve minutes from September 9, 2025 (in Civic Clerk): Denise Prehn Second by: Toby Vanden Heuvel - Names/number Voting: Ralph Harrison, Kate Hancock-Cooke, Kate Horan, Toby Vanden Heuvel, Denise Prehn (5). Lucas Reinke abstained.	

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E. Business Items	Doug	1. 2026 Public Health Budget Updates and Review a. Doug Gieryn reviewed the 2026 Public Health Budget, answering questions from the board members. 2. Discussion and Possible Action on Amendments to the Budget the Committee may recommend to the County Board. a. Solutions Recovery, Inc.: i. Various drafts budget amendments regarding funding for the Solutions Peer Response Team (SPRT). Doug asks that these be merged for better clarification. 1. Funding for SPRT: Supervisor Laux spoke about the importance of funding the program, focusing on the advantages of prevention and the cost savings this program would provide. Kate Hancock-Cooke advocated for funding the program, suggesting changes in how data is presented about the success rate of the program. Ashlee Rahmlow responded to Kate Hancock-Cooke's data suggestion agreeing that this would also help differentiate the SPRT from the STAR program. Megan Edwards offered additional information as did Gordon Hintz. Ashlee Rahmlow answered questions about labor costs for the program, clarifying that SPRT staff do not earn more than county employees and adding more information about the program. Additional county supervisor questions were answered by Megan Edwards and Public Health staff. Megan Edwards shared that if funding is not secured, the program would end. a. Ralph Harrison proposed voting to support this amendment. Ralph Harrison, Toby Vanden Heuvel, Lucas Reinke, Kate Hancock-Cooke voted to support. Kay Horan and Denise Prehn abstained secondary to not having a final document to comment on. ii. A merged document was drafted during the meeting and presented to the board of health: Ralph Harrison, Lucas Reinke and Kate Hancock-Cooke (all county supervisors present) volunteered to sponsor the budget amendment as rewritten. Lucas Reinke motioned to move this forward; Kate Hancock-Cooke seconded. All voted in favor. (6 -0; 3 county supervisors, 3 resident members present). b. Air quality grant: \$10,000. Doug provided an overview of this grant. Improved access to information about air quality. Lucas Reinke, Ralph Harrison and Kate Hancock Cooke (all county supervisors present) offered to sponsor this budget amendment.	
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		i. Ralph Harrison made a motion to support this budget amendment; Kate Hancock-Cooke seconded. All voted to support this grant. (6 total: 3 county supervisors and 3 resident members). c. Public Health Infrastructure Grant (\$400,000). Have not received funds yet but would like to plan to receive it if it is awarded. Winnebago County would be the fiscal agent for these funds which would address public health infrastructure gaps (access to care and chronic disease prevention) for the public health northeast region of the state (22 counties) which includes Winnebago County. Winnebago county public health is seen as a leader in the state and fiscally responsible. Chronic disease is an area that needs more focus i. Ralph Harrison and Kate Hancock-Cooke will sponsor the budget amendment. ii. Ralph Harrison moved to approve, and all voted in favor (6 -0; 3 county supervisors, 3 resident members present). d. DEX: Budget amendment to propose that \$25,000 of the general fund to support the Fox Valley Data Exchange (DEX) work. DEX has provided valuable data at the tri county level to health care systems, public health agencies, and the community at large with community health level data (trend data, mapping, etc.) County Executive Hintz added that this was meant to have been added in the county executive's county budget and advocated for the value of having this data available. i. Ralph Harrison, Lucas, Reinke and Kate Hancock-Cooke (all county supervisors present) volunteered to sponsor this budget amendment. Kate Hancock-Cooke explained that this is a perfect example of a cost avoidance measure and a much-needed effort. ii. Lucas Reinke motioned to support, and Kate Hancock-Cooke seconded. All voted in favor (6 -0; 3 county supervisors, 3 resident members present)	

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F. Director's Report	Doug	- Review of Income Statement: September 2025 - Operational Updates from Public Health Divisions: - Doug Gieryn provided a brief overview of the effects of the Federal Government Shutdown with concerns for the WIC program which is a federal program. The department may be directly or indirectly affected if shutdown continues. Grant announcements may be delayed, etc. Other county departments have been affected either by programs being eliminated or because of the shutdown. - Kate Hancock-Cooke asked about measles. Jaci Grignon, CD supervisor stated that measles cases 36 in Oconto County. None in Winnebago County. There are more cases of measles occurring in the United States which keep growing.	
G. Communication Shared by BOH	All	Kate Hancock-Cooke shared that the Wisconsin County Association (WCA) sent a recommendation for county supervisors to contact their legislators regarding cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition. Kate Hancock-Cooke submitted a resolution for the October 21st County Board Meeting. Ralph Harrison mentioned a Human Services presentation regarding safe parking. 10/27/25. Tour for the County Board at Human Services buildings and Coughlin Center. October 20th 5pm at Oshkosh Human Services building 6:45 Neenah Human Services Building.	
H. Next Meeting	Board Chair	- Next tentative meeting will be: November 11, 2025, 7:30a, Room 120, County Administration Building - The Board of Health typically meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month	
I. Adjourn	Board Chair	- Motion to adjourn at (time) by: Ralph Harrison - Second: Kate Hancock-Cooke Names/number of Voting: All in favor (6-0; Kate Hancock-Cooke, Ralph Harrison, Lucas Reinke, Kay Horan, Toby Vanden Heuvel, Denise Prehn; 3 county supervisors and 3 resident members).	

Mission:

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Winnebago County Public Health protects and promotes health through services, partnerships and equitable practices and policies so all can live their best life.

Vision: Healthy people building thriving communities.

Please send it to the County Clerk at CountyClerk@winnebagoountywi.gov as they work with IT to post everything. These will then be posted on the COUNTY PUBLIC MEETINGS YOUTUBE CHANNEL.