



Western Plains Public Health
SPECIAL BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
March 21, 2024, at 3:00pm CT

The special meeting for Western Plains Public Health (WPPH) Board of Health meeting was called to order by Dr. John Grunseth at 3:00 pm CST in the conference room at WPPH. A packet was mailed to members prior to the meeting. Notices were posted on our Facebook and website, presented in the Mandan News, and sent to all County Auditors to post meeting time and date.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. John Grunseth, President, Morton Co
Charles Steinkuehler, Vice President, Grant Co.
Dan Ulmer, Treasurer, Morton Co.
Marvin Schwehr, Board Member, Mercer Co.
Dr. Tom Kaspari, Board Member, Oliver Co.
Jackie Buckley, Board Member, Morton Co.

STAFF PRESENT:

Erin Ourada, Administrator
Vonda Bechtel, Office Manager
Brady Weaver, Tobacco Coordinator
Jodie Fetsch, Nursing Director

SPECIAL GUEST:

Dwight Driscoll, NRG Technologies

ABSENT:

Barb Hettich, Board Member, Sioux Co

TABLED ITEM – IT SUPPORT from February 22, 2024, board meeting.

IT Support:

The board received Network Center, Marco, and NRG Technologies proposals. Marco and NRG Technologies' proposals were provided to the board at the February meeting. Erin Ourada, Administrator, explained to the board the current contract with Network Center was not providing the items originally thought. The Network Center's proposal provided is an additional monthly charge to receive services WPPH needs. Discussion was had regarding the Network Center contract. The board asked Erin, if the contract was accepted, to negotiate the statement 'Any unused amount will need to be used within 120 days or it is forfeited'. The board would like that statement removed and the money returned to WPPH.

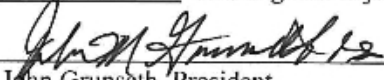
The board asked Dwight Driscoll to present the NRG Technologies proposal. General IT support questions were asked, and discussion was had. Mr. Driscoll removed himself from the meeting when questions concluded.

Marvin Schwehr motioned for discussion to accept the NRG Technologies proposal; seconded by Charlie Steinkeuhler. Cost and comparing services were discussed. Roll-call vote: Jackie Buckley-aye, Marvin Schwehr-aye, Dr. Tom Kaspari-aye, Dan Ulmer-aye, Charlies Steinkuehler-aye, Dr. John Grunseth-aye; motion carried.

FMLA Policy:

Erin Ourada provided an update regarding an employee's request for FMLA. After a meeting with the employee, Erin Ourada, Jodie Fetsch, Vonda Bechtel, and Denise Roller (WPPH HR Consultant), the employee received a second HR opinion on some of the items discussed. The employee provided Jodie with information she received from an HR professional from the Secretary of State's office. The information received by this individual directly conflicted with the information Denise Roller had provided our employee. Erin then contacted an attorney that has experience with local public health units and FMLA laws. Erin signed an engagement agreement to retain Pearce Durick PLLC. After consulting with Attorney Rachel Bruner, she advised Erin that yes WPPH is a covered entity under FMLA; however, WPPH employees do not qualify for FMLA because WPPH has less than 50 employees within a 75 mile radius. Ms. Bruner advised that WPPH cancel the contract with HR Services, Denise Roller, for providing inadequate information on more than once occasion. Ms. Bruner provided Erin with an opinion letter stating how to remove the FMLA benefit granted to the employee. The employee has until March 28, 2024, to complete an ADA form. An update will be provided at the next board meeting. Jackie Buckley motioned to accept Erin's decision to sign the Engagement Agreement with Pearce Durick PLLC; seconded by Marvin Schwehr; roll-call vote: Jackie Buckley-aye, Marvin Schwehr-aye, Dr. Tom Kaspari-aye, Dan Ulmer-aye, Charlies Steinkuehler-aye, Dr. John Grunseth-aye; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Grunseth, President, at 4:08 p.m.



Dr. John Grunseth, President

Thomas D. Kaspari
Dr. Tom Kaspari, Secretary

Submitted by Vonda Bechtel