

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Friday, October 2, 2009
7:30 a.m.
Winnebago County Health Department
Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joanne Sievert at 7:35 AM.

ROLL CALL: Board members present were Chairman Joanne Sievert; Vice Chairman Jim Koziczkowski; Jill Collier, Tom Egan, Tom Ellis; Dr. Joseph Bachman; and Dr. Shiloh Ramos.

EXCUSED: Dr. Joseph Bachman and Peggy Larsen

Also present, Doug Gieryn, Director of WCHD; Mary Jo Turner and Cindy Draws, Public Health Nurse Coordinators; Emily Dieringer, Public Health Educator and Jeff Philips, Environmental Health Supervisor.

APPROVE MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes from August 7, 2009. Ellis/Ramos. Motion carried 6-0, voice vote.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

BUSINESS

I. Director's and Staff Report

Doug Gieryn:

Oshkosh City Health Dept Update: Paul Spiegel has retired. There was some discussion on a possible merger of the Oshkosh and Winnebago Health Departments. Mark Ziemer has been asked to be the Interim Director of OHD. He has been in contact with Becky Hovarter from the State for guidance. Doug is meeting with Mark Ziemer this afternoon. The differences between the OHD and WCHD would make a merger a lengthy process and if WCHD moves to Oshkosh, it would be a more desirable location. Merger decision are at the discretion of the County Executive and the respective Mayors and/or City Managers.

Healthiest Wisconsin Leadership Grant: This grant was sought to further develop a leadership group within the Tobacco Free and Drug Free Coalition. Six of the seven members of the newly formed leadership committee from the coalition will be attending training next week in Verona.

2009 Budget Update: Tom Geske could not be present today. Doug reported we are on target.

Mary Jo Turner:

Faith Community Effort: Five to six churches were invited to be in the pilot project to help stop the spread of communicable diseases. They were given a survey and offered meetings, and an informational binder. So far we have been well received and other churches are expressing interest. More information is on the State website.

SKFV: Safe Kids of the Fox Valley oversees the car seat clinics. Affinity is the coordinating agency and they are stepping down. If no other agency takes over, we may not be able to continue car seat fitting.

Seasonal Flu Clinics: Clinics have begun. The Omro and Winneconne school staff were first, followed by County Employees.

H1N1: We will begin to receive our shipment of H1N1 soon. Our first priority is First Responders and Health Care Workers. Then the plan is to go into the schools in our jurisdiction to vaccinate children. The Flu Mist will be shipped first. Priority people who have underlying health problems and are ineligible for the Mist will have to wait for the injectable vaccine. The schools will hand out a consent form ahead of time. Discussion on the virus and its characteristics ensued.

Cindy Draws

Older Adults:

Long Term Assessment referrals from Human Services are unusually high. We have had 40 in September and usually have half that amount. This should continue through the end of the year.

Communicable disease:

There is some H1N1 testing noted. Cindy is conducting surveillance in the schools for absenteeism. So far there is nothing unusual other than the high influenza like activity for this time of year.

We have become a TB (Tuberculosis) Dispensary which allows us to utilize State funding for diagnosis and treatment of suspect, latent or active TB Cases. Currently we have a DOT (Direct Observation Therapy) case that comes to the Health Department for medication.

Senior Conference: The Older Adult Senior Conference, "All Grown Up and Staying Young", is this weekend at the Sunnyview Expo Center. Teresa Paulus, PHN is the project lead. Fifty vendors will be present and the focus is wellness for seniors. A poster was passed around.

Take Back Medicine Event: Sue Ashton, PHN, is the lead for this project. Collections will take place on October 14th at the Winneconne Town Hall and on October 15th at the Oshkosh Senior Center.

Fall Risk Assessments: The nurses and our AHEC Student had put together a 30 minute home assessment for seniors who may be at risk for falling. A presentation will be given to Human Services. It teaches how to prevent falls.

Personal Care: Personal Care caseloads have increased. The new ADRC will become a "one-step" resource for the ill and elderly. Until they become established, people may call the Health Department to find out what services are available.

Jeff Phillips

PHEP: The Public Health Emergency Preparedness manual has been revised to include stockpile plans and mass clinic plans. Pre-planning check lists are provided to Local Health Departments. We keep two copies of the PHEP.

Preparedness Objectives: A recent radio exercise between the Health Department, Sheriff's Office and the Oshkosh Police Department pointed to problems that needed fixing. Two more objectives need to be met by December 31st.

Environmental Issues: We still have about the same amount of licensed establishments, although some are new. Some of the smaller businesses appear to have been affected by the economy.

Water Testing: Jeff is waiting for State Lab Reports for several residents who had their wells tested in Winchester due to cancer incidence concerns. The Department of Health Services, the DNR and WCHD are involved with the testing.

Emily Dieringer

Emily had two handouts to share with the Board regarding Citation Authority for the Winnebago County Sheriff for underage possession of Tobacco Products. The white handout is the original ordinance and the buff paper gives information regarding possible changes. Doug asked the Board to look it over for discussion next month. Doug would like to re-introduce the ordinance and is looking for support.

Emily said they will not be aggressive in pursuing teens, but will be able to cite if caught, and if they attend class, the citation is wiped out. It was mentioned that a \$30 fine may not be enough.

There was also a handout pertaining to "Reasonable Distance". This addresses the distance from county workplaces that smokers must reach. Smokeless tobacco was also mentioned. Dr. Ramos mentioned a minimum distance needs to be included in the language. There were questions as to whether to include grounds or just buildings. We want to set a distance, but we also want to be reasonable enough to allow the bill to pass. Discussion took place.

- Look for data of effectiveness of smoke-free areas
- May be more difficult to pass in we include grounds
- 20 feet should be reasonable, although 25 feet isn't working well on the UWO campus. UWO is thinking of banning smoking on the entire campus.
- It was difficult enforcing no smoking at the County Fair. Banning grounds would be even more difficult, especially if it included the parks.
- Need to be careful of making the distance too big. Many people can't judge 50 feet.
- Doug thanked the Board for the input. They will come back with a proposal.
- The County Board may not go along with including smokeless tobacco, as it doesn't harm those around the user, only the user.
- Approximately 6-8 County Supervisors smoke.
- Look at other existing ordinances for insight.

II. BUDGET TRANSFERS

A WIC Grant Amendment has given us an increase due to increased WIC caseload. Two increases have been realized this year.

Doug asked to transfer \$46,732 from the WIC Grant to cover the cost of temporary employees, some small equipment and operating supplies. A motion was made and seconded to accept the transfer Egan/Ellis. Motion passed 6-0, voice vote. Doug explained there is a temporary WIC Nutritionist whose hours would be extended to the end of the year. She is well trained and valuable to WIC. Human Resources is in the process of approval. Temporaries need to be enrolled in the WRS if their hours exceed 600. Often, extra grant money goes into the Reserve Fund at the end of the year. WIC grant money is "use it or lose it".

Doug asked to transfer \$43,894 in new grant funds for Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) to cover hiring Temporary RNs to help with H1N1 Flu vaccine administration. We are in the planning stages of H1N1 clinics at this point and will bring on temporary staff. More funding is expected. The goal is to get out as much vaccine as possible as soon as it is available. A motion was made and seconded Ellis/Koziczkowski to accept the transfer. Motion carried 6-0, voice vote.

III. CDRT – Child Death Review Team

Doug explained the intent of the CDRT. Over the past few years there have been an average of 18 child deaths per year in Winnebago County. These would be reviewed to find ways to prevent childhood death. A case is never reviewed if someone objects or it is in litigation. Corp Counsel has given their approval. The Team has met and reviewed its first case. Meetings are posted to be in compliance with open records laws, however minutes will not contain names, and as most discussion is of a confidential nature it will be in closed session. All team members have signed confidentiality forms. Funding is available from the state up to \$5,000, but a "recommendation" is needed from the Board of Health. If the Board of Health wants to take it to the County Board, we would need to vote on it today, although the vote is not necessary in order to apply for the funds. Joanne suggested a vote from the Board of Health for transparency, even though specific details would be confidential.

A motion was made and seconded for the Board of Health to recognize and support the establishment of a Child Death Review Team for Winnebago County consisting of representatives from Human Services, Public Health, law enforcement, local hospitals and the Coroner and eligible for \$5,000 in funding from the State of Wisconsin, Ramos/Ellis. Motion carried 6-0, voice vote.

Doug will run it by Corp Counsel and bring a resolution to the County Board.

IV. CHIP Community Health Improvement Plan

Doug thanked Jeff Phillips for organizing the CHIP effort. A visioning meeting was held to gain input from the community to determine what makes a healthy community. This has been a joint effort with the Oshkosh City Health Department. Mark Ziemer, acting OHD Director, has been a member of the CHIP core team, so consistency will be maintained now that Paul Spiegel is no longer with us. The Board of Health is welcome attend meetings. Doug will send an invitation and information. Some of the themes that came out during the Visioning meeting included: walking and biking paths for exercise, environmentally friendly infrastructure, dental care. The next meeting is in late October.

V. Relocation Planning Update

The Facilities and Properties committee voted to recommend purchase of the Oshkosh B'Gosh building. Remodeling funds will be needed. The Health Department needs offices and lab space, not cubicles. Issues will be discussed at the County Board meeting on October 6th in preparation for a vote later in the month.

NEXT MEETING: November 6, 2009.

REPORTS:

Doug mentioned that 90% of the budget for Living Health has been restored. Even though hundreds of clients have been moved to Badger Care Plus, there is still an increased need.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Ramos/Egan, motion carried 6-0, voice vote. Meeting adjourned 9:15 am

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Baeten, Recording Secretary