

JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2009

The Jo Daviess County Board of Health held a meeting on Wednesday, January 7, 2009 in the Health Department Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Jim Lander.

Board of Health members present: Jim Lander, Laura Dwinells Duerr, Edwin Kuhle, Morris Bartot, Dr Robert Chorak, Dr. Lloyd Callaway and Marge Montelius, County Board Representative. Dr. G. Allen Crist was also present.

Board of Health members absent: Elizabeth Blair and Karen Scheele

Staff Members present: Peg Murphy and Evelyn Folks

Others present: Daryl Jackson, Regional Health Officer

OLD BUSINESS

1. Peggy Murphy introduced Dr. G. Allen Crist to the Board of Health members. The official appointment of Dr. Crist is expected to be announced at the upcoming County Board meeting on January 13, 2009. He will be taking the seat vacated by Dr. Michelle Sprengelmeyer.
2. Marge Montelius motioned to approve the Board of Health minutes from October 1, 2008, second by Morris Bartot. All in favor, motion passed.
3. Board members were brought up to date on the minor adjustments that were made to the Public Health budgets. Those adjustments related to health insurance and workman's compensation costs. The Public Health Levy has been set at 0.06860.
4. The Home Health Care budgets required the same adjustments as Public Health.
5. The Board of Health is still seeking another physician.
6. The Board of Health is seeking an appointment by the County Board of a representative from the Elizabeth area to replace the vacancy left by Peg Dittmar.
7. The computer server has been replaced at a cost that was slightly less than anticipated.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Peg Murphy distributed budget printouts for Home Health Care. The census remains in the 40's. Visit frequencies by nurses and health aides were discussed. Because of the competition in the area by numerous home health care agencies, the Home Health Care Advisory Board felt the agency needed to do more outreach to promote the Home Health Care services.
2. The Director of Environmental Health position is still vacant. Peg explained that the qualifications for the position require not only a degree in environmental sciences, a LEHP license, but also 3 years of experience. Peg has contacted the Stephenson County Health Department for the possibility of a 2 year contract for their EH Director to be the Acting Director for the agency. This would mean he would be at our office 1 or 2 days per week to sign off on inspections, etc. The yearly numbers of well and septic inspections, food service inspections, Bed & Breakfast inspections were given to the Board. The numbers are down from last year but that holds true for the entire state.
3. Laura Duerr reported on her attendance at IABOH meeting on October 7, 2008, at the McLean County Health Department in Bloomington, Illinois. She reported that Jo Daviess county is not alone in the struggle to provide needed services in light of the financial crisis, not only in the State, but across the country. She felt it was a worthwhile experience and would be eager to represent our BOH at another conference.
4. The Health Department has changed internet providers. The department has contracted with AT&T at a lower cost.
5. The flu clinics are now completed. The Health Department initially ordered 600 doses and all of them were used. Last year, at the end of the flu season, The agency had vaccine left and it expired. There is a "no return policy" on the flu vaccine.
6. Joe Kratcha and Jack Miller (GIS, Internet Department) have done a great job for the JDCHD by getting our equipment updated and running efficiently.
7. The Immunization Program has had its annual review. The immunization coverage levels for children 24-35 months old has risen slightly from last year but still need to be improved. Part of the problem is being in the "tri-state region" and the different systems of record keeping in all 3 states. Parents will be instructed to bring a current immunization record for their child to any clinic they attend.
8. Peg spoke to the Board about the IPLAN Internal Needs Assessment Report. The internal assessment was completed by staff and the results were addressed at a monthly staff meeting. This is a small part of the requirements that are necessary for a health department to become certified. So that the board members would have more time to study the materials, this item was tabled until the February meeting. The IPLAN Community Needs Assessment Committee, which consisted of county business and professional leaders, chose the following topics to be addressed in the 2011-2016 IPLAN: Obesity, Interpersonal

Violence, Prostate Cancer and Breast Cancer. The Committee put in a lot of time and effort in studying the data and information to narrow the scope down to 3 or 4 topics. The consensus of the Board members was to also table this item until the next meeting. Once the Board has voted whether to adopt the findings, it will be sent to the County Board for approval. Peg will then write a report how the objectives will be addressed for the 2011-2016 five year period and submit it to the State.

9. The Health Department is no longer in a “pay back” situation regarding the Federal funds for Medicaid Match. A check was received this week (\$10,256.23) for April, May and June, 2008.
10. Two estimates were presented for Board consideration for the furnace and air conditioning system that will probably need to be replaced sometime this year. This work will have to be put out for bids, but we now have a general idea of the costs.
11. This item was covered in #8.
12. Please refer to #8.
13. Peg informed the Board that an article about the Local Public Health System Governance Performance Assessment that was conducted by Dr. Jan Allen on March 15, 2008 will be in an upcoming issue of the NALBOH NEWSBRIEF publication.
14. New employees at the Health Department are Angie Schleicher, RN, Communicable Disease Nurse; Brenda Ertmer, RN, Family Planning Nurse and Beth Schroeder and Maria Menster, Language Interpreters.
15. The resignations of Erin Einsweiller-Soat, Speech Therapist, Joanne Kutz, Quality Assurance and June Freeman, Hypertension and Cholesterol Nurse were accepted with regret.
16. The Family Planning Program has applied for the 2009-2010 Grant. The program also had its annual review. There were just minor corrective actions.
17. The Board of Health Meeting dates for 2009 were discussed. Only 2 dates needed to be changed.
18. The Health Department has been experiencing cash flow problems due to the fiscal situation with the State. Grant payments have been lagging months behind. This week we received several checks for grant payments that bring us almost up to date. Medicaid and Medicare payments are still months behind.
19. A feature article on the WIC Program and a list of donations to the program were given to each member present. Jeanette Dahlquist, Program Coordinator, was also instrumental in a WIC client receiving a JDWI Foundation Grant.

A letter from Angie Schleicher, Communicable Disease Nurse, was submitted to the Board. She feels that the agency should consider adding varicella (chickenpox) to the Conditions of Employment along with MMR, TB and Td. This will be added to the agenda for next month.

There was no other business to discuss and Marge Montelius made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Robert Chorak. All were in favor. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Dr. Robert Chorak, BOH Secretary