

JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

The Jo Daviess County Board of Health held a meeting on Tuesday, September 30, 2003. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board of Health President, Tom Berryman.

Board of Health members present: President Tom Berryman, Gini Appel, Robert Chorak, DDS, Helen Kilgore, Ed Kuhle, Jim Lander, Sally Toepfer, County Board Representative

Board of Health members absent: Vice-President Charlene Huso, Bonnie Dorman, Dr. Joe Garrity

Staff members present: Peggy Murphy, Rose Imbus, Mairi Douglas, and Fran Rosenthal

Observers: Sue Grommes, Karen Heinen, Billie Nolan, and Linda Troya

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approval of the Public Health and Home Health Care Budgets for fiscal Year 2004

The State's Attorney's opinion of questions posed to him regarding the County Board's authority to lower the health department's levy and to abolish the health department were reviewed and discussed.

Home Health Care Budget

The Board of Health reviewed the fiscal year 2004 revised budget for Home Health Care. This was sent to the Home Health Care Advisory Committee to be approved with changes made since the August 21, 2003, meeting. The only changes made were to increase rent and health insurance line items. A motion was made by Jim Lander with a second by Robert Chorak that the Home Health Care budget be accepted with the revisions made. Motion carried.

Public Health Budget

The Board of Health reviewed the fiscal year 2004 revised budget for Public Health. Discussion was held on revisions made. The members are very concerned with the decrease in the tax levy proposed by the County Board Finance Committee. The only place that decreases are proposed is the tax levy for social service agencies which would be an increase for the general county fund. Discussed ways that could ease a budget crunch such as a pay freeze for county employees. Members discussed raising fees which they are not totally opposed to but had concerns that some individuals may need services and would not have the ability to pay for them. There is the concern that if the health department's tax levy is lowered this year it will take a long time to bring it back to the current level.

Fee Increases for Environmental Health – reviewed and discussed proposed fee increases for the environmental health program. Helen Kilgore made a motion with a second by Gini Appel that the Board of Health accept the new proposed fee increase for environmental health effective December 1, 2003. Motion carried.

Board members reviewed and discussed tax levy for the last several years. Board members felt that they could not accept the proposed 10% decrease in tax levy that was mandated by the County Board Finance Committee. Instructed the public health administrator to present a proposed budget to County Board Finance Committee with dollar amount to remain as it was last year.

A motion was made by Helen Kilgore with a second by Tom Berryman to retain public health levy at .0834 for the coming year. Motion carried.

Next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2003, at 7 p.m. Jim Lander stated he would not be able to attend this meeting.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Gini Appel and a second by Jim Lander at 7:50 p.m.

Secretary, Helen Kilgore