

Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
April 17, 2017

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health was called to order in the Council Chambers located at 200 East Berry Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana, at 5:45 p.m., pursuant to the notice sent to all Directors in accordance with the bylaws.

The following Directors were present: Dr. William Pond, Patricia Hays, Deb Lambert, Dr. Todd Rumsey, Tim Pape and Ted Sobol. Mary Hess was absent.

Dr. William Pond, President, presided over the meeting. Jennifer Miller recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Dr. Pond called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Motion was made and approved to accept the October 24, 2016 minutes.

Summary of Motions Passed at this Meeting:

- Motion was made by Todd Rumsey to approve the October 24, 2016 minutes. Tim Pape seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Motion was made by Patti Hays to nominate Dr. William Pond as President for the year 2017. Tim Pape seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Motion was made by Ted Sobol to nominate Dr. Todd Rumsey as Vice-President for the year 2017. Patti Hays seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Tim Pape made a motion for a due pass recommendation to go to the Allen County Commissioners on the proposed amendments to: Allen County Code, Title 10, Article 11: Fort Wayne-Allen County Lodging Establishment Ordinance. Todd Rumsey seconded. (MPU)
- Motion was made by Dr. Rumsey to nominate Kevin McDermitt as the board's representative for the Sewer Board. Patti Hays seconded the motion. (MPU)

Special Presentations:

Partners in Excellence Award – Jeff Markley, Executive Director, Positive Resource Connection:

- Mindy Waldron presented Jeff Markley, Executive Director of the Positive Resource Connection (PRC), with the Partners in Excellence Award. Mindy commented that Jeff and the PRC has been a key partner in helping the department launch the SSP program in 2016 including allowing the department to use space in their building for the clinic. The same space is also used for an outreach STI clinic, one afternoon a week. Beyond use of their space and supporting various public health initiatives, Jeff and his staff have given of their time to work on various projects with the department and have made many other contributions to the department's efforts over many years. Jeff Markley said, "Thank you. This is one of the joys of the work that we do – being able to work with other agencies and other partners. We are all here for the same reason, same end result. It's great for us when we can work with you and you have been a great partner back."

CHIP/Children's Institute Update – David Bennett and Dr. Sarah GiaQuinta

- David Bennett, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne, said that after the Children's Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) was finalized, the foundation wanted to find a way to make sure the recommendations in the plan moved forward and were acted upon. In order to do that, a director was needed to lead the way and develop an infrastructure to help coordinate care for children. David then introduced, Dr. Sarah GiaQuinta, CHIP Program Director, to the Board. Dr. GiaQuinta will be working with CHIP Committee Leaders and members to implement the strategies outlined in the Children's Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Board Appointment Reports:

Sewer Board Update – Gary Chapple, Director of Pollution Control (the Board's representative and ex-officio member on the Allen County Regional Water and Sewer District):

- Construction is moving forward on the next round of sewer construction projects for the District. Funding closed in early March. The Department of Health has worked through the exemption requests in these areas from homeowners that do not want to connect to the sewers in those projects. The current round of construction projects include: The Village of Poe, in Southwest Allen County along the St. Mary's River; Pion Road, Andar Trail, just East of Coldwater Road North of Fort Wayne; Carroll Road, Hand Road, South of Hometown; Union Chapel Road, Lynbrook Drive, around the intersection of Union Chapel and Tonkel Road; Glen Elm Drive, Popp Road, Prophet's Pass, between Tonkel Road and SR 1. The District continues to look into projects for the future as well.

Health Commissioner's Report – Deborah A. McMahan, MD

- Dr. McMahan shared information about the TB outbreak last year. She gave compliments to the Department's staff working who treated 17 cases last year. Dr. McMahan said the normal case load is six TB cases for the year. In addition, there were a number of contact investigations that required the staff to think outside the box and think more proactively than reactively. In addition to the high numbers, Dr. McMahan said there was a very unique TB Case called a super spreader – someone who usually infects a high number of individuals but those individuals don't acquire the disease but in maybe 5 percent of the cases. This person infected a number of individuals who immediately acquired the infection. The good news, said Dr. McMahan is that everybody is doing well. Another unusual aspect of the TB Cases was that a quarter of the cases were children. Normally, five percent of the cases are children. Dr. McMahan complimented the great ID staff in town that helped treat them. She said TB in children is an emergency because it progresses so quickly. Dr. McMahan concluded that a lot of people were successfully treated. So far this year, there are only four new cases of TB.
- Hepatitis C – Dr. McMahan said there are more cases this year. So far she said, there are 106 cases under investigation. Last year there were 70. She said it was not too surprising that there was an increase last year in Hepatitis C deaths as well, there were 16. Normally, there are five. She added that a few years ago, there were not a lot of providers and the treatment was unbearable and very unaffordable. Now, there are more providers in both systems that will

treat Hepatitis C and the treatment is more affordable and better. Because May is Hepatitis screening month, she said the department is partnering with the YMCA to offer free screening for Hepatitis C at several of the YMCA sites. The staff would then refer anyone testing positive back to a physician.

- “The Syringe Services Program is doing very well,” said Dr. McMahan. She said it was a slow start, as was expected. Dr. McMahan reminded everyone that the reason kits are given out at the clinic is that Hepatitis C is a very hardy disease and lives much longer than HIV. “It is transmitted through the paraphernalia, the cotton balls, the cookers, etc. That is why you give out the kits, it is CDC recommended.” Dr. McMahan added that the clinic has only given out 4% more needles than what it has taken in. She concluded that people are doing what is expected of them. She said that a great suggestion that came in from the medical community was that wound care should be available at the clinic. She said ten percent of the people have had pretty significant wound issues and one person had to go directly to the hospital to get treated. In addition, about 10 percent of the clients have taken advantage of the referrals for treatment of substance abuse disorder and about one third of the people have been tested. Dr. McMahan said she thinks over all it has gone very well. She said the collaboration has been really good between PRC and the department staff. The Food Bank has been donating food items as well. Dr. McMahan added that she is hoping to get someone available to sign clients up for HIP.
- Opioid Crisis –Dr. McMahan said there has been a marked increase in overdoses this year. There has been a doubling of non-fatal overdoses in the first part of this year. She said we are fortunate that we have not seen carfentanyl yet. She added that the department has found that Naloxone is a little harder for people to get their hands on than she had hoped. In response, she said that the department has created the Neat Clinic (Naloxone Education, Access & Training Clinic.) Here, family members will be able to get prescriptions for Naloxone and get training on how to administer it properly.
- Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) – Dr. McMahan said, “We were fortunate that both health systems have taken this on through the Patient Safety Collation. They will be developing an approach on training and education that will be for the whole region.” Protocols to outline the care a child requires for the first years of life are also being developed, said Dr. McMahan. Currently, nothing exists for this. Dr. McMahan said that they will work closely with DCS to implement the protocol once developed.
- SEE ACTUAL COMMISSIONER’S REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES.

Communicable Disease Report – Deborah A. McMahan, MD

- SEE ACTUAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES

Administrator’s Report – Mindy Waldron

- Mindy Waldron reported the department received a syringe services grant from the state that will help offset some of the costs of the program. The grant covers the cost of supplies, staffing and some other costs other than needles.

- Mindy updated the board on the progress the department has made in shifting to in house billing with a software program that combines the electronic medical records and billing. Mindy said that so far things are moving along fairly smoothly and early studies of the reimbursement seem to indicate the department will increase its overall income over time. She added this was a big shift for the clinic staff and all involved did a wonderful job with the changes.
- Mindy also shared her recent experience with a functional drill with both hospital systems that had participants work through a scenario that simulated all telephone, cell phone and hospital records were affected and unavailable. In addition, false news messages were sent out. Communications were limited to radio groups. Mindy said it was a good drill and a great deal was learned.

SEE ACTUAL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT FOR ALL INFORMATION SHARED (but not discussed).

Personnel Report – Mindy Waldron

- Mindy shared the new hires since October 2016:
- Brittney Billingsley and Anna Hartsuff in Vital Records
- Cara Friend as a part-time nurse at the Medical Annex
- Rebecca Kopke as an Administrative Assistant at the Medical Annex
- McKenzie Hinshaw as a part-time Nurse Practitioner
- Korby Anderson as an Environmental Health Inspector for the Food Division.

Old Business

None

New Business

• **Proposed Amendments to: Allen County Code, Title 10, Article 11: Fort Wayne-Allen County Lodging Establishment Ordinance – Mindy Waldron and Dave Fiess**

- Mindy Waldron explained the proposed changes were made in order to improve the readability and flow of the ordinance and balance the inspection and enforcement process between risk and aesthetics. The focus is now more on the critical public health issues.
- The changes have been reviewed by Laura Maser, legal counsel for the department as well as members of Visit Fort Wayne.
- Dr. Pond asked Dave Fiess what are the top three violations encountered on inspections. Dave responded, “Pest issues: bed Bugs, flees. Water Temp Issues: although some people like really hot water temperatures --that can scald someone. Our limit is 100-120 degrees Fahrenheit. Sometimes we see that temperature up to 150 degrees. Trash issues that contribute to the pest issues.”
- Board discussion continued on the procedures for hearings and closings and who was able to give input into the changes. Mindy explained that several hotel owners whose establishments received grades from A’s to F’s were able to see the changes and all approved. Mindy also read a summary of support from Dan O’Connell of Visit Fort Wayne.

- Dr. Pond said the proposed changes will make this a better ordinance. Mindy added that the Vector Control staff started from the ground up on implementing this ordinance. This has not been done other places. Dave Fiess's staff has worked hard to improve the process and make this work. She complimented Dave on his data base that he has compiled on the inspections.
- Tim Pape made a motion for a due pass recommendation to go to the Allen County Commissioners. Todd Rumsey seconded. (MPU)

Appointment of The Board's Sewer Board Representative

- Tim Pape, upon request from Mindy Waldron, made a motion to nominate Kevin McDermitt, voting member, to serve as the board's appointment for the Allen County Regional Water and Sewer District Board (ACRWSD). Patti Hays seconded the motion.(MPU).

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim Pape.

Adjournment: 6:34 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: July 31, 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Health Commissioner

William Pond, MD
Board President