

Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
February 2, 2015

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, Ted Sobol, Deb Lambert, Mary Hess, Dr. Todd Rumsey and Tim Pape.

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 13, 2014 minutes.

Motions Passed at this Meeting:

- Motion was made by Tim Pape to approve the October 13, 2014 minutes. Mary Hess seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Mary Hess nominated Dr. William Pond as President of the Board of Directors for the year 2015. Patti Hays seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Patti Hays nominated Dr. Todd Rumsey as Vice-President of the Board of Directors for the year 2015. Tim Pape seconded the motion. (MPU)
- The Board voted to appoint Charles Ray to the Allen County Regional Water & Sewer District. Motion was made by Ted Sobol to appoint Mr. Ray. Patti Hays seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tim Pape. Todd Rumsey seconded the motion. (MPU)

Funding for CHIP David Bennett, Executive Director Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne

- David Bennett provided an update on the Community Health Improvement Plan for Children (CHIP). He estimated that 70-100 community professionals have come together to develop a systematic approach to caring for the children in our community. He said in his twenty years of working at the foundation, this is the first time he is aware that such an approach has been undertaken. The Community Foundation is providing \$30,000 in funding to bring a health economist and an epidemiologist from the IU School of Public Health to help guide the committee members through the process. Also unique to the process is the addition of a systems engineer from IPFW, Dr. David Cochran. The foundation is providing a \$25,000 grant to IPFW to help fund his participation. Mr. Bennett also led an effort to apply for a competitive grant: Build Health Challenge, from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. If awarded, this \$75,000 grant would fund the planning stages of the CHIP. Dr. McMahan added that with the addition of these experts, she is confident that CHIP will produce a solid strategic plan that is multi-disciplinary and that would provide a system of care that will provide a single point of contact for care givers that they can use to help children with any issue. This seed money from the foundation will help develop a strategic plan that other funders can come along side and further develop the ideas generated by the strategic plan to offer even more growth and development.

Tim Pape asked, "If this approach is successful, how will this affect a low income family?" Mr. Bennett replied that there is a window of opportunity to identify issues with many children at a very young age. Early treatment is essential for the most effective results. This system would help professionals of all backgrounds, identify children who need help and know where to send them. Members of the board asked to receive an update on the process of CHIP later in the year.

Sewer Board Update – Gary Chapple, Director of Pollution Control:

- Engineering design of sewers from the engineers working on the areas in the next round of projects is due to the district's engineer by the 6th of February. The district will then take the package of projects to the Indiana Finance Authority/State Revolving Fund (SRF) to complete the funding process. Construction on this round of projects should begin sometime in 2015. The Department of Health coordinated a conference call between the Sewer District, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to discuss the permitting process for decentralized systems and how to simplify the process. The Department of Health continues looking for more homeowners who are eligible and interested in another round of funding for SRF septic replacements.

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

- ISDH has made it possible for the department to provide HPV vaccine to uninsured patients. A lot of these patients are high risk and Dr. McMahan said is a great opportunity to be able to offer them the vaccine.
- The department is reaching out to daycare workers to help educate them about communicable disease requirements and offer to come onsite to do TB skin tests. Four daycares so far have taken advantage of the offer at a very low cost.
- Another outreach effort that Dr. McMahan expects to be launched by March is low cost immunizations and exams for health care students who are uninsured. Dr. McMahan explained that many of these students are unable to afford the necessary vaccines and tests to continue in school. Many students have had to delay classes because they could not afford the cost. The tests and vaccinations are provided at the department's cost. STI testing and cholesterol testing may also be offered as well.
- Dr. McMahan said the Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force is working on a database that would bring together professionals from law enforcement, pharmacies and mental health care to provide information regarding prescription drug abuse and the new prescribing rules. This would help everyone from all areas stay informed on the latest developments in prescription drug abuse.
- SEE ACTUAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES.

Communicable Disease – Deborah A. McMahan, MD

- STI's are down a very slight percentage. Dr. McMahan said that she needs more time to determine if this will be a continuing trend.
- Dr. McMahan complimented Dr. Jerome Adams, the new State Health Commissioner, on his efforts to provide free STI testing to uninsured patients. She said his efforts are greatly appreciated.
- Health Care workers have had a tough year with many infectious diseases. Travel histories will remain an essential tool for every health care provider. Dr. McMahan urged all health care providers to continue this practice.
- SEE ACTUAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES

Administrator’s Report – Mindy Waldron

- The Commissioners passed the new Public Health Nuisance/Hazard Ordinance that the Board had approved in October 2014. The ordinance took effect January 1, 2015. For any sites that were deficient prior to the effective date of the ordinance, the Department will conduct a re-inspection to ensure the current status of the problem before issuing any orders for compliance. The Department will review the ordinance after its first year to evaluate effectiveness and any needed changes.
- Mindy provided an update on the Immunization Grant awarded to the department by ISDH. The grant award was \$235,000. Most of the funding will be used for equipment and IT upgrades. The grant will also cover the annual promotion budget for all vaccines as well as the influenza vaccine.

SEE ACTUAL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT FOR ALL INFORMATION SHARED.

Personnel Report – Mindy Waldron

- Two new food inspectors were hired: Kayla Dickerson and Stephanie Operschall.
- Forrest France was hired as a new Environmental Health Inspector for the Pollution Control Division.
- Melissa Woodworth was hired as a Support Staff Administrative Assistant.
- Steve Niemoeller was promoted to the Director of the Food and Consumer Protection Division.

Old Business

None

New Business

Sewer Board Member Appointment Update – Mindy Waldron

Al Frisinger was approved as the Board’s appointment to the Sewer Board in 2014. It was discovered that there is a conflict between the local Sewer Board’s bylaws, the statute that creates the authorities for such Sewer Districts, and the federal rules of holding multiple “lucrative” offices. Although the Sewer Board positions are not compensated positions (all volunteer), the problem is that if even a discussion of potential board representative pay were discussed at a meeting, anyone holding another elected official position would have to forfeit that position. Therefore, Mr. Frisinger was unable to accept the appointment. After an extensive search a suitable candidate that meets all criteria was identified: Charles (“Charlie”) Ray. He has extensive knowledge in sewer, septic and onsite technology. The department asked the Board to vote in support of Mr. Ray at the meeting to begin his service – which will end in December, 2015. Motion was made by Ted Sobol to nominate Charles Ray. Patti Hays seconded the motion. (MPU)

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim Pape and seconded by Todd Rumsey.

Adjournment: 6:25 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: April 20, 2015 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Health Commissioner

William Pond, MD
Board President