

Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
January 13, 2014

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, Mary Hess, Tim Pape, Ted Sobol and Deb Lambert. Dr. Todd Rumsey was not present.

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 to approve the October 23, 2013 minutes by Tim Pape and seconded by Patty Hays.

Motions Passed at this Meeting:

- Motion was made to approve the October 21, 2013 minutes by Tim Pape and seconded by Patti Hays. (MPU)
- Dr. Pond was reelected as President and Dr. Rumsey as Vice-President of the board.(MPU)
- The board passed a resolution in support of the Indiana Medical Licensing Board's requirement that doctors must query the INSPECT data base system and conduct periodic testing to insure patients are using prescribed opioids correctly. Motion to pass was made by Patti Hays and seconded by Tim Pape. (MPU)
- Motion was made to adjourn by Tim Pape and seconded by Patti Hays. (MPU)

Introduction and Welcome of New Board Members – Dr. Pond

Deb Lambert and Ted Sobol were introduced as new members of the board.

Neighborhood Assessment 46808- Wendy Clark, University of St. Francis

Wendy explained the reason the 46808 area was chosen as an area for the assessment was the health care access data from 2006 that said 46808 was a zip code where more assistance was needed. A team of individuals from the Department of Health, Habitat for Humanity and Canterbury School surveyed 99 residents to find out what they felt were their most pressing needs. Results showed that 93 percent of those responding felt the quality of life was good or very good. Looking at the statistics about the neighborhood, Wendy found this surprising. Over all, the residents' top three concerns were safety, housing and then health. Wendy felt this information was important for future policy making in the area. Wendy has shared the results with several groups including the police department, in the hopes that some of the residents' concerns about safety could be addressed.

Election of Officers

The Board unanimously approved the reelection of Dr. Pond as president and Dr. Rumsey as vice-president.

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

The Flutter/Wheelock Rd. project was approved by the Fort Wayne Board of Works and the order to connect letters were mailed the middle of December. Homeowners have started to connect, although there has been some delay due to the bitter cold weather of January and the fact that many contractors that install sewer taps also plow snow for a living. The Greater Cedar Creek project is substantially complete, with only some testing and paperwork issues to resolve prior to Board of Works approval. Order to connect letters are projected to be mailed the beginning of February.

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

- Dr. McMahan asked Jordanne Kilbourne, Clinical Director, and Nikki Hartman, Director of Community Health and Case Management, to report on the clinics outreach efforts. Jordanne explained a number of projects that included STI testing at the correctional facilities. This effort has resulted in an increased awareness of the clinics ability to provide on-going testing. A sting operation provided a unique opportunity to collaborate with the police department and future projects are going to be considered. Department staff offered STI testing for all those arrested. STI posters distributed among providers helped educate and increase awareness. TB skin tests (TST's) and flu vaccines were offered to Children's Zoo employees this year as well. Nikki Hartman explained that future education opportunities with Manchester School of Pharmacy will be explored to increase awareness of TB skin testing and how to interpret the results as well as education about immunizations. The Immunization Clinic's Foreign Travel clinic has been very successful in providing education for specific travel sites as well as immunizations. A travel brochure will be provided to private facilities to increase awareness about the clinic as well.
- Dr. McMahan said that a goal for this next year is to visit daycares and offer to do screenings and immunizations for workers. Outreach to the universities will also be an important goal to increase STI testing and vaccinations. Students who are preparing to travel often try and save money by not being vaccinated. Education efforts will help them understand why this is so important. Increasing fall prevention screening is also a goal for 2014. Screenings will take place in churches and referrals to appropriate community partners will be made.
- Dr. Pond asked what the budget looks like for the travel clinic. Mindy Waldron explained that it is a service that is provided and the department breaks even.
- Dr. McMahan provided an update on local efforts to increase collaboration between providers issuing referrals as a result of the Indiana Medical Licensing Board's (MLB) new opioid prescribing rules. Dr. Pond and Dr. McMahan briefly explained the basis for the rules and that patient safety is the primary goal. Dr. Pond asked for the board's support of the MLB's rules. Tim Pape asked if the board could receive a copy of the rules. Dr. McMahan agreed to send rules to the board.
- The board passed a resolution in support of the MLB's requirement that doctors must query the INSPECT data base system and conduct periodic testing to insure patients are using the prescribed opioids correctly. Motion passed unanimously.

SEE ACTUAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES.

Infectious Disease Report – Deborah A. McMahan, MD.

- There were 8 TB cases last year. Rate was 2.2. This is a little better rate than it was the year before. There has been a significant drop in Hepatitis C cases. This may change as the impact of the prescribing rules for opioids is felt by patients. Patients often turn to heroin when denied opioids and then Hepatitis C increases with heroin rates.
- There were 8 influenza deaths last year. There has been one death so far in 2014. H1N1 is affecting many this year and many are fairly sick. This year many young children and people in their 40's and 50's are being affected.
- STI Report. Dr. McMahan said the good news is that rate of chlamydia has gone down slightly. Gonorrhea has increased which is also reflected in national numbers. Syphilis has remained about the same. Dr. McMahan said they have noticed an increase of pregnant women with STIs. Kathy Thornson, Director of HIV/STD prevention, has created a data base on rates of STI's among pregnant women. Twenty-Two percent of the chlamydia cases and 14 percent of the gonorrhea cases involved pregnant women. Dr. McMahan added that these women have a lot of issues including transportation. Many times the department staff brings medication to patients, in order for them to take it. Dr. McMahan said that the department is currently looking at how it conducts contact investigations, where it does its testing, and looking at the pregnant women and gonorrhea cases and trying to understand them better. Targeted interventions will be a goal of the department. Dr. Pond asked why the rate in Fort Wayne is so high. Kathy suggested that we are the second largest community in the state and are rate is second highest. The medical community here is also diligent with screening.

SEE ACTUAL INFECTIOUS DISEASE REPORT FOR ALL DATA REPORTED.

Administrator's Report – Mindy Waldron

- Dave Fiess, Director of Vector Control and Environmental Services, gave an update on the new lodging ordinance. Of the 60 lodging establishments, 11 have applied for their permit. The establishments have until the end of the month to apply for their permits. In November and December the staff of Vector Control offered free inspections to any establishment. Regular inspections took place but the grades and points were not official. Ten establishments took advantage of this. Eight received A's, 1 received a B and 1 received a C. This allowed these 10 establishments to correct any violations and see what the whole process was like. All 60 establishments have been visited and provided with education and materials needed to apply for the permit. Picture frames were provided to all establishments to display grade cards. Dr. Pond replied that the grade cards were nice because they are easy to see. During the year, education will be provided along with the inspections to keep establishments up-to-date on-going issues. Mindy stated that 12 other health departments have requested a copy of the lodging ordinance.
- Senate Bill 107 –Mindy testified earlier today in the Indiana Senate against the bill. It was passed on the first reading. She said five of the seven senators expressed concern that local health departments were not included in the discussion. Mindy explained that what this bill seeks to do is move the on-site sewage disposal programs from the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). This is part of a governor's issue to improve water quality. Local health departments are concerned because all of a local health department's authorities operate under the authority of ISDH. Public health issues are very broad and there is concern about the ability to address issues such as disease suppression with the changes the new bill requires. Also of great concern is that none of the day to day logistics have been addressed in the bill. The second reading of the bill is on January 15. Mindy encouraged the board to express their opposition to the bill by contacting Environmental Committee members in the Senate.

Personnel Report – Mindy Waldron

Lindsay Horace, Administrative Assistant, was hired to work in the Immunization Clinic. Steven Williams was promoted to the Supervisor of Immunization Services. Two new Environmental Specialists for food were hired: Steve Niemoeller and Michelle Radosevich. Josh Blauvelt, Environmental Health Specialist- Pollution has been promoted to Assistant Director of Vector Control and Environmental Services. John McCue, Environmental Technician, has been promoted to the Environmental Health Specialist- Pollution.

SEE ACTUAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT FOR ALL INFORMATION SHARED.

Old Business: None

New Business: Community Health Improvement Plan for Children. Dr. McMahan explained that this is a community wide plan that will look at transformational change for children. Opportunities to participate will arise for the board; Dr. McMahan will keep board up-to-date on the plan as it emerges and how to get involved.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim Pape and seconded by Patti Hays. (MPU)

Adjournment: 6:57 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: April 21, 2014 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Health Commissioner

William Pond, MD
Board President