

Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
January 25, 2016

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 Mary Hess. Ted Sobol 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 5, 2015 minutes.

Summary of Motions Passed at this Meeting:

- Motion was made by Patti Hays to approve the October 5, 2015 minutes. Tim Pape seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Motion was made by Patti Hays to nominate Dr. William Pond as President for the year 2016. Mary Hess seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Motion was made by Mary Hess to nominate Dr. Todd Rumsey as Vice-President for the year 2016. Tim Pape seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Motion was made by Dr. Rumsey to nominate Gary Chapple and Charlie Ray as the board's representatives for the Sewer Board. Tim Pape seconded the motion. (MPU)

VISITOR PRESENTATIONS:

Anthis Career Center students – Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Title Page Design

Winner:

- Durrell Johnson, Anthis Career student, presented his winning design for the CHIP Strategic Plan Front Cover. Dr. Pond thanked Durrell for his efforts. Dr. McMahan complimented Durrell on his design commenting that the cover highlights the collaboration the CHIP initiative promoted.

CHIP Conclusions and Next Steps – Terrell Zollinger, Dr.PH, Professor Emeritus, Indiana University

- Dr. Terrell Zollinger presented a final report on the CHIP Strategic Plan. Dr. Zollinger said 108 individuals from many different fields volunteered their time to develop the CHIP Strategic Plan. Seven committees focused on the root causes of many health problems the children of Allen County face. By identifying the root causes of these problems, the committees were then able to focus on solutions that would change policies, systems and the environment to create long-term, sustainable improvement.
- Each committee then developed strategies to achieve their goals. All together, the committees recommended 41 strategies. Common themes that were highlighted in the strategies were: Ensure children receive adequate health care and medication; improve family relationships, improve peer relationships; provide mentoring of children and more. Dr. Zollinger pointed out

that the last three recommendations are not what one would typically think of has public health concerns. He said to make lasting change, the committees were committed to focusing on what will truly improve children's health the most. Dr. Zollinger said that the next step is to restructure committees and set up leadership to focus on carrying out the strategies, developing funding and work on identifying methods of measuring outcomes.

Neisseria Meningitis Case Investigation and Mass Prophylaxis Response – Mindy Waldron, Department Administrator:

- Mindy shared highlights of the timeline of events and the details of how the department responded to the Neisseria Meningitis case in December 2015 at a local school. She said that the number of people needing treatment was smaller than past Mass Prophylaxis Clinics – however the turnaround time needed and logistics of the case presented some interesting new challenges for the department. Collaboration with the State Department of Health, Fort Wayne Community Schools (FWCS), Parkview Health Systems, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the school staff helped to efficiently provide all prophylaxis needed in just a few days' time. In addition, collaboration between all Public Information Officers at all of these organizations helped keep messaging uniform and did not create any undue panic about the situation.
- A number of actions by community partners helped reduce the wait times of those coming through the clinic. 1) In order to dispense the medication, all students had to be weighed. Mary Hess, Health Services Manager at FWCS, arranged for FWCS nurses to arrive early on the day of the clinic and weigh students in advance. This allowed for a quicker turnaround time, once the students' parents arrived to get medications. 2) Parkview pharmacy staffed the dispensary and added additional staff members when it was apparent more help was needed.
- Mindy said the total cost of the clinic was \$18,474.88. The department's costs were \$11,745.83 for staffing and \$2,957.49 for medication. FWCS had a cost of \$2,856 for staffing and Parkview's staffing costs were \$770. Parkview also donated supplies at a cost of \$145.56. The total number of contacts for the case was 581. The number of contacts who received prophylaxis was 496. Those who chose not to receive prophylaxis were adults who felt they did not need it.

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 underway on six contracts that were previously funded, with a total of about 520 homes. The sewer district is seeking funding for the next round of projects, scheduled to begin late in 2016, that will include another 325 homes in the following six areas: Pion Road between Coldwater Road and Auburn Road; Popp Road between Tonkel Road and SR 1; the area near the intersection of Union Chapel Road and Tonkel Road; the village of Poe; The village of Maples; and the area near the intersection of Carroll Road and Hand Road. The Department of Health will work with homeowners in these new areas that apply for the exemption process. For the current construction projects, most of the home owners that were found to be eligible under the exemption process ended up working with the sewer district and plan to connect to sewer. The State Revolving Fund (SRF) provided several million dollars in grant money to help the sewer district move toward a single rate across all customers. The County Commissioners also made this request of the district. The district is projecting reaching this point in ten years for all but two of the areas. The Sewer Board is hopeful that the final funding package from the SRF will include funding for septic replacement systems.

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

- Dr. McMahan focused on the Opiate Crisis for her report. She said that heroin is continuing to be a huge problem. Captain Hunter from the Fort Wayne Police Department shared with Dr. McMahan that they are continuing to see a large number of cases where the heroin is laced with fentanyl. Dr. McMahan said Indiana is number 10 in the nation in regards to amount of heroin laced fentanyl that is seized. This Fentanyl is much more deadly because it is man-made and takes only a small amount to cause death.
- There has also been a 16 percent increase in accidental overdoses in the last year in Allen County. Dr. McMahan and Jana Sanders, Informatics Director, will be working with department interns, members of the Fort Wayne Medical Education Program and the Coroner's office to continue the overdose study that began a year ago. Dr. McMahan expects the study to become more in depth as they work with the Inspect program to gather more information about what kinds of prescriptions were used by those who overdosed.
- Dr. McMahan said she is encouraged by the fact that more first responders are carrying Narcan. The Fort Wayne Fire Department has had 44 reversals with the drug. The Fire Department's first reversal occurred within 5 hours of adopting the practice. Dr. McMahan also noted that some members of law enforcement are carrying Narcan as well and she is working with more agencies to begin carrying the drug.
- Dr. McMahan asked Erika Pitcher, Director of Community Health and Case Management Services, to share last year's data on Hepatitis C cases and Kathy Thornson, Director of HIV & STD Prevention, to share data on last year's HIV cases. Erika reported that there are a total of 395 Hepatitis C Cases from 2015. This is a 61 percent increase over 2014. She said there are still 124 cases under investigation at the state level. "Are we testing more people for Hepatitis C or are we truly seeing more cases?" asked Dr. Pond. Erika replied that the department's data comes from what is reported by local providers. The Department has just started to test for Hepatitis C. Erika added the state epidemiologist expert in this area said she has seen more screening for cases all across the state. Dr. Rumsey expressed concern that at the state level they seem to be encouraging more testing for Hepatitis C but there is a great imbalance in what state funded medical plans will pay for when it comes to treating Hepatitis C. "We are treating to prevent the progression of disease but not treating to prevent the spread of the disease," said Dr. Rumsey.
- Kathy Thornson reported a 28 percent increase in newly diagnosed HIV cases in Allen County for 2015. Newly diagnosed HIV cases increased from 18 cases in 2014 to 23 to 2015. Kathy shared that along with increased testing for IVD users, the CDC recommends the development of community service programs to meet the needs of individuals along with Syringe Service Programs that are shown to reduce the transmission of HIV by 30 percent.
- Dr. McMahan summarized the major initiatives the department is focusing on to address the opiate crisis.
 - **1) Prevention of HIV and Hepatitis C.** Dr. McMahan said the Syringe Services Program (SSP) is ready to implement. Dr. McMahan, Mindy Waldron and one board member met with key stake holders to explain the process. Those meetings received a mixed response. The Commissioners will hold a public hearing to discuss SSP's. The first hearing will be on February 12th and a second hearing, if needed, will be February 25th.

The Indiana Attorney General, Kevin Hunter and other state wide experts in the area will attend. If approved by the Commissioners, a letter will be sent to State Health Commissioner asking for approval of the SSP.

- **2) Increase community awareness.** Megan Reust, Communications Director, is collaborating with Access TV station in Fort Wayne to develop a series of 5-minute videos in which community partners will share their knowledge about the opiate crisis in Allen County. Law Enforcement, Medical Providers, Mental Health providers and others are participating in the series. In addition, one Commissioner requested we work with radio station WBOI to appear on their Issues and Ales program and discuss the opiate issue. Arrangements have been made to do this in March of this year. Dr. McMahan hopes to have more than one panel discussion.
 - **3) The Treatment of addiction.** Dr. McMahan said it is hard to figure out where to send people in Allen County for treatment of addiction. On February 8th, a small group of community partners are convening to collaborate on how to address the issue. She said we need to determine what resources we have and what we need to be effective. Dr. McMahan said, “We need to encourage primary providers to help with medication assisted treatment. Some of the treatments show real promise. We don’t have enough addiction specialists that can handle this.” In addition, she said, “We need to start thinking about a long term care facility in Fort Wayne.”
- SEE ACTUAL COMMISSIONER’S REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES.

Communicable Disease Report – Deborah A. McMahan, MD

- STI’s are increasing. Hepatitis C cases are up as well. Dr. McMahan said that there are some new inclusions in the new reporting rules that the department will share those with providers.
- Dr. McMahan said that Zika virus is a new virus that we have been hearing about (which is a new mosquito-borne illness being contracted while traveling in the south and is likely to have continued local spread as it increase). Pregnant women need to be aware of this and avoid travel to infected areas.
- SEE ACTUAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES

Administrator’s Report – Mindy Waldron

- Mindy asked board members if they had reviewed the “Outcomes of 2015” in her report. She said this highlights a long list of accomplishments each division achieved in 2015.

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

Personnel Report – Mindy Waldron

- Steve Schumm is the new Director of Food and Consumer Protection.
- Thant Win Myint is the new Administrative Assistant for the Clinical Services Division.
- Rodeline Constant is a new Medical Assistant for the Medical Annex.
- Mary Ann Rice is the new Administrative Assistant for the Environmental Division.
- Two new food inspectors will start soon: Shelby Walters and Kathaleen Deane.

Appointment of The Board's Sewer Board Representatives

- Dr. Rumsey nominated Gary Chapple, ex officio member, and Charles Ray, voting member, to serve as the board's appointments for the Sewer Board. Tim Pape seconded the motion. MPU.

Old Business

None

New Business

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim Pape and seconded by Mary Hess.

Adjournment: 7:30 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: April 18, 2016, 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Health Commissioner

William Pond, MD
Board President