

Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
October 16, 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, Mary Hess, Ted Sobol and Tim Pape. Dr. Todd Rumsey 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 July 31, 2017 minutes.

Summary of Motions Passed at this Meeting:

- Motion was made by Patti Hays to approve the July 31, 2017 minutes. Deb Lambert seconded the motion. (MPU)
- A Do-Pass recommendation was given to the Allen County Commissioners on the proposed amendments to: Allen County Code, Title 10, Article 12—(Amendments to the Public Health Hazards Ordinance). (MPU)
- Appointment of the Allen County Regional Water and Sewer Board's Representative. Kevin McDermit was appointed as the Voting Member (Jan 1, 2018 -Dec. 31, 2019) and Gary Chapple was approved as the Ex-Officio Member (ongoing appointment without expiration). (MPU)

Board Appointment Reports:

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

- Gary reported that construction is ongoing for the current round of construction projects. Area one is completed and should be accepted by the board of work. Area two should be completed by the end of the month. Area one should wrap up by early 2018. The District is looking to the next round of projects, which include a section of homes along Lafayette Center Road, Dupont Road west of Lima Road, and several areas in the southeast part of the county which will be part of the plan to eliminate the Hoagland lagoons and pump back to Fort Wayne for treatment. The exact scope of the projects will depend on the final route of the force main from Hoagland.

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

- Dr. McMahan said overdoses are continuing to increase. She said the department along with many community partners continues to address the issue in many different ways. She referenced a recent 60 Minutes program that looked into the opioid issue on a federal level and highlighted recent changes in legislation that reduce reporting requirement for drug companies on large shipments of pain medications. Dr. McMahan asked Patti Hays to send a program link to all board members. Dr. McMahan also asked the board to tune into a show on PBS 39 on

Friday, October 27 that will highlight the dangers of Spice. A representative from the Office of the Indiana Attorney General will discuss the difficulty in prosecuting Spice dealers and Dr. Matt Runyan will discuss the effects of Spice on mental health. Dr. McMahan also shared that a press event scheduled for October 18th will bring together community partners to share important resources for parents to help them talk with their children about drugs.

- Dr. Pond said he noticed in Dr. McMahan’s report that the SSP had been renewed for two years. He said one of the initial concerns about the program was the worry about the needles being returned. He asked, “What is your exchange rate?” Dr. McMahan and Mindy Waldron responded that the program is running at a 96 to 97 percent exchange rate. Mindy indicated that nationally the average is about 80 percent. “Why do you think are rate is so good, compared to other programs?” asked Dr. Pond. Mindy Waldron responded, “I think our Standard Operating Procedures have laid out what is expected and we are very strict about adhering to them.”

- SEE ACTUAL COMMISSIONER’S REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES.

Communicable Disease Report – Deborah A. McMahan, MD

- Dr. McMahan said that Gonorrhea continues to be a big issue. She said, “We are going to really need to sit down and evaluate how to address this. Most of these are new cases. We don’t have a lot to treat this. It is concerning that we have a lot of these and we need to figure out what is going on.”

- SEE ACTUAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES

Administrator’s Report – Mindy Waldron

- Mindy reported on the two year renewal of the Syringe Services Program. “We are very lucky to get a two year renewal on our SSP Program. Based on our statistics you can see we have stuck to what we said we will do and we are pretty proud of that,” said Mindy. She continued, “We will be operational through October 2019. This will give the department the chance to assess the need at that time. We hope that there is not always going to be a need for this.” Mindy indicated that weekly review sessions along with extensive data collection has allowed the department to make changes that were needed as the program grew and this shows that the department is dedicated to the success of this program.
- Dr. Pond asked, “What are the resources the department dedicates to this?” Mindy said the coordinator position is grant funded through the Positive Resource Connection. She said there are also several department staff members who work at the clinic, who flex their hours so they can provide services that are a part of the SOP. “We are at a cross road now with the number of clients we see. We are going to work with our SSP Advisory Council and staff to determine how best to expand services,” said Mindy.
- Naloxone Grant - Mindy reported that the department received a grant from the Indiana State Department of Health to provide free Naloxone kits to various entities throughout the county. She said the department is in the early stages of training and the distribution of kits.

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

Personnel Report – Mindy Waldron

- Mandy Brown was hired as an Administrative Assistant in the Communications Division.
- Kelly Roe was hired as the Nurse Practitioner.
- Current positions posted include: Vital Records clerk and Administrative Assistant in HIV/STD Prevention Division.

Old Business

None

New Business

- **Proposed Amendments to: Allen County Code, Title 10, Article 12: (Amendments to the Public Health Hazards Ordinance) – Mindy Waldron and Dave Fiess**
- Mindy explained that the department is requesting some amendments to this ordinance to update the enforcement provisions. For some of the more nuisance-like and lower priority public health violations, the department would want to allow for the issuance of fines outside of a hearing to save time and resources for the complainant as well as the Department. Some of the language associated with hearings and references to enforcements steps was cleaned up as well.
- Mindy also stated that they were going to add the word “olfactory” to further define offensive to the senses. The language would state, “Offensive to the olfactory senses.” In order to clarify what sense was being defined in the ordinance. “Are we accepting that as an amendment?” asked Dr Pond. All board members replied yes.
- “This would help incentivize property owners in correcting problems earlier,” said Dave Fiess. Dr. Pond asked for an update Dave to update the board on in 6 months on how things are going.
- Tim Pape made a motion for a do-pass recommendation to go to the Allen County Commissioners. Ted Sobol seconded. (MPU)

- **Appointment of the Allen County Regional Water and Sewer Board’s Representative** Kevin McDermit was appointed at the Voting Member (Jan 1, 2018 -Dec. 31, 2019) and Gary Chapple was approved as the Ex-Officio Member (ongoing appointment without expiration). (MPU)

Department of Health Staff Recognition Awards: Mindy Waldron and Dr. McMahan

- Mindy said, “We wanted to take the opportunity to thank our supervisory staff for all that they do. They don’t get a lot of kudos or thanks. But once in a while we do get an email or phone call about all the great things that they do. This made us think, we need to thank them.” Mindy called each Director up and thanked them for the hard work:
- Carol Gigli – Finance Director
- Jana Sanders – Informatics Director
- Steve Schumm – Food and Consumers Protection Director
- Gary Chapple – Pollution Control Director
- Sarah Castillo – Vital Records Director
- Megan Tinkel – Communications Director
- Dave Fiess – Vector and Environmental Control

- Susie Cisney – Clinical Director of Nursing
- Erika Pitcher – Director of Community Health and Case Management
- Kathy Thornson - Director of HIV/STD Prevention

Mindy also presented Dr. McMahan with a certificate of appreciation for all of the support she gives to the department for staff recognition activities. Dr. McMahan encourages all efforts to help thank staff and build relationships by sponsoring parties, lunches and holiday celebrations and more. Mindy, “She doesn’t do this for the recognition – she genuinely wants to offer thanks to everyone. This is a heartfelt thank you for all of your support. We could not be more proud to say that you are our Health Commissioner.”

- Deb Lambert said she is so thankful that Mindy and Dr. McMahan took time to do this. Mary Hess, “I am always very grateful for your expertise.” Tim Pape commended Mindy for offering great leadership as well.

Adjournment: 6:40 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: January 22, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Health Commissioner

William Pond, MD
Board President