

Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health
Minutes of December 9, 2008 regular meeting

The Wheeling - Ohio County Board of Health met on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at the conference room of the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department (WOCHD).

Board members present were Chris Carder, Dr. John Holloway, Gloria Delbrugge, Cheryl Wonderly and Jim Swann. Others present included Dr. William Mercer, Health Officer/Secretary; Howard Gamble, Administrator WOCHD; Fred Conners, Wheeling Intelligencer; Nada Beneke, WOCHD Environmental; Beth Dowler, WOCHD-WIC Director; Wayland Harris, TP Director and two guest from the public (***no names were given***).

Dr. John Holloway called the meeting to order at 12:10pm, lunch was provided. Dr. Holloway opened the meeting with the Administrator's Report. Howard reported that the health departments in the region (Hancock, Brooke, Marshall, Wetzel/Tyler and WOCHD) have applied for a Radon Grant. The grant for \$12,000 will fund supplies for public radon testing (kits), media and incentives for the departments.

The Health Department's annual IAP immunization grant was reduced this year from \$12,500 to \$10,500. CDC at the federal level made the reductions to the State's contract. Howard updated the Board on the current Audit. The Audit is just about done for FY 07-08. The cost for this years Audit is \$20,440. This is a decrease from FY 06-07 which was \$21,350.

The Health Department will need to repay the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health for two grants that were over invoiced in FY 06-07. These are the TP and CIS grants. Total amount is \$43,268.58. The WVBPH as agreed to allow us to return these funds in installments through our 2008-2009 FY.

- The CIS Program (Grant # G070135) totals \$6,509.03.
- The TP Program (Grant # G070496) totals \$36,759.55.
- WOCHD alerted the WVBPH about these costs in April of 2008.

Howard asked the Board of approval to repay these grants on a monthly schedule. The motion was moved and approved.

The Board was updated on an unexpected IT costs that will affect the Health Department. The Health Department was informed by the Secretary's office that DHHR could no longer absorb the cost of Wide Area Network connectivity with local health departments. It was unexpected. This cost amounts to about \$350,000 per year for all local health departments. Estimates of cost per county were provided to some LHDs present at the last WVALHD meeting and a discussion was held on the services provided with those costs. The WVALHD voted unanimously to approve expenditure of about \$86,000 of the FY 2009 Emergency Funds to help reduce the burden for the 1st quarter of WAN

expenses. There is the understanding that these funds would be returned to local health if funding can be located elsewhere (grants, etc.). The WVPH created a subcommittee of 3 local health members (Bill Kearns, Mickey Plymale and Chad Bundy), 3 WVBPH members (Kay Shamblin, Mike Morris and Janet Richards) and Ed Dolly as an ad hoc member. This subcommittee was formed to seek funding sources and investigate strategies for future WAN connectivity between DHHR and local health departments. There will be a report from this committee to the WVPH and a report to the WVALHD. It is not something that any of us expected to occur. This is one of those instances where it became necessary to cut the budget in these unusually hard economic times. It is unfortunate, but we are going to try our best to deal with it and work it out.

Costs for the WOCHD:

County	Devices	Distributed Server Support	E-mail Support	Network Support	Desktop	Account Administration	Monthly Costs	Annual Costs
Ohio	18	\$45.39	\$90.00	\$128.34	\$318.78	\$43.56	\$626.07	\$7,512.84

Howard asked the Board for approval to close the Health Department on December 26th for the December Holidays. A motion was made and the request was approved by the Board.

The Health Department is participating in a HIV Testing Pilot Project through the Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health (WVBPH). This testing, from December 2008-May 31, 2009, is in addition to the STD clinic and routine testing. The goal of this project is to increase HIV testing through the family planning program. The department is supplied with oral HIV test kits from the OMCH. The FPP will reimburse the health department for follow up visits for confirmatory blood testing for any client with a positive oral HIV test. 18 clinics in WV will be participating and are looking to add two more sites within the next 1-2 weeks pending their approval. We hope to test 4000 clients. This is a great opportunity for the State because of the chance to offer women/men an HIV test in a Family Planning setting. This will enable the State to show the Federal authorities several things. One if it is feasible in a typical FP setting, the number of tests that can be performed and the positivity rate that comes from the testing. It may show that clinics are missing a population that truly needs to be tested, but not given the opportunity.

The Board was presented with the WOCHD Client Encounters or Nursing Hours for Core Functions and Expanded Services for the months of October and November, 2007 and 2008. Under Environmental updates, permits for Recreational Water, Child Care Centers and Mobile Home Parks were being sent out. These permits end December 31, 2008. Staff is working to send out renewal application to these businesses.

Threat Preparedness Director Wayland Harris presented to the Board an "Authorization To Order SNS Assets". This authorization will allow Dr. Mercer, Howard Gamble, Wayland Harris and Becky Beckett to order/request SNS assets for the WOCHD in the event of an emergency. The Board was asked to approve this authorization and have the Chair and Health Officer sign off on the authorization. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Beth Dowler updated the Board on several data figures for WIC services provided to residents in West Virginia and the Northern Panhandle. Presented were the monthly caseload numbers for October and November. Also presented were figures from the State WIC office on comparison numbers for WIC services throughout the State

Dr. Mercer gave the Health Officer's Report. Dr. Mercer reported on his recent trip to San Diego for the Annual American Public Health Association conference. The conference allows him to keep up on current national public health events as well as make contact with national public health leaders. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on Flu activity in the county. Currently the flu has not hit really Ohio County. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on the on going Syphilis outbreak in Ohio County. Currently there are 10 cases in the county. A grant application was submitted to Merck Pharmaceuticals to fund a study on Shingles in local long term care facilities in Ohio County, Dr. Mercer noted that we have not heard if the application was funded. Dr. Mercer updated the Board Clean Indoor Air and current smoking court cases.

Under New Business the Board was presented with Health Department bills and receipts. The October 2008 Purchase Journal, Cash Receipts and Payroll Register were presented and approved. The November 2008 Purchase Journal, Cash Receipts and Payroll Register were also presented and approved.

Following the Old Business report, the Board did not go into Executive session and the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY

William C. Mercer, M.D., Secretary

APPROVED BY

John Holloway, M.D., Chairman

DATE

January 27, 2009

DATE

January 27, 2009