

Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health

Minutes of March 8, 2011 regular meeting

The Wheeling - Ohio County Board of Health met on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 in the conference room of the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department (WOCHD or department).

Board members present were Dr. John Holloway, Gloria Delbrugge, Tom Tuttle and Cheryl Wonderly. Staff present included Dr. William Mercer, Health Officer/Secretary and Howard Gamble, Administrator of the WOCHD. Pam Wilson, Regional Tobacco Prevention Coordinator and members of the Ohio County Tobacco Control Coalition were also present. Ed McCord and other members of the Dallas United Methodist Church were present.

The minutes from the December 14, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board. Dr. Holloway recognized Pam Wilson who gave a short presentation on behalf of the Ohio County Tobacco Coalition. Pam discussed the recent "Ron White" show at the Capitol Music Hall and his smoking on stage. She also discussed the 2010 U.S. Surgeon General's Report on Tobacco & Smoking, "How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease". Dr. Holloway also recognized Ed McCord from the Dallas United Methodist Church who discussed permit fee for their food service permit. Another church member addressed the department's food school program. Dr. Holloway opened the meeting with the Health Officer's Report.

Dr. Mercer updated the Board on the recent cases of Norvirus that is currently going around the county. Dr. Mercer also discussed flu cases that are being reported in Ohio County and a concern about the "rapid test" which is used to detect the flu.

Howard Gamble presented the Administrator's Report. Howard updated the Board on the department's annual audit, which is being performed by Perry and Associates. The Audit is going slow, the department's financials were completed and they are planning a site visit this week to work on the audit.

Howard discussed several new staff which has been added to the department and asked for Board approval for these positions. Howard presented the Board with an updated organizational chart. The health department hired Somu Chatterjee as the regional epidemiologist. Somu is a graduate of WVU School of Medicine, Masters of Public Health. He is also a graduate of Tirunelveli Medical College in Tamil Nadu India. Somu officially started February 1, 2011. The department hired Garen Rhome as a Sanitarian. In late December Chuck Fisher presented his resignation to the department and official left the department in January. Garen was hired in February and officially began his service March 1, 2011. Garen is a graduate of WLU and currently resides in St. Clairsville, Ohio. The department hired nine temporary WIC staff. The staff was hired with additional funding from the State WIC program for outreach in our area. The staff includes:

- W/T Office: Regina Reynolds and Celia A Stillwagoner
- Marshall Office: Jodi Moore and Tabatha Tubaugh

- Ohio County Office: Lisa Spielvogel, Amber Klug and Regina R Demasi
- Brooke Office: Lara Bailie
- Hancock Office: Misty Clark

The Tuberculosis Association of Ohio County and the Wheeling Area CME Consortium will host the James T. McClure Respiratory Symposium on March 23, 2011. This year's event will focus on current respiratory health issues and will be held at the White Palace Ballroom at Wheeling Park. Three speakers are on the agenda for the symposium. Alan Ducatman, MD, MSc, Chair of the Department of Community Medicine at West Virginia University School of Medicine; Krishna Urval, MD, Clinical Associate Professor in Pediatrics, Allergy/Immunology at WVU SOM; and Robert Altmeyer, MD, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at WVU SOM. The symposium has been approved for continuing education/medical hours.

The department has been notified by the West Virginia Consolidated Public Retirement Board that effective July 1, 2011 employer contribution rates will increase from 12.5% to 14.5%. Current costs for retirement are around \$83,448. The increase would result in a contribution of about \$96,808, which is a \$13,252 increase.

The department was notified of a possible delay in funding from the State of West Virginia for our State Aid. Over the past several years, quarterly payments have usually been paid around the first week of April. This would assist with the first payroll of the month and other expenses. We will monitor the VISTA system to see when our payment will be arriving.

Last week was the deadline for bills to move out of either chamber to be considered for passage. Several bills did not make it out. Two of these included:

- HB 2998 Medical/non-medical exemptions from mandatory vaccines for school children.
- HB 2386 Appointing authority must approve local Health Board rules on tobacco use.

SB 488 Revising HIV testing statute to conform with most recent recommendations from CDC is currently active. Under legislation approved by the House Health Committee and forwarded to the Judiciary Committee, HIV testing becomes a routine part of medical care and is incorporated into the general consent for medical care. Patients may opt out. The change would bring West Virginia into conformity with recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HB 3075 increasing the time period in the hold-harmless provision when distributing state aid to local health departments is also still active.

The department recently conducted inspections of business in Ohio County and found four in violation of the CIA regulation. All four businesses were taken to Magistrate court and had a hearing before a magistrate. Each plead guilty and was fined. The business included: The Warwood Club, Down on Main Street, Wayne's World and Chuck Os.

Howard updated the Board on two health alerts that have involved the department. The department has been active in a national recall of Triad alcohol prep pads that were recalled

due to reports of contamination with *Bacillus cereus*, usually found in food outbreaks. The State Health Department issued a Health Alert on March 4th concerning Herpes simplex virus (Herpes Gladiatorum) being confirmed in 5+ members of a high school wrestling team. The department notified local schools.

As part of a regional grant the department will be participating with the other county health departments in the Northern Panhandle in a Pandemic Flu Forum/Summit on April 29th at Oglebay. BCHD is heading up this special event. The department is also participating in two additional grants. One of the grants is the Northern Panhandle Public Health Emergency Preparedness Region PHEP Supplemental Grant. This is a \$47,473 grant which runs from January 15, 2011 thru August 9, 2011. Funds will be administered through the WOCHD. The other grant is the Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) Extension Grant. This is a \$211,679 grant which runs from October 1, 2010 - July 31, 2011. WOCHD will use \$40,335 for county related programs. Funds will be administered through MCHD. One issue with both of these grants is the funds have not been released nor have the contracts been provided for the grants. Both have already started and both have objectives and activities that can not be done, due to lack of funds or contract. The department does not anticipate receiving a contract, which would, allow us to invoice for funding, until May, 2011. The department also received a \$5,000 grant from NACCHO for Medical Reserve Corp programming.

The Board was presented with the December, January and February Client Encounters or Nursing Hours report.

The department entered into an agreement with A1Cleaning of Wheeling to provide cleaning services to our 5 WIC locations. This is an 8 month contract at a rate of \$135 per office per month. A formal bid process was conducted for this service. Only two businesses responded to the bid. A-1 was the lowest bidder. The department would like Board approval to enter into this contract for services. Howard also updated the Board on the current WIC level of funding which is at \$928,226.

The Board approved both requests from the administrator.

The administrator presented to the Board a proposal of changes to the current Clean Indoor Air Regulation. Board members were presented with a copy of the proposal of changes. One of the reasons for bring this to the Board is need to make some corrections to the current regulation. Currently the Bingo reference has a mistake. There are also some outdated references in the regulation, including Personal Care Homes. There is also a need to address two new issues with the regulation; E-Cigs and Footage requirements. The proposal of changes also includes some enhanced changes, including public outdoor venues, enhanced clarification of definitions, and increasing the coverage of the rule. The administrator discussed the process of introducing the proposal of changes and asked the Board to place the proposal of changes under Old Business for the next regular meeting of the Board for future discussion.

The Board was presented with a department Financial Report. The financial report included the

department's current Aged Receivables and January and Year-to-Date financials. The financial statements were presented to the Board.

Following the New/Old Business report, the Board adjourn into Executive session. No action followed the executive session and the Board adjourned back into the meeting. The Board set the next regular meeting for Tuesday May 10, 2011 at 12:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY

William C. Mercer, MD, Health Officer
May 10, 2011

APPROVED BY

John Holloway, MD, Board Chairman
May 10, 2011