

**Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health**  
Minutes of July 13, 2010 regular meeting

The Wheeling - Ohio County Board of Health met on Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at the conference room of the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department (WOCHD).

Board members present were Dr. John Holloway, Wilkes Kinney, Gloria Delbrugge, and Cheryl Wonderly. Others present included former Board of Health member Christine Carder; Dr. William Mercer, Health Officer/Secretary; Howard Gamble, Administrator WOCHD; representative of Wheeling News Register and Patty Fahey, Ohio County Clerk.

Prior to the meeting being called to order Dr. John Holloway was sworn in as a re-appointed Board of Health member by Patty Fahey, Ohio County Clerk. The meeting was then called to order and Dr. Holloway was elected board chairman by the members of the Board of Health for FY 2010-2011.

Dr. Holloway then recognized Chris Carder for her service to the Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health. She was presented with a small plaque. Mrs. Carder served on the Board of Health from 2004 to 2010. The minutes from the May 25, 2010 meeting were approved by the Board.

Dr. Holloway opened the meeting with the Health Officer's Report. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on a recent local meningitis case as well as several other diseases that have been occurring in our area. Dr. Mercer reminded the Board that he and Howard Gamble will be attending the Local Health Officers Summit in Charleston late this month. A discussion on Clean Indoor Air was then conducted by all members of the Board of Health.

Howard Gamble presented the Administrator's Report. A new and updated Immunization sliding fee schedule was presented to the Board of Health for review and approval. The new schedule replaces an older version that had been in use for several years. The schedule is primarily used for immunizations and PPDs. The schedule does not apply to annual flu shots or travel vaccinations. The Administrator asked for Board approval for the new sliding fee schedule. The Board approved the new schedule.

Our annual contract for the Regional Epidemiology program was increased this year from \$65,000 to \$75,000. This increase allows us to provide a salary increase to the regional epidemiologist. The Administrator requested approval to increase the salary rate of Michael Makowski from \$38,508 to \$40,433. This increase will be effective the first pay in July 2010. The increase represents a 5% increase and will need to be approved by the Division of Personnel as well. The Board approved the request.

On 6/30/10 WV Governor Joe Manchin proclaimed Friday, July 2, as a special day of observance in honor of U.S. Sen. Robert C. Byrd and gave state employees the official

day off. Later that day the WV Division of Personnel ruled that this day should be handled in accordance with Section 14.1 of the Administrative Rule. Since the WOCHD is a participating DOP agency the department followed this observance and the offices were closed on Friday. Staff at both WIC and health department made the necessary arrangements concerning clinics and patients to notify them of this closure.

The Board of Health was presented with a revised position statement on Clean Indoor Air Regulations in West Virginia. The policy statement now reflects the findings of the Institute of Medicine; October 2009 Report Brief on Secondhand Smoke and its Cardiovascular Effects, which states "Smoking bans can have a substantial impact on public health. The savings, as measured in human lives, is undeniable."

Effective 7/30/10 H1N1 vaccine supply distributions will end. The department still has a supply of vaccine and is used mostly for international travel. Some of the vaccine at the department is current until 2011.

The health department has been monitoring the recent Pertussis case increases that have occurred in several western states. A public health advisory was recently sent out to the department's medical providers and cases are beginning to appear in our area. One reason for the increase in cases of whooping cough maybe low vaccination coverage especially among adolescents and adults. As of June 15, the California Department of Public Health had confirmed 910 cases in the state in 2010 and another 600 were under investigation. Case counts were about quadruple what had been seen in 2009, the department indicated, prompting its director to declare an epidemic. A smaller total has been reported to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, according to this week's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. It listed 633 cases as of July 3, but that is still nearly triple the 233 seen in California at the same time in last year

The Board was presented with the Monthly Report for client encounters/nursing hours for May 2009-2010 and June 2009-2010.

In mid June the health department's West Nile surveillance program detected positive mosquitoes carrying the West Nile virus. The finding is part of the department's annual West Nile Surveillance Program.

The Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department will host a Bed Bug Symposium on August 4, 2010. The program will be targeted to owners, operators, managers of apartment complexes, high rises, multi unit apartment complexes, colleges, medical facilities, hotel/motels and other places where bed bugs can become a problem. The program will also be open to the general public. Topics for the program will include a presentation from the health department, medical information, information on the nature of bed bugs and current control measures. More details will be released in a few days.

February, March and April WIC Client Figures were presented to the Board. Caseload continues to increase.

The Board was presented with a Health Department Financial Report. The financial report included current and year to day "Income Statement" for June 30, 2010. The Board was also presented with the department's bill payment list for the end of May and June 2010.

Following the New/Old Business report, the Board adjourned into Executive session. Board member Kinney was excused from the Board of Health meeting to meet a previous meeting obligation. Following the executive session the Board moved back in to the regular meeting. No action was taken as a result of the executive meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday August 10, 2010 at 12:00 p.m.

**SUBMITTED BY**

William C. Mercer, MD, Health Officer  
August 10, 2010

**APPROVED BY**

John Holloway, MD, Board Chairman  
August 10, 2010