

Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health

Minutes of September 9, 2008 meeting

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

Board members present were Chris Carder, Gloria Delbrugge, Dr. John Holloway and Debbie Wilcox, Others present included Dr. William Mercer, Health Officer/Secretary; Howard Gamble, Administrator WOCHD; Shelly Hanson, Wheeling Intelligencer; Becky Beckett, WOCHD Nursing Director; Nada Beneke, Sanitarian Supervisor; Sandy Duvall, Regional CIS; Mike Makowski, Regional Epidemiologist; and Beth Dowler, WOCHD-WIC Director.

Dr. John Holloway called the meeting to order at 12:00pm, lunch was provided. The minutes of the July 2008 meeting were approved by the Board.

Dr. Holloway opened the meeting with the Health Officer's Report. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on the recent Syphilis cases that are occurring in the Ohio County and the United States. Year to date the county has seen 8 cases that are under investigation by the Health Department. Dr. Mercer also discussed several other infectious diseases, noting that there is no link due to the limited number of cases. Dr. Mercer did not have any new information on the pending court hearing concerning the "Trop" on Wheeling Island. Dr. Mercer noted that on September 11, 2008 Pennsylvanian will go smoke free. New Jersey is smoke free and their casinos will have a smoking regulation in October. Philadelphia and Allegany County, PA want to make stronger rules concerning smoking.

Howard Gamble gave the Administrator's Report. The Board was presented with the health department's new website. The website is complete, www.ohiocountyhealth.com, and is functioning very well. The department has set their 2008 Flu Shot clinics. The department will begin these clinics on September 29, 2008. Shots will be offered from 9-11am and again from 1-3pm on Mondays and Tuesdays. Ohio County residents should call the health department for an appointment.

The administrator has made several written request to the Ohio County Commission. These include some minor painting repairs in the environmental and clinic rooms. A request was also made to put our second vaccine refrigerator on their back up generator.

Sandy Duvall updated the Board of the upcoming Breast Cancer Awareness month activities. The annual wreath hanging ceremony will be October 6th at 10am at the City/County building. The annual Walk for Women will be October 12th at the Howard Long Wellness Center.

The Board was updated on recent open staff position at the health department. The Threat Preparedness Director (Health and Human Resources Associate) is to replace Pat Vargo. No updates or interview lists from the WV Division of Personnel were available for the health departments at this time.

Michael Makowski, MPH was introduced as the new Regional Epidemiologist for the northern panhandle. Mike gave a short introduction of himself. This position was moved from the Wetzel/Tyler County Health Department to the WOCHD. The position serves the northern panhandle of WV. This position is responsible for communicable disease investigation and control for the local health departments of Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, and Tyler and at a regional level. Provides consultation, training and other assistance to local health department staff involved in communicable disease investigation and control. Provides and serves as an educational resource to public health professionals, the medical community, government officials, and members of the public. Serves as a liaison between the state infectious disease epidemiology program and local health departments. Contributes toward the statewide objectives for epidemiology and laboratory capacity cooperative agreement with CDC.

The July and August 2007/2008 Investigations & Client Encounters Report was presented to Board members by Becky Beckett. Beth Dowler presented to the Board the June and July WIC Case load report as well as an overall review of case load from 2008 and 2007. She noted the major changes in case load for individual counties in our service area.

Under New Business the Board was presented with Health Department bills and receipts. July and August 2008 Bills/Disbursements were presented and approved. July, August and September 2008 Receipts were also presented and approved.

Under Old Business the Board asked to hold off on approving the WOCHD policy and procedure manual. The manual will need Board approval. The Board requested that the manual be sent again to members for review.

Following the Old Business report, Board of Health Chairman Holloway presented a plaque to Debbie Wilcox for her 10 years of service to the Board of Health. Debbie thanked the Board and presented a letter of resignation from the Board of Health.

The Board adjourned the meeting and went into executive session. The Board returned from executive session and approved two motions, accept the resignation of Debbie Wilcox from the Board of Health and approved the recommendation of Cheryl Wonderly as a new Board of Health member to fill the

unexpired term of Debbie Wilcox. A letter of recommendation from the Board of health will be forwarded to the Ohio County Commission for their approval on this new Board of Health member. With no further business the Board meeting adjourned. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at 12:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY

William C. Mercer, M.D., Secretary

October 21, 2008

DATE

APPROVED BY

John Holloway, M.D., Chairman

October 21, 2008

DATE