

Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health

Minutes of January 13, 2015 regular meeting

The Wheeling - Ohio County Board of Health met on January 13, 2015 in the Wheeling City Council room in the City/County Building.

Board members present were Dr. John Holloway, Tom Tuttle, Wilkes Kinney, Gloria Delbrugge, Cheryl Wonderly and Michael Caruso. Staff present included Dr. William Mercer, Health Officer/Secretary and Howard Gamble, Administrator of the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department (WOCHD or department), several members of the public, and a representative from the Wheeling News Register.

The meeting was called to order. The minutes from the November 25, 2014 were mailed to members prior to the meeting for review. Minutes were reviewed and accepted by the Board.

Board Chairman, Dr. Holloway, gave a brief update report on the Clean Indoor Air Regulation Sub Committee. Minutes from the December 2, 2014 WOCBOH-CIA Committee meeting were distributed to Board members and approved. Dr. Holloway also gave a short update on discussions he has had with members of the West Virginia Legislative delegation concerning school required immunizations.

The administrator presented to the Board a draft resolution and policy statement on West Virginia School immunization requirements. The documents were tabled until the Board could hold a special meeting the following week.

Dr. Mercer gave his Health Officer's report. An update was given on flu cases and limited cases of Norovirus in and around Ohio County. The Flu has begun to affect long term care facilities in the county. Dr. Mercer also spoke on updates concerning Ebola planning.

Howard Gamble presented the administrators report. The health department was notified by the WV TB Program that effective January 1, 2015 there are changes to the TB testing criteria and the reduction in TB services and supplies. In short the department will not be able to do TB testing of new Board of Education employees or new out of state transfers. The state law regarding this testing is still in effect, however the funding to support the testing has been cut.

The WV Bureau for Public Health named Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, FACP as Commissioner and State Health Officer starting January 1, 2015. Dr. Gupta was previously the health officer for the Kanawha Charleston Health Department.

The WV Family Planning Program is planning to launch a large statewide billing project which will benefit local health departments that currently do not bill insurance programs for Family Planning services. This project will eventually provide the health department will a billing system that would allow the department to bill insurances and Medicaid. It is anticipated that

this program could also be used for our other medical programs, thus providing the department with a universal billing system for all clinical programs.

The WIC program would like to hire a replacement staff for our Paden City WIC office. The position would be a Health and Human Service Aide and replace a staff member who resigned in September of 2014. The position would be civil service, between 60-100% effort and eligible for full department benefits. The position is under the WIC funding contract. The position was approved by the Board.

The West Virginia State Auditor's Office has notified the health department that the annual audit will begin on February 9, 2015. The audit must be completed by the end of March to meet our federal financial requirements. Perry and Associates in Parkersburg is currently working on our financial compilation for the annual audit. We were notified that the estimated cost for the audit would be \$12,000 to \$15,000. Our costs over the last couple of years have been about \$6,000. The State Auditor's office was contacted and a lower rate was agreed upon at \$8,500.

In New Business the administrator discussed the Financial Report. The Board was presented, prior to the meeting, the November & December bills and payroll, Aged Receivables and Year to Date financials. The report was approved.

The Board then set the next regular meeting for March 10, 2015 and the Special immunization meeting on January 20, 2015. The Board then adjourned.

SUBMITTED BY

William C. Mercer, MD, Health Officer
March 10, 2015

APPROVED BY

John Holloway, MD, Board Chairman
March 10, 2015