

Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health

Minutes of January 12, 2016 regular meeting

The Wheeling - Ohio County Board of Health met on January 12, 2016 in Wheeling City Council Chambers in the City/County Building.

Board members present were Dr. John Holloway, Tom Tuttle, Wilkes Kinney, Gloria Delbrugge 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).

The meeting was called to order. The minutes from the November 10, 2015 (Regular Board of Health meeting) were mailed to members prior to the meeting for review. Minutes were reviewed and accepted by the Board.

At the beginning of the meeting the Board was asked to officially sign the new Clean Indoor Air Regulation and the Needle Exchange Program Regulation. Tammy Bonar from the County Commission was present to notarize the signatures. Board members that were not present were asked to come in on Friday to sign before the notary. The regulations will then be filed with the County Clerk's Office.

Board Chairman, Dr. Holloway gave a short statement concerning the Ohio County Clean Indoor Air Regulation and the current issues facing the similar regulation in Brooke County. Dr. Holloway urged the Brooke County Board of Health not to change their regulation. The Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health will be looking at their regulation again to see if there is a need to make necessary changes.

Dr. Mercer gave his Health Officer's report. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on an upcoming state Health Officer's Summit on April 8-9 in Charleston. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on the recent Middle Creek School Joe Too Cool Too Smoke program, which involved over 350 kids. The program is looking at another program in the spring at Ritchie Elementary School. A financial request of \$1000 was approved by the Board from the Health Department the next program. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on the Health Department Homeless Outreach program, the winter freeze program and the naloxone project with different organizations.

Howard Gamble presented the administrators report. The Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department announced late last week that a wild raccoon has tested positive for rabies. The raccoon was found in the Elm Terrace area of Wheeling, along Fernwood Ave on January 4, 2016. The raccoon died on January 4, 2016 and tested positive for rabies on January 6, 2016. This is the first laboratory confirmed animal rabies case in Ohio County for 2016.

The administrator presented to the Board the organization chart for the health department. The organizational chart needs to be reviewed and approved by the Board as specified by the State Health Department and state rules for local health departments. Following the November

Board meeting, the Board suggested a minor change to the organization chart and asked that it be reviewed at the January 2016 meeting. APPROVAL

Board members were presented with a copy of press release from the US Department of HUD concerning public housing going smoke free. The administrator has been in contact with our local housing authority to discuss working together on this future issue.

The Board was presented, with a request to approve, the 2016 mileage rates for the department. The new rate, \$.54, will be effective January 2016 and is based on the IRS mileage rates. The Board approved the request.

The Administrator updated the Board that the 2016 West Virginia Legislative session will begin on Wednesday, January 12, 2016. Public Health groups in West Virginia are expecting several bills to be introduced that could impact public health. The Board was presented with a drafted bill, which was provided to the Administrator concerning rule making powers of the State Health Commissioner, needle exchange and billing.

In New Business the Board was presented, prior to the meeting, a financial packet that contained the November & December bills and payroll, Aged Receivables and Year to Date financials. The administrator stressed the concern of the outstanding receivables for WIC payments from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. The report was approved.

The Administrator informed the Board that financial requests for FY 2016-2017 have been sent to the County and City for consideration. No major changes were made with the request.

The Board did not go into executive session. The Board set the next regular meeting for March 8, 2016. The Board adjourned.

SUBMITTED BY

William C. Mercer, MD, Health Officer
March 8, 2016

APPROVED BY

John Holloway, MD, Board Chairman
March 8, 2016