

Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health

Minutes of January 8, 2019 regular meeting

The Wheeling - Ohio County Board of Health met on January 8, 2019 at 1:00pm in the City/County Building, City Council Chambers, Wheeling West Virginia.

Board members present were Tom Tuttle, John Holloway, MD, Terry Sterling, Laura Chapman. Board member Chad Thalman notified staff that he would not be able to attend the Board meeting due to a meeting conflict with the City of Wheeling. Staff present included Dr. William Mercer, Health Officer/Secretary and Howard Gamble, Administrator of the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department (WOCHD or department). Others present were the media.

The meeting was called to order. Minutes from the November 13, 2018 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting in the Board members meeting packets. Minutes were approved.

Board of Health Chairman Dr. John Holloway gave a short update to the Board on the resignation of Board of Health member Christian Turak. Mr. Turak recently moved out of the county and therefore is not eligible to serve on the Board of Health. A new Board member will be requested from the original appointing governing body.

Dr. Mercer gave the Health Officer's Report. Dr. Mercer discussed recent updates and activities with Project HOPE, the department's on going Snoopy/Joe Too Cool To Smoke Program and the Wheeling Nailers. Dr. Mercer also discussed a national program he is involved with concerning recommendations for healthcare worker flu vaccinations.

The administrator's report was given by Howard Gamble. The Administrator asked that Dr. Holloway sign the pending MOU with Marshall County Board of Health for administrative services.

The administrator presented to the Board for approval the 2019 mileage reimbursement rate. The IRS in December 2018 issued new standard mileage rates. The rate is \$.58 cents for every mile of business travel, up 3 cents (\$.545) from the 2018 rate. The Administrator asked for Board approval. The Board approved the rate.

The administrator gave an update on the State and National Hepatitis Outbreak. As of December 21, 2018, there are 2137 cases in West Virginia. This includes 12 associated deaths. In response the health department, along with other health departments in West Virginia, have set up Hepatitis A vaccination clinics for at risk individuals. Currently the department is vaccinating the homeless population through Project HOPE, First Responders and High-Risk Individuals. The department has also held several food service vaccination clinics (at the request of the establishment). The department will be vaccinating other "at risk" groups in the coming weeks.

The 2019 Legislative session starts January 9th and will end March 9th. The administrator will keep the Board updated on any potential legislation that could impact public health.

The department was awarded a special grant from Kaleo Pharmaceutical Company. The department was awarded 200 EVZIO Naloxone Auto Injectors, 2mg. The department will incorporate the lifesaving Narcan into the community Narcan education program. The department currently dispenses 2mg nasal Narcan and 4mg nasal Narcan to the community, EMS and other providers.

The Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department is now providing free prescription drug disposal kits as part of the department's harm reduction program. The health department is providing free prescription drug disposal kits to any individual that has leftover medication that they are currently not using anymore. These kits were provided by the Community IMPACT Coalition. The Detera Drug Deactivation System kits use Molecular Adsorption Technology (MAT12) to deactivate unwanted drugs. The kits will work with pills, patches or liquid drugs. The kits have simple instructions and can be disposed in an individual's normal household trash. Kits can be obtained at the health department from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday thru Friday.

The health department and the Wheeling-Ohio County Emergency Management Agency received a \$16,749.40 grant from the Fitzsimmons Foundation for the purchase of "Stop the Bleed" kits. The grant will allow the EMA and health department to purchase 30 kits that will be placed in 18 schools throughout the county. Kits will also be placed in several buildings that are community gathering centers/areas, including Wheeling Island Stadium, Linsly Field House, WLU, WJU, WVNCC and the Capital Music Hall.

In Unfinished Business the administrator asked to Board to re-affirm Board approval in regards to the December 11th e-mail request for:

- The first item is for the purchase of "Stop the Bleed" kits for area schools and facilities (list attached). This purchase is made possible from a grant from the Fitzsimmons Foundation in the amount of \$16,749.40 (letter attached). The department's purchasing policy requires Board of Health approval for items above \$5,000.00. Bid quotes for this purchase were provided in the December 2018 e-mail. These are unique kits and we have a limited pool of suppliers. The Board Approved the purchase.
- The second item is for the approval to close the health department and our WIC offices on December 26, 2018. This request is in response to a state holiday proclamation for December 5, 2018 in honor of former President George Bush. The proclamation for the state holiday was late in the day on 12/4/18 and we were not able to cancel clinics and reschedule patients and inspections. As a result, the administrator decided to remain open before the offices closed for business on Tuesday. This was an official state holiday, so the department will need to make this up, therefore the administrator proposed to close offices on December 26th. The holiday schedule and WV Governor proclamations were provided to the Board. The Board approved the request.

- December 24 – Closed (regular ½ day state holiday & ½ day per WV Governor Proclamation and BOH approval)
- December 25 – Closed (regular full day state holiday)
- December 26 – Closed (Board of Health approved December 5th state holiday make up)
- December 31 – Closed (regular ½ day state holiday & ½ day per WV Governor Proclamation and BOH approval)
- January 1, 2019 – Closed (regular full day state holiday)

In New Business, prior to the Board of Health meeting, members were presented with the November & December financials including Bills, Payroll, Aged Receivables and Year to Date Financials. The Board reviewed and approved the financial report.

The Board did not go into executive session. The Board set the next regular meeting for March 12, 2019 at 12noon. The Board adjourned.

SUBMITTED BY

William C. Mercer, MD, Health Officer
March 12, 2019

APPROVED BY

John D Holloway, MD, Board Chairman
March 12, 2019