

**Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health**  
Minutes of September 15, 2015 regular meeting

The Wheeling - Ohio County Board of Health met on September 15, 2015 in the Ohio County Commission room in the City/County Building.

Board members present were Dr. John Holloway, Tom Tuttle, Wilkes Kinney, Cheryl Wonderly, 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), and several members of the public and media were in attendance.

Prior to the start of the meeting the Board held an election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Health. Dr. Holloway was re-elected Chair and Gloria Delbrugge was elected Vice Chair.

The meeting was called to order. The minutes from the July 21, 2015 (Regular Board of Health meeting) and July 21, 2015 (CIA Sub Committee meeting) were mailed to members prior to the meeting for review. Minutes were reviewed and accepted by the Board.

Board Chairman, Dr. Holloway did not have a report. Dr. Holloway recognized Osi Imomoh, President and General Manger of Wheeling Island Hotel, Casino, and Racetrack who made a brief statement to the Board. Mr. Imomoh's comments included discussion of the decline in revenue at Mountaineer Casino since the Hancock County Clean Indoor Air Regulation when into effect and the decrease in revenue to the state of West Virginia. He also gave a short update on the status of the Wheeling facility. Dr. Holloway thanked him for his presentation.

Dr. Mercer gave his Health Officer's report. Dr. Mercer updated the Board on the Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless and his involvement in the homeless healthcare outreach that he participates in every other Tuesday. He invited other Board members to participate.

Howard Gamble presented the administrators report. A brief update and presentation was given to Board members on the recent Ohio River Algae issue.

The Administrator provided members of the Board with maps and a graph with the latest Clean Indoor Air regulation data, which was provided by the WV Division of Tobacco Prevention. On 9/10/15 the Hampshire County Board of Health unanimously approved a smoke free regulation that eliminates indoor smoking in all enclosed work and public places. They become the 31st WV county to adopt a comprehensive regulation. The regulation also prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes. The regulation takes effect January 1, 2016.

The Administrator updated the Board on several upcoming events in which Board members may want to attend, these include:

- The West Virginia Public Health Association meeting on September 23-25 at Oglebay. Information about this meeting was sent to member in your pre meeting packet.
- A Proposed “Lunch and Learn” with WV Legislative/Legislators scheduled for Wheeling, hosted by WVALHDs, September 29th
- The WVBPH will host a Local Health Department Lunch and Learn Webinar September 16. The topic of this program is West Virginia Basic Public Health Performance Standards.

The administrator presented the seasonal flu vaccination resolution to the Board. The resolution strongly recommends the annual influenza vaccination for all HCWs to prevent transmission of influenza; and encourages all healthcare organizations to adopt policies that require annual seasonal influenza for employees and appropriate exemptions for those not eligible for vaccination. The Board approved the resolution and was signed by each member.

In New Business the administrator reviewed the Wheeling Ohio County Needle Exchange Program. In early September Cabell County launched the first public health NEP program and saw 15 attendees. Other areas and agencies in WV are now looking at starting a local NEP. The Administrator asked for the Board to give approval for the WOCHD program and to discuss the NEP Regulation which was presented during the July 2015 meeting. The NEP Regulation was approved by the Board.

The Board was presented, prior to the meeting, a financial packet that contained the July and August 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.

On September 4, 2015 the health department was notified by the WV Auditor’s Office that the department was to procure an outside auditor for fiscal years 2015 and 2016 annual audit. The Board will need to appoint or reappoint the Audit Committee for future work on review and scoring for the annual audit. The Administrator requests a short Audit Committee following today’s Board meeting. The Board reappointed the audit committee consisting of Cheryl Wonderly, Tom Tuttle and Howard Gamble.

In Old Business the Chair and Board discussed the tabled Clean Indoor Air Regulation from 2011. The Chair gave an overview of the yearlong meetings with the Clean Indoor Air subcommittee. A recommendation was made to the Board to bring the regulation off the table and set a meeting for further discussion on the regulation. The motion was approved by the Board and a meeting was set for September 29, 2015 at noon for a meeting to discuss the regulation.

The Board did go into executive session to discuss a legal issue. The Board set the next regular meeting for November 10, 2015 and a special meeting for September 29, 2015. The Board adjourned.

**SUBMITTED BY**

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

**APPROVED BY**

John Holloway, MD, Board Chairman  
November 10, 2015