

# Calhoun County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

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March 24, 2014

## **Board of Health**

Nancy Mullett, Vice Chairperson  
Mary Jo Byrne  
Amy Davis  
Kathy-Sue Dunn, County Commissioner  
Ronnie Sims

## **Health Department**

Deb Metzgar  
James Rutherford, Health Officer

## **Other**

Rick Hensley, City of Battle Creek  
Kay VanderVaart, CareHere

## **County Administration**

Kelli Scott  
Kim Archambault

## **Absent**

Dr. Mahesh Karamchandani, Chairperson  
Rick Tsoumas

## **Meeting called to order**

Mullett called the meeting to order at 8:03 am.

## **Consent Agenda**

Davis motioned for approval of the consent agenda, Dunn seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

## **Agenda**

Dunn motioned for agenda approval. Sims seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

## **Public Comment**

No public comment

## **Presentation**

Archambault introduced Kay VanderVaart who gave a presentation on the CareHere Health & Wellness Center. The presentation included:

- An overview of the center and the services they provide
- Patient Centered Medical Home model
- Provider Driven Wellness & Care Management (coaches and disease management)

Discussion occurred regarding the possible negative implications of an employee using the center as their primary care physician and then being sent to the same location for a drug test.

Concerns were aired regarding the center taking business away from local providers. It was noted that many patients who choose to use the center as their primary care provider do not

currently have one, have not seen one in 10 years, or currently go to urgent care because they have trouble getting appointments with their primary care provider. The center can also be used to fill gaps in services that local providers cannot provide, such as wellness coaching and chronic condition management.

The employee feedback received to date has been very positive. As of last week, the clinic was being used 61% of the time, which is higher than the average expected utilization when a new center is opened. The goal is 75% utilization.

The savings the County realizes when employees utilize the CareHere Health & Wellness Center was discussed. The County has fixed costs to the City of Battle Creek and CareHere, but savings are realized when they pay CareHere instead of paying Blue Cross Blue Shield. CareHere has minimal overhead costs compared to a traditional doctor's office and is a streamlined model. The hope is that future claims will also go down for chronic conditions because people will start managing their diseases.

Discussion occurred regarding how CareHere can work with local providers. It was suggested that CareHere must reach out to local providers and create open lines of communication to continue working together for the patient's value.

### **Health Officer Report**

Rutherford discussed the following items from the Health Officer Report:

- Accreditation – Accreditation is going well. Rutherford will have a more comprehensive report for the BOH after accreditation is finished.
- The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) block grant was approved.
- Albion Access to Care Initiative meetings are continuing. The Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) will be assisting with this process.

### **Board Vacancy**

Tsoumas had expressed several months ago a desire to resign from the board before his term expiration in December 2014. Dunn will serve as the selection committee chair. Byrne and Sims will also serve on the committee. Metzgar will send out a meeting wizard to ascertain everyone's availability and schedule the applicant interview.

### **By-Laws**

Please review the By-laws. Bring comments, questions, and suggestions for changes to next month's meeting.

### **Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.**

For a copy of the presentation or the Health Officer report, please contact Deb Metzgar at 269-969-6463 or via email at [dmetzgar@calhouncountymi.gov](mailto:dmetzgar@calhouncountymi.gov)