

CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

190 East Michigan Avenue, Suite A100, Battle Creek, MI 49014

Date: May 19, 2003

PRESENT

Board of Health

Larry Anderson, Chairperson
Jean Cook-Hughes, Vice Chairperson
Byron McDonald
Ben Miller, County Commissioner
Dr. Jeffrey R. Mitchell

Health Department

Heidi Oberlin, Health Officer
Kathy Ferguson, Finance Officer
Ted Havens, Environmental Health
Brigette Reichenbaugh, Administrative Assistant

Calhoun County

Greg Purcell, County Administrator
Jim Latham, County Finance Director

I. Larry Anderson called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. in the Public Health Department conference room, George W. Toeller Building, 190 E. Michigan Avenue, Battle Creek, Michigan.

II. Larry Anderson moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Ben Miller. Approved unanimously.

III. Public Comment – None.

IV. Consent Agenda:

Moved to accept by Larry Anderson, seconded by Jeffrey Mitchell. Approved unanimously.

V. Resolutions

- Resolution 14-2003 Approval of Agreement Amendment No. 3 with Battle Creek Community Foundation for the Minority Health Partnership.

Heidi explained that this is simply an extension of the agreement due to an oversight by the Battle Creek Community Foundation of allocated state funds. Jeffrey Mitchell asked if the Calhoun County Board of Health has any responsibilities. As an advisor of the Minority Health Partnership, Heidi has a responsibility to be the liaison with the Calhoun County Board of Health. Larry

recommended that Priscilla Barnes update the Calhoun County Board on the Minority Health Partnership program.

Larry Anderson moved to accept; seconded by Jean Cook-Hughes. Approved unanimously.

- Resolution 15-2003 Approval of the recommendation that the Board of Health formally approve Amendment No. 2 with the Michigan Department of Community Health for the period October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003.

The amended contract incorporates the original contract with the Michigan Department of Community Health. Amendment reflects extra funding for our Bioterrorism Emergency Preparedness (\$7,422) and a reduction for MIHAS funding (\$64,456) (previously informed of). Revised Calhoun County Department of Public Health budget will be presented next month to the Calhoun County Board of Health and the Board of Commissioners.

Ben Miller moved to accept; seconded by Jeffrey Mitchell. Approved unanimously.

- Resolution 16 Approval of the amended contract with Burnham Brook for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2002 and ending September 30, 2003.

Due to a 2.7% budget cut, Burnham Brook has passed their cut onto us, however extended the contract from six months to one year.

Jeffrey Mitchell moved to approve; Ben Miller seconded. Approved unanimously.

- Resolution 17 Approval of the amended contract with Calhoun Intermediate School District (CISD) for Network for Young Children Nursing Services, effective May 1, 2003 and ending September 30, 2003.

Heidi summarized the resolution and the program and explained that the nursing component is not a mandatory piece of the contract. The resolution involved decreasing the staff in order to carry forward funds for a similar program proposed by the Governor that would begin October 1, 2003. However, this program beginning October 1, 2003 has not been finalized.

Byron McDonald had several questions regarding contract results. Number of referrals, service area, actual number served, etc. Health Department staff will gather and provide evaluation data to the Board at the next meeting. Strength of the Network for Young Children is due in part to the collaboration between

the program, hospitals (Oaklawn and Battle Creek Health Systems), and the Public Health Department.

Jeffrey Mitchell moved to approve. Byron McDonald seconded. Approved unanimously.

VI. Finance Report

Along with Public Health Department financial statements through April 30, 2003, Kathy Ferguson included a combined financial statement for the Nursing Clinic of Battle Creek.

Ben Miller asked several questions regarding the Nursing Clinic Dental Services' (\$11,355) net loss. Questions that arose were: Where is the funding to turnaround the \$11,000 current net loss? Why are we doing dental services when we are in deficit, and have struggled with this program in the past? Kathy and Heidi explained that Cheryl has spent a lot of time working on the dental program, increasing relationships with private dentists and looking for additional ways to provide dental services due to high demand; this has added to program costs for salaries and benefits. Now that dentists have been found, Cheryl can concentrate on other tasks. Thus, the amount of her salary and benefits going to this program is greatly reduced for the rest of the FY. Senior Millage funding reimburses the program at a set fee (\$900 for dentures, and \$115 for extractions) which is intended to cover all expenses relating to the program, with the exception of administrative overhead. When we run out of money the program stops, and a waiting list is established. Kathy felt that by year end, the program would only show a small loss (the administrative overhead dedicated to the program).

The Nursing Clinic currently shows an excess of revenues over expenses. Kathy and Heidi felt that this would be spent by year end, and the program would end the year with a zero balance. Funding sources include \$60,000 from Battle Creek Health System, along with private donations, Medicaid, program fees, and federal grant dollars. Another \$63,000 was carried forward from last year, representing federal grant dollars that were to be spent in this FY for reorganization and improvements. They explained that Health Department staff had been reassigned to the Nursing Clinic rather than being laid off due to state funding cuts. Also, new billing software, computers and printers need to be purchased, and network connectivity needs to be established with the County network.

Ben Miller also asked about the actual vs. budgeted figures for vehicle maintenance and utilities including gas and electric. It seemed that budgeted numbers were not realistic as compared to last year's actual expenditures. Regarding budgeted utilities, both the Northside and Marshall clinics were

expected to close in December and instead Northside moved in early April and Marshall continues to operate. This increased utility costs compared to expectations. It also appears that vehicle maintenance and some utility costs were underestimated. Kathy indicated that these estimates would be changed with the next budget adjustment in June.

VII. Other Business

West Nile Virus

Ted updated the Board on the West Nile Virus. He stated that we are preparing for a potential outbreak of mosquitoes within a week due to the amount of rain received recently. Environmental Health staff presented West Nile Virus information and material order forms to the cities and communities within Calhoun Co. The large amount of materials ordered through the county resulted in a quantity discount.

Environmental Health will continue monitoring calls received from the public regarding death of birds. Monitoring these calls will identify areas to concentrate on and specifically treat for West Nile Virus. Specific larvicide will be used in these areas and monitored closely. Catch basins will also be used and are very effective. Expect a very good decrease in the mosquito population.

Several communities will do larviciding themselves, whereas we will assist others. The procedure has been explained to those communities choosing to self-larvicide. Environment Health will continue monitoring all areas.

A public awareness program including brochures, media, etc. has been implemented. According to the Michigan Department of Agriculture, we are ahead of the game. A question was raised about spraying larvicide for mosquitoes. Due to the high cost and potential health risks, we will not spray at this time. Individuals also can purchase materials for mosquito.

Jean asked about treating “swamp” mosquitoes vs. “yard” mosquitoes. Ted explained that “yard” mosquitoes are not the same as “swamp” mosquitoes. Larvicide to destroy the mosquito with WNV will not eliminate all mosquitoes. “Yard” mosquitoes carry the WNV.

In regards to larviciding packets available to the public, Nancy Mullett is reviewing the fee amendment process.

Greg Purcell informed the Board that due to budget restraints, the City of Battle Creek couldn't afford to participate in a West Nile Prevention program. However, with efforts and assistance from the Public Health Department, the City of Battle Creek will participate in a WNV prevention program.

Water Supply Program

The water supply program was recently reviewed by the State. It was determined that our program has one of the lowest violations within the State of Michigan for a water supply program. Ryan Tetrault oversees the Type II program and ha done an excellent job.

Hazardous Waste Collection

Hazardous Waste Collection: Credit should go to subcontractor and Bob Overly. The program is funded through Solid Waste Program Committee from tipping fees the haulers pay when they dump solid waste at the C & C Landfill.

Staff Updates

Heidi announced that an epidemiologist, Amy Latham, was hired and will start June 2. Amy is a graduate of Kalamazoo College and is completing her graduate studies at Yale University. She will also be Calhoun's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

Heidi updated the Board on the Prevention Specialist two-year assignment program The Health Department made the final round to recruit a prevention specialist sponsored and paid for by the Centers for Disease Control including fringe benefits and salary. The CDC staff felt that we have a very good chance. We will find out later this month. If chosen, the Prevention Specialist will begin in September working with the Minority Health Partnership as the project.

Board Business

I. Bylaws: A copy of the current bylaws was enclosed with the Board meeting materials. Larry suggested that the Board review the current bylaws. Byron suggested that all thoughts and potential changes be put together in a memo for the Board to review prior to the next meeting. Suggested changes will be discussed as an agenda item at the next Board meeting.

II. Governance process

A Consultant was contacted and we are looking to begin facilitating in June.

III. Senior Millage/Prescription:

Should have recommendation by senior millage committee. The understanding is that surveys were conducted with the people/communities in Calhoun County through forums. This resulted in a spread between keeping the program as it is and changing the program. The slight majority is for keeping the program as it

was. Let's keep program there without a means test and offer a prescription card with reimbursement decreased from 15% to 10%. However, this decision is not set in stone.

The Senior Millage Allocation Committee is looking for ways to provide additional programs without eliminating current program. Larry asked the questions "Do we want to take a position? If so, what type?"

Consensus at this time is to not take a position until more information is presented.

VIII. Adjournment

Time: 9:15 a.m.

Larry Anderson requested a motion for adjournment at 9:15 a.m. Jeff Mitchell moved; Byron McDonald seconded. Approved unanimously.