

Calhoun County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2008

Board of Health

Dr. Jeffrey Mitchell, Chair
Rick Tsoumas, Vice-Chair
Kathy Foerster
Dr. Mahesh Karamchandani
Samantha Pearl
Ken Ponds

Health Department

John Eva
Joe Frost
Brigette Reichenbaugh
James Rutherford, Health Officer

County Administration

Don Gilmer
Nancy Mullett
Mark Stuhldreher

Other

Larry Anderson, Consultant
Elizabeth Willis, Battle Creek Enquirer

Absent

Eusebio Solis

Mitchell called the meeting to order at 8:02 am. Tsoumas moved approval. Karamchandani seconded. All approved.

CCPHD Emergency Preparedness Presentation

Joe Frost presented an update to the CCPHD Emergency Preparedness (EP) program. He provided a state, county, and local overview of each level's responsibilities and the All Hazards Grant. He also provided an update to the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and Pandemic Flu plans, stockpile of antivirals, and reported on the State audits. A Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise is being planned throughout Region 5 to include 8 – 10 CCPHD employees and an additional SNS table-top exercise. Rutherford indicated that while in Kalamazoo, he conducted the POD exercises around the Flu clinics in the fall each year.

Region 5 ties in with CCPHD by conducting exercises and provides region oversight and access to MITESA (Michigan Transportable Emergency Surge Assistance) (portable medical unit). A table top is a simulated exercise that evolves around a table and in a board room rather than a mass dispensing location for example. Tsoumas asked what the Board's role is in Emergency Preparedness. Rutherford will provide an update to the board in upcoming months (by the end of the year) regarding the Board's role and updates to the program. Tsoumas asked for clarification on the under-spending in EP dollars.

Mitchell asked for clarification of the County EP (D. Dunham), City of Battle Creek (J. Zoss), and CCPHD EP (Frost) roles. Frost provided an overview of the Countywide EP

program. Mitchell asked for an all-hazards assessment to be provided to the Board along with copy of CCPHD's plans. All of CCPHD's plans allow for self sustainability for approximately 72 hours prior to Federal assistance. We also have the support of the 53rd support team and the region that includes regionwide health department's assistance. Mitchell asked for a detail, potentially an organizational chart, on Public Health's role to include structure, and public health's and county's responsibility.

School Wellness Presentation

Wise provided an overview of the Regional health Alliance's School Wellness Program (SWP) that started in 2000 and an overview of the SWP Assessment. Anderson provided a summary of the recommendations. The next steps include analysis of the Zoomerang survey that was administered to all Calhoun County school districts determining what is the most important according to schools. Top responses included defining the school nurse role, standardizing procedures, and the nursing role within the law. SW advisory group was expanded to include CCPHD, school nurses, funders, Oaklawn Hospital, Family Health Center, practitioners, and community advocates. The Advisory Group is attempting to recruit more superintendents and potential funders.

The first step selected was to standardize policies and procedures in all schools. Rutherford stated that we need to sit down and see what we're doing and what we should be doing. Foerster asked for clarification on coordination of the school health program that was federally mandated in 2006. Wise indicated that annual summits were conducted over the past four years to provide for some coordination between the two programs. Mitchell asked what the Board's role is. Rutherford stated support and continuously update the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Eva presented on the preliminary year-end financials.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

Rutherford presented organizational structure. No additional costs proposed just redistribution of staffing dollars. Board unanimously approved.

Refugee Assessment Program. Motion for approval of CCPHD to move forward. Ponds moved approval. Tsoumas seconded. All approved.

Flu. Rutherford feels flu is a cornerstone of public health and we should get back involved in flu vaccine distribution.

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey update.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Nancy Mullett announced her resignation with Calhoun county. Her last day is November 6, 2008. A RFP is going out to legal organizations to provide labor relations assistance to the county.

Gilmer provided an update to the Administrator search. Process underway. Budget process underway.

Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m.