

**NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY
BOARD OF HEALTH**

Tuesday, December 7, 2004
10:00 AM

Classroom
220 W. Garfield
Charlevoix,

Michigan

MINUTES

PRESENT: David Howelman, Antrim County
Larry Bargy, Antrim County
Valerie Snyder, Charlevoix County
Vie Patrick, Charlevoix County
Jack Jones, Enimet County
Alan Behan, Emmet County
Allan Bentz, Otsego County

ABSENT: Jeff Garfield, Otsego County

HEALTH DEPARTMENT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gerald Chase, Health Officer
Linda Yaroach, Deputy Health Officer
Dr. Joshua Meyerson, Medical Director
Christie Vogelheim, Director of Administrative Services
Pat Fralick, Director of Family Health Services
Carol Paxton, Director of Health Promotion Services
Jane Sundmacher, Agency Communications Coordinator
Scott Kendzierski, Director of Environmental Health Services
Nancy Bottomley, Director of Adult Health Services

ABSENT: Dr. Tom Veryser, Dental Director

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kenyon Stebbins Chairperson of Tobacco Reduction Coalition
Roger Racine, MDPH Regional Epidemiologist

Allan Bentz, Chairperson called the meeting to order with roll call at 10:05 A.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion by Larry Bargy to approve the October 19, 2004 meeting minutes as submitted; supported by David Howelman. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

HEALTH OFFICER

ONE-TIME DENTAL SUPPLEMENTAL .Gerry reported on behalf of Dental Clinics North, the Agency will receive \$444,444 from Michigan Department of Public Health. The money is from the State of Michigan General Fund and is eligible to be used as local match. An additional \$68,000 Uninsured Dental grant is matchable for a total of \$512,000. Gerry requested approval for the Charlevoix County Treasurer to transfer an amount up to \$512,000 from the Agency's fund balance to the State of Michigan as local match for DSH payment for the Northern Health Plan and for approval to execute appropriate documentation and agreements which will provide for the purchase of dental services for the indigent by the Northern Health Plan in the amount of \$512,000. A motion by Vie Patrick to approve the transfer by the Charlevoix County Treasurer of the amount up to \$512,000 from the Agency's fund balance to the State of Michigan and approval to execute appropriate documentation and agreements by the Northern Health Plan in the amount of \$512,000 for the dental services for the indigent; supported by Jack Jones. All yeas. Motion carried.

BLUE CROSS ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT PROPOSAL .Gerry reported that the past couple of years we have taken a variety of actions to lower the premium costs of our Blue Cross Policy. We have put into place significant co-pays and higher deductibles, with these changes we have had a drastically reduced cost experience along with a much lower usage of our plan. We have been working with our agent to develop an administrative services contract proposal (self-insurance with reinsurance). Gerry submitted a proposal and requested the board's approval to implement the current benefits of our Blue Cross plan on an administrative services contract basis with the stop-loss set at \$50,000 per contact basis. A motion by Alan Behan to implement the self-insurance proposal as submitted; supported by Larry Bargy. Roll call vote, all yeas. Motion carried.

BAY HARBOR .Gerry discussed the informational packet on Bay Harbor. We did contact our legal counsel before the press release was issued. We are hopeful that the EPA will resolve this issue. Scott will discuss further in his report.

2005 BUDGET .Gerry submitted the 2005 Agency Budget for approval. The grand total of the budget is approximately \$12.6 million. The budget is a continuation budget for all programs with the exception of the addition of the Regional Laboratory, Northern Health Plan and Northern Prescription Assistance Plan. A motion by Vie Patrick to approve the Northwest Michigan Community Health Budget for 2005; supported by Alan Behan. All yeas. Motion carried.

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE .Christie Vogelheim reported that the IRS has increased the mileage reimbursement rate to 40.5 cents per mile. There was discussion. A motion by Jack Jones to approve the mileage rate reimbursement as set by the IRS at 40.5 cents per mile effective January 1, 2005; supported by Vie Patrick. All yeas. Motion carried.

DEPUTY HEALTH OFFICER

PREVENTION AND CASE MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC DISEASE .Linda Yaroch reported that she is working on the development of a Prevention and Case Management of Chronic Disease initiative. An epidemic of chronic disease is occurring on a national, state and local level. Chronic diseases account for 75% of annual health care costs. She discussed the summary of health indicators and risk factors which were revealed when NWMCHA residents responded to the Michigan Behavioral Risk Factor Survey conducted in 1998-2002.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

SUMMARY OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES .Dr. Meyerson reviewed the communicable disease report for November. One case of whooping cough and one case of meningitis were reported; Emmet County starting to see flu like illness. Report on file.

Dr. Meyerson introduced Roger Racine, the MDPH Regional Epidemiologist for our area, his office is in Traverse City. He assist us in foodborne investigations, etc. training and reporting communicable disease for the State.

LEAD POISONING .Dr. Meyerson distributed background information on lead poisoning, the principal sources of lead exposure for children in the United States are house dust contaminated by leaded paint and soil contaminated by both leaded paint and decades of industrial and motor vehicle emissions. He discussed prevention, treatment and the statewide statistics for blood lead testing of two and three year old children.

FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

FLU VACCINE .Pat Fralick reported that the state is releasing the emergency state order for the flu vaccine. We still have 100 doses available for high risk individuals, we have no waiting list anyone can make an appointment if they still need the flu shot. The coordination and cooperation in administering this year's flu vaccines with area physicians, hospitals and other agencies worked out very well. We will be doing some more clinics for people that still need the vaccine, we will only charge the \$10.00 administrative costs.

NORTHERN PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PLAN (NPAP) .Pat Fralick reported that in Otsego County we have enrolled forty people in the Northern Prescription Assistance Plan, a new brochure has been printed describing the program and Bob Diesong will be distributing it around the community for further awareness. We will be implementing in Charlevoix County with Charlevoix Area Hospital and working with the Emmet County Community Free Clinic on further collaboration of this program.

HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES DIRECTOR

WORLD AIDS DAY .Carol Paxton reported that December 1 is World Aids Day she distributed red ribbons for World Aids Day. Bert Notestine in our Emmet County Office is the person that does our aids testing, we use an OraSure oral fluid collection device for testing, we did 319 tests this year. Susan Killam, nurse practitioner is our jail nurse and she does testing at the jail.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

INITIATIVES .Scott reported that we continue to monitor the TCE plume which extends from the Dura Plant to Schuss Mountain. The Sanitarians in the Antrim Office have been sampling wells, thirty-six samples have been taken thusfar, most of the residences are seasonal, we are sending out letters to inform them of the sampling that needs to be done, this will be a long-term monitoring plan the outcome is uncertain at this time, the DEQ will be involved since residential wells fall in their jurisdiction, this is the longest plume in Michigan.

BAY HARBOR .Scott gave a power point presentation depicting pictures of the seepage along the Little Traverse Bay shoreline. There was discussion. Rick Shoemaker from the DEQ would like the EPA to take the lead role in response to the contamination, they have begun the process of contacting parties that potentially could bear responsibility for the existence of the hazardous release and they will be addressing the issue. A motion by Dave Howelman requesting a letter be drafted showing the Board supports the EPA and for them to stay active in the resolution of this cleanup; supported by Vie Patrick. Motion carried. David Howelman expressed his appreciation and commended Scott for the great job he has done in this situation.

REGIONAL LABORATORY .Scott reported that construction is complete, we have hired Ken Terpstra as our laboratory coordinator, he began on November 29th. He is working through the certification process for new laboratories; next Monday the State will make a site visit.

ADULT HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

ADULT HEALTH PROGRAM STATISTICS .Nancy Bottomley distributed Program Statistics and Referrals for end of October, 2004. Generally, the home care pattern this time of year has always been a roller coaster effect, we are busy and then clients leave for the winter and referrals begin to taper off. Overall we have seen a 5 % annual increase in our home health program. We anticipate our annual program review will be in March. We have a balanced budget and are very pleased. We are hopeful that the 5 % rural add-on will be renewed for the year 2005. It is scheduled to expire April 1, 2005.

Quality Improvement Meeting Minutes for the third quarter are in your packet for your information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE . Jack Jones reported that the finance committee met and authorized the payment of November bills in the amount of \$368,309.26 and December bills in the amount of \$417,054.63, he requested acceptance. All yeas.

OLD BUSINESS

- PUBLIC HEALTH TOBACCO FREE ORDINANCE . Allan Bentz, chairperson discussed the Tobacco Free Ordinance. Gerry clarified any issues concerning the voting and passing of the Tobacco Free Ordinance by this Board. We held the public hearing and heard presentations from physicians and other health professional regarding the dangers of secondhand smoke. The public hearing supported a smoke free regulation and reflects the majority opinion of our community. The regulation eliminating smoking in public and private worksites and certain public places was reviewed. If the Board adopts the regulation it does not become enforceable until all four County Board of Commissioners pass the ordinance. There was discussion. Val Snyder does not agree with Sec. 1009, Posting of Signs, she would like that section change so the owner may post signs if he wishes, not told to do so. Ken Stebbins, Chair of the Tobacco Reduction Coalition addressed this issue, he stated that this is not a new document, the signs are free and are small. There was discussion on Sec. 1010 Enforcement, Val Snyder did not agree with the enforcement and violation and penalties it was too vague. A motion by Alan Behan to support the regulation as submitted and to submit to each County Board of Commissioners supported by David Howelman. Roll call vote. Nays, Snyder, Patrick, Bargy, Jones. Yeas, Bentz, Behan, Howelman.

The Board continued to discuss Section 1009 Posting of Signs it was amended to read:
A. The Health Department shall make available to the businesses affected by this regulation, “No Smoking” signs or the international “No Smoking” symbols (consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it). The signage may be posted by the owner, operator, manager, or other person having control of such building or other area. Posting is encouraged, but not required. The Enforcement section was not amended, the intention is to work with owners on this issue.

A second roll call vote was presented on the regulation to amend the Sign Posting and approve as submitted with that correction. A motion by Alan Behan supported by David Howelman to approve the regulation with the amended Sign Posting. Six yeas; One nay, Val Snyder. Motion Passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOUR SCHEDULE . Gerry requested the Board’s approval to close the offices on Thursday, December 30, 2004 in recognition of the staff contributions to the Agency’s achievements this year. A motion by Jack Jones to

approve the closure of the offices on Thursday, December 30, 2004; supported by Alan Behan. All yeas. Motion carried.

RETIREMENT COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT . A motion by Vie Patrick to approve the two percent retirement allowance for the agency's retirees as computed in the actuary's cost analysis; supported by Valerie Snyder. All yeas. Motion carried.

There will be no January Board of Health meeting, the next meeting will be Tuesday, February 1, 2005. The chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Yaroch, Deputy Health Officer

Allan Bentz, Chairperson