



KANAWHA CHARLESTON
BOARD OF HEALTH

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Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2009

Board Members Present

Ms. Brenda Isaac
Dr. Arthur Rubin
Mr. James Strawn
Mr. Stephen Weber

Presenting Guests

Dr. Rahul Gupta
Ms. Lolita Kirk
Ms. Janet Briscoe
Ms. Anita Ray
Ms. Lois Deal

1. Call to Order – President

Ms. Isaac called to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Report of the President – Ms. Isaac

Ms. Isaac commended KCHD staff on their efforts during the H1N1 clinics, going into the schools and the clinics at the health department. She also commended the school nurses and volunteers. She stated that she knew it had been stressful and would continue to be so through January and February. Ms. Isaac also commended the City, County, paramedics, Cabin Creek Health Care employees, along with all the community cooperation.

3. Report of the Health Officer – Dr. Gupta

a. H1N1 vaccine

Dr. Gupta stated H1N1 vaccination campaign started in October. He said that over 100,000 (Target group) still needed to be offered the vaccine. He told the Board that plans were being implemented, and that they anticipated a 49% acceptance rate within schools. Vaccine will have to be transferred to many other providers (pediatricians, OBs, GYNs, and hospitals). It was also stated that the vaccine also needs to be distributed to colleges and that more clinics need to be held, all without interrupting the Health Department's regular clinics and school-located vaccine clinics.

Dr. Rubin asked if the number of H1N1 cases had peaked? Dr. Gupta stated that the national data for the past two weeks had indicated the numbers are coming down. Dr. Rubin asked if maybe there were plans to combine the H1N1 season with the regular flu season next year. Dr. Gupta said it may be possible that they could make a combined vaccine.

Dr. Gupta stated that NACCHO was working with CDC regarding H1N1. Dr. Gupta added that NACCHO is conducting conference calls every Thursday.

Dr. Gupta also noted that KCHD has developed an in-house DVD, and had been asked to make a presentation as a local health department, along with the State of Arkansas. Dr. Gupta, added that this is a big honor for the Department.

b. County Commission Proposed Physicals

Dr. Gupta informed the Board that he and Ms. Kirk had been discussing the County Commission Employee Physical program with Mr. Brent Pauley, Kanawha County Manager. Dr. Gupta stated that after their last meeting, it appears that the scope of services the County wants is different than what the Health Department can provide, without hiring additional medical personnel. Mr. Strawn asked if the Health Department was going to form a partnership with the County Commission and Dr. Gupta stated that initially that was the intent, however, at this time, it isn't feasible.

4. Report of the Administrative Director – Ms. Lolita Kirk

a. Employee bonus proposal

Ms. Kirk presented the suggestion of a one-time bonus of \$1,000.00 for the employees for the work they have done for the H1N1. Ms. Kirk added that the funding for the bonuses would be redirected from unfilled positions in the current operating budget.

Dr. Gupta added that he was so proud of the staff and all the work they have done. He stated that the comments from the public had all been very favorable; many had worked beyond the call of duty. He felt it was a good thing to be able to give all involved the bonus.

Mr. Weber then made a motion to give the \$1,000.00 bonuses. Mr. Strawn seconded. The Board then discussed the pros and cons of the proposal.

Mr. Strawn asked Mrs. Kirk how they came up with that number. Ms. Kirk said that was the amount of bonus they had given one other time and this is an amount that Ms. Isaac had agreed with. The Board reached a consensus that while they agreed with rewarding the employees; they felt that given the economy a lower amount would be more appropriate. Mr. Weber then revised his motion to give a \$500.00 bonus for full-time work and a pro-rate amount to part-time staff. Mr. Strawn seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

5. Old Business

a. Status of the sale of the Home Health Agency

Ms. Kirk reported that the sale of the Home Health has been put on hold. The purchaser has been on again and off again, even as recent as this afternoon. This morning the sale was on, and then the purchaser's attorney telephoned the Department's attorney this afternoon and said she was not going through with the purchase. Ms. Kirk added that if the second bidder wanted to purchase the Home Health Agency for their bid price of \$390,000, then the Board could proceed with the sale to them. However if the 2nd bidder does not want to pay the \$390,000, the Board will need to have another auction.

The question was brought up about Ms. Jamie being able to bid on the agency again, and if so, did the Board have to accept her bid if it was the high bid again. Ms. Kirk

informed the Board they have the right to reject any bid. Dr. Gupta stated that the Home Health agency would be shut down effective 12/31/09.

Dr. Rubin made the motion to go back to auction and Mr. Strawn seconded. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

6. New Business

None.

7. Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, the Board voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH
Health Officer