



KANAWHA CHARLESTON
BOARD OF HEALTH

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Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2009

Board Members Present

Ms. Brenda Isaac
Mr. Robert Reishman
Dr. Arthur Rubin
Ms. Shannon Snodgrass
Mr. James Strawn
Mr. Stephen Weber

Presenting Guests

Dr. Rahul Gupta
Ms. Lois Deal
Ms. Krista Farley
Ms. Lolita Kirk
Ms. Anita Ray

1. Call to Order – President

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

a. Motion needed to hold the meeting in the 1st floor Multi-media Center

Ms. Isaac called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. As required by the Board's by-laws, Ms. Isaac requested a motion to hold the meeting in the 1st floor Multi-Media Center. The motion to move the meeting was made by Dr. Rubin and seconded by Mr. Strawn. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Report of the President – Ms. Isaac

a. Discussion of the Health Department's legal representation

Ms. Isaac noted that the Board would find a copy of the Health Department's most recent invoice from Pullin, Fowler, Flanagan, Brown & Poe, PLLC, for services rendered in September 2009. It had been presented to Ms. Isaac for approval because of the amount of the invoice. Ms. Isaac stated that she didn't feel Dr. Gupta or any of the other directors or board members should have to be concerned about the cost of using an attorney when they had questions.

After some discussion, Mr. Weber stated that maybe some arrangements where KCHD could pay a flat fee for routine questions. He also stated that maybe they should check into what it would cost for KCHD to retain an attorney. There would be different fees at times for litigation, as opposed to routine questions, but maybe we could try it for about 6 months, and after that time, re-evaluate the needs and costs. He also stated that we shouldn't have to worry about seeking outside legal representation, when necessary, because of the costs.

Dr. Rubin asked how we would go about picking an appropriate attorney. Mr. Weber stated it could be put out to bid in the newspaper. Shannon Snodgrass stated we would

need to check the yearly costs, and secondly, she thought it might be a good idea to retain a part-time attorney. Robert Reishman stated the salary would have to be a substantial amount. Ms. Isaac stated it would have to be someone with expertise in Public Health, since we always seem to have issues.

Mr. Weber made a motion to check into retaining legal counsel, and arranging a bid review. Dr. Rubin seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

3. Report of the Health Officer – Dr. Gupta

a. Discussion and status report on the Department's H1N1 response.

Ms. Isaac then stated that KCHD has been working with Kanawha County Schools (KCS) to develop a plan to provide H1N1 vaccination in the county's schools and daycares. The plan is to begin these clinics next week. KCHD has employed several part-time nurses to help with these clinics along with KCS nurses.

Dr. Gupta discussed H1N1 with the Board. He stated that 99% of the influenza like symptoms are H1N1, since the seasonal flu isn't out there yet. He added that as shipments of H1N1 vaccine is received clinics will be added.

Dr. Gupta stated that approximately 100 physicians had pre-registered and that the vaccine had been distributed to approximately 12 pediatricians and obstetricians, hospitals, healthcare providers and workers, emergency medical service personnel, expectant mothers, children and the chronically ill. Over 100 day clinics are scheduled for children and the chronically ill.

Ms. Isaac stated that Cabin Creek Health Systems has volunteered to help us administer vaccines to the schools. We have also had pediatrician nurses offering to assist in clinics. Ms. Isaac added that the Elk Elementary Center will be the first school clinic to be held.

Ms. Isaac added that there are a lot of different viruses out there right now. 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 who have assisted. She stated that she knew it had been stressful and would continue to be so through January and February. She complimented the City, County, paramedics, Cabin Creek Health Care employees, along with all the community cooperation.

b. Discussion of the Health Department providing physicals to the employees of the Kanawha County Commission

Dr. Gupta informed the Board that the Health Department has been approached by the County Commission in regards to possibly providing health care clinics/preventive and corrective for County employees.

Mr. Brent Pauley, Kanawha County Manager presented to the Board the nature of Commissions discussions and ideas on this project. Mr. Pauley stated the Commission was looking at three (3) phases (preventive, corrective and emergency). They are looking into requiring that all employees have a yearly physical. This will be for employees and their families. He went on to say that most of the employees and family

members don't have yearly physicals, so they don't find out they have medical problems until they are sick, and some of these illnesses become very costly and could have been prevented with the physicals. Mr. Pauley said that they would also be required to do the follow-up appointment if there were medical issues. Mr. Pauley stated that the County Commission is also considering setting up a health clinic to offer services to their employees and one where their medications could be dispersed.

Mr. Pauley stated that this project is still in the planning stages however, they are hoping to partner with KCHD. Mr. Pauley stated that the City has already done something to this nature and that the County Commission is seriously considering this.

Mr. Reishman stated that the City has been very pleased with the progress the City has made in this area and that the employees like it. They are currently working on setting up a Problem Hotline where employees can call with their problems.

Dr. Gupta went on to say that this would not be replacing employees' primary care providers, but that we should be able to work with those providers in that we could assist in monitoring chronic disease information (BS, BP, weight, etc) and then sending to them.

The Board had several questions for Mr. Pauley and they have agreed to continue the talks as new developments unfold.

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

a. Financial Report

There was no Financial Report in the packet. The Board was informed that Mr. Myers had resigned the first week of October and that she has been splitting her time between Administration and the Clinic. Ms. Kirk informed the Board she would get numbers together as soon as possible.

5. Report of the Director of Environmental– Ms. Anita Ray

Ms. Ray stated that her report was in the Board's packets. Ms. Ray noted that the number of complaints have gone down.

a. Update on Clean Indoor Air Regulation enforcement.

Regarding CIAR, Ms. Ray informed the Board that the Judge King has ruled in favor of the Health Department in the case of Mr. Kerry Ellison of the Black Hawk. She also told the Board that Mr. Ellison may appeal his case to the Supreme Court.

Ms. Isaac stated the KCHD had been given an award from the Wellness Council for their work on CIAR.

b. International Chili Contest

Ms. Ray stated that a Chili Contest was held in Charleston from October 9 through October 11th. Ms. Ray added that this was a national event, that there were vendors from all over the country. Ms. Ray went on to say that every vendor had been inspected and that all the sanitarians worked this event. The State's Office of Environmental Health assisted by sending some of their sanitarians to assist.

6. Report of the Director of Epi/TP – Ms. Janet Briscoe

Ms. Briscoe gave praise for the staff and their work on the H1N1 vaccination clinics. She stated that everyone would be working hard for the next few months. She also stated that the Health Department would be working with WVU Tech, University of Charleston and West Virginia State University to get the students and staff vaccinated.

She gave her appreciation to the Mayor and County Commission for their participation in the H1N1 Taskforce.

7. Report of the Director of Health Promotions – Ms. Krista Farley

Ms. Farley provided the Board with a report on the H1N1 Taskforce's activities.

Ms. Farley noted that KCHD is a finalist with CAMC on a Robert Wood Johnson grant. The grant is in the amount of \$360,000 over a four year period. The winner will be announced in January.

8. Report of the Director of Home Health – Ms. Lois Deal

Ms. Deal stated that Home Health is not accepting new patients. Dr. Gupta told the Board that the Department is waiting for the purchaser to complete the process with Healthcare Authority and for an escrow account to be set up.

9. Old Business

None.

10. New Business

None.

11. Public Comment Period

Mr. Kerry Ellison, wanted to address the Board regarding the swine flu issues. He said he was a concerned citizen and that it was the duty of the KCHD to prevent the spread of diseases. Mr. Ellison requested that the Board create an ordinance that handshaking is unlawful. He said it is barbaric and that 30% of individuals have E. Coli on their hands when they shake hands. He informed the Board that E. Coli comes from fecal matter. He said it takes approximately 9 seconds for hot water to run through the system to come out of the faucet and that he knows people aren't washing their hands with hot water. He thanked the Board for their time.

Ms. Isaac informed Mr. Ellison that the Board would take his comments into consideration.

12. Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. Reishman and seconded by Dr. Rubin, the Board voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH
Health Officer