

## BOARD OF HEALTH

The Polk County Board of Health met in the conference room of the Health Department at 10:10AM on February 9, 2010.

Present: Neil Johnson Rick Scoglio Wanda Johnson  
Dr. Arne Lagus Bob Dueholm Jim Edgell

Absent: Gary Bergstrom

Also: Gretchen Sampson Carolyn Griffin Bonnie Leonard  
Caralynn Hodgson

Chairman Neil Johnson called the meeting to order.

Sampson added she had the Board of Health rules of order to review and could address as an agency update.

**Motion by Edgell/W. Johnson to approve the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Dueholm/Edgell to approve the minutes of the February Board of Health meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.**

### Monthly Bills Review

Sampson handed out the list of bills for review and answered any questions.

**Motion by W. Johnson/Dr. Lagus to approve the bills in the amount of \$30,012.30. All in favor. Motion carried.**

### Monthly Statistical Reports

Sampson reviewed the January budget overview for the Public Health programs and the December statistical summary. The final report for year end 2009 will be available for the meeting in March. Bonnie Leonard, Public Health Supervisor, reviewed the communicable disease report for December. Sampson reviewed the Home Care statistical summary and the revenue and expense report. The Home Care Program met budget objectives for 2009 due to many cost saving measures implemented. Caralynn Hodgson, Home Care Supervisor, pointed out that substantial savings were realized in 2009 with staff efforts to restructure medical supply inventory control and methods.

**Motion by W. Johnson/Dr. Lagus to approve the statistical reports. All in favor. Motion carried.**

## **Old Business**

### **Update on City of Amery Discontinuation of Fluoridation**

Sampson talked about the Amery council meeting that she attended along with Bonnie Leonard, Public Health Supervisor and Brian Hobbs, Environmental Specialist. There were many speakers, including local dentists and other citizens expressing concern about the discontinuance of fluoridating the city water supply. Sampson has also notified numerous organizations about the issue.

The final vote on the issue has been postponed and fluoridation is being resumed at this time. The city council will be meeting about the pump repair.

### **H1N1 Update**

Sampson handed out some statistics prepared by the Wisconsin Division of Public Health through January on H1N1 influenza. Currently there is very little H1N1 virus activity but the Health Department is still encouraging vaccination for protection in the event of a third wave of this illness in the next few months.

### **Pharmaceutical Disposal**

Sampson stated that Debbie Peterson, Director of Parks and Buildings was unable to attend this meeting but will attend the March meeting to talk about that department's efforts for "Clean Sweep".

Sampson reported that State representative Kitty Rhoades is on a national committee looking at legislation regarding this issue and there was a lot of discussion about disposal of pharmaceuticals at the recent Legislative Breakfast event. Board members Dr. Lagus and Wanda Johnson also attended this meeting. The current discussion at this meeting was to look at alternative incineration sites and other issues such as transporting of drugs for disposal, etc.

## **New Business**

### **Lease Car Bids**

Sampson stated that two leases are ending in March for 2008 vehicles and would like to put out bids for two replacement vehicles, one sedan and one mini-van. These would be two year leases, month-to-month contracts.

**Motion by Scoglio/W. Johnson to proceed on two lease bids to replace existing leases ending in March. All in favor. Motion carried.**

### **Update on Agency Strategic Plan**

Sampson handed out an update and overview of the work being done on the 2009-2012 Agency Strategic Plan by four committees and the Leaders Group. Sampson stated the staff is really engaged and doing a great job.

## **New Grant Awards**

Sampson handed out information on a three year grant , 2010 Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and EnVironmental ChangeE (ACHIEVE). Sampson commended Janel Hemmesch, Public Health Nutritionist for successfully applying for this grant sponsored by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) This grant is focusing on physical activity and community partner involvement and collaboration. Award funding is \$15,000 for Year 1, with the potential for an additional \$25,000 for implementation in Years 2 and 3.

Another grant recently awarded to the department is a \$10,000 stimulus fund Immunization Grant to expand immunization services in the community.

## **2009 Home Care Program Patient Surveys**

Caralynn Hodgson, Home Care Supervisor handed out and reviewed a consolidated report of 2009 client evaluations of Polk County Home Care Services.

## **Director's Report**

Sampson reported she would like to make Legislative Update and Public Health Research standing agenda items in order to meet Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards.

## **Public Health Legislative Updates**

Sampson passed out information on a new self-funded health care plan for adults without dependent children who are on the state health care waiting list. This plan is called BadgerCare Plus Basic. She also passed out a memo from State Representative Kitty Rhoades calling for an audit of the FamilyCare long-term care program.

## **Public Health Research**

Sampson passed out a summary on the "Catch" project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The goal of this project is to promote broad-based community health improvement in under-served rural communities in Wisconsin, through low-cost health communication intervention. The major finding of the research was that small, rural government health agencies with significantly higher health disparities generally do not have the fiscal, human capital or political resources to mobilize either the broad population or community leaders to meaningfully change social determinants of community health.

## **Agency Updates**

Mary Boe posted into the Tobacco Health Educator position. She has been working with the WIPHL project at the Amery Medical Center. The Health Department will no longer be participating in that program.

The Home Care Program is currently being audited by the State.

There will be an in house training on the electronic communicable disease reporting system next week.

Sampson distributed the Board of Health rules of order to be reviewed at the March meeting.

**Motion to adjourn by Scoglio/Edgell. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:15PM.**

**The next Board of Health meeting will be March 9, 2010 at 10:00 am.**

**The Finance Committee will be Bob Dueholm, Gary Bergstrom and Viola Karr.**