

Washington County Board of Health
Meeting
May 13, 2008
Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington County Board of Health was called to order by President Wilbert Antill. Board members present: Wilbert Antill, Richard Daniell, Jim Rodgers, Bob Powell. Absent: Dr. Todd Myers, Steve Johnson. Staff present: Dr. Kathleen Meckstroth, Valerie Betkoski, Ken Robinson, Jeannie Farnsworth.

Mr. Daniell moved approval of the minutes from the meeting of April 8, 2008. Second, Mr. Powell. Motion carried.

Public Forum:

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Klies of the Cutler area presented their concerns regarding a nuisance complaint against their neighbors (Rubles) on King Road. There are two parts to the complaint. One is for open burning with smoke infiltrating the Klies' home. The second is the failing septic system. Both Ken Robinson and Josh Lane have responded to these nuisances. On the burning, Mr. Ruble has been told that this is in violation of EPA regulations and further complaints could result in an EPA investigation and possible fines. If burning is to resume, the health department is to be notified and further action will be taken. On the failing septic system, the system is located over an underground spring that was not apparent when the system was installed. This spring is affecting half of the system. Other half works currently, but may experience failure at a later date. The potential solution to the problem would be an installation of a leach system in the front yard where spring is not present. The Board ordered Ken to work with the installer to correct the problem and get a working system installed. If this system is not fixed, the home could be declared uninhabitable. Ken is to report back to the Board on the progress of this complaint.

Mr. and Mrs. Klies left the meeting following this discussion.

Fiscal Report: Ms. Farnsworth presented the financial reports for the Health Department. As of the meeting, the department had not received quarterly payments in three grant funds—CVH, dental sealant and dental clinic. County allotment had been received. Reconciliation reports were presented for review. These included reports on reconciliation with county auditor records (March and April) as well as bank statements (January, February, and March).

Budget actions were presented for approval. These actions included items prepared on February 13, April 11, April 30, and May 2. Copies of the list of budget actions are attached to the minutes. Mr. Daniell moved approval. Second Mr. Rodgers. Motion carried.

The list of bills to be paid was presented for approval. Mr. Rodgers moved approval. Second Mr. Powell. Motion carried.

Dr. Meckstroth presented the Health Commissioner's report as distributed. Dr. Meckstroth also noted that she is attending the Spring Health Commissioner's Conference in Columbus this week and that all the local health departments are very much concerned with the economy and the effect it is having on delivery of services to the public.

Public Health Nursing: Ms. Betkoski presented the public health nursing report. Ticks are no longer being tested for the presence of disease at the laboratory in Columbus. At this point only identification of the tick species is being done. Beginning July 1, the state laboratory will also no longer test blood specimens sent for hepatitis C. A finger stick procedure collected on filter paper and sent to a private lab will be the test procedure used. These kits are being furnished to us through the hepatitis C program.

An annual review of the immunization program is scheduled for next week.

A seminar for the nursing staff is planned for May 21 to look at a new program to recover some of the health department's costs related to referral services and assistance of individuals on Medicaid. This could generate additional revenue for the nursing program.

The nursing program performed 41 HIV tests at Marietta College during their HIV Awareness Week and participated in the kindergarten screening at St. Mary's School.

Ms. Betkoski also presented infectious disease training to employees of Children's Services.

A refund request was made for an overpayment of a hepatitis A vaccine. Mr. Daniell moved to approve the refund. Second Mr. Powell. Motion carried.

Environmental Health: Mr. Robinson met with Terry Tamborini regarding the county's long term plans for sewer development. The first priority is for the Reno area, followed by Devola and Oak Grove. A meeting will be held on the Barlow sewer some time in May.

The Marietta Township Trustees have requested that the Health Department conduct septic inspections in Marietta Township. The Board did not want to undertake this program at this time and questioned whether it could inspect one township and not another.

Regarding the Ruble nuisance—this system was installed by an installed licensed in Athens County. At the time of this installation, the health department

allowed an out of county installer to work in Washington County, provided the home county would reciprocate. The Board stated that this should no longer be the rule, but rather that each installer will need to be licensed in Washington County as the required bond will not be viable from county to county.

Out of County Meeting:

A request for Valerie Betkoski to attend a Grant Writing Workshop at Burr Oak on May 27-28 was presented for approval. Cost of the workshop is \$110, plus travel and overnight accommodations. Mr. Powell moved approval. Second Mr. Rodgers. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

The Background Check policy was presented for approval with additions as per request of the Board. Mr. Powell moved approval. Second Mr. Rodgers. Motion carried.

New Business:

Dr. Meckstroth informed the Board that she has begun assembling information to address a contract for Belpre health department services. She has been attending Belpre City Council meetings and feels that the Council would be receptive to discussions on such a contract. She has also met with the Mayor and feels that he is supportive of this initiative.

Dr. Meckstroth is also preparing a salary package for the Board to consider at its June meeting.

At the request of Dr. Meckstroth, Mr. Daniell moved the Board to executive session at 9:30 p.m. to discuss her contract for 2008.

Mr. Antill Aye
Mr. Daniell Aye
Mr. Rodgers Aye
Mr. Powell Aye

Mr. Powell moved the Board from Executive session at 9:55 p.m. Second Mr. Rodgers.

Mr. Antill Aye
Mr. Daniell Aye
Mr. Rodgers Aye
Mr. Powell Aye

The Board of Health adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Meckstroth, Secretary

Wilber Antill, President