

Washington County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2008

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington County Board of Health was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Wilbert Antill. Members present: Wilbert Antill, Richard Daniell, Bob Powell, Jim Rodgers, Dr. Todd Myers, and alternate Steve Johnson. Staff present: Dr. Kathleen Meckstroth, Valerie Betkoski, Ken Robinson, and Jeannie Farnsworth.

A motion was made by Dr. Myers and seconded by Mr. Daniell to approve the minutes of the November meeting. Motion carried.

Barbara Guckert, RN, gave a presentation to the Board on the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh) program that she coordinates. This program is supported through federal, state and local funding. One of the components of the program is making arrangements for diagnostic testing of children to determine cause of medical problems. BCMh picks up costs of what is not covered by insurance for these tests as well as full coverage if no insurance is available. Children covered by the program are ages birth to 21. Those with hemophilia or cystic fibrosis remain on the program as adults. Ms. Guckert also presented examples of some of the children that are currently in the program. At the conclusion of her presentation the Board questioned her on numbers of children enrolled (currently, 177), how she receives referrals, and the number of local providers (7 primary care physicians). Billing for services was also discussed. The Board thanked Ms. Guckert for her presentation and the work she has done through this program.

The proposed food licensing fees were read for the second time. No public comment was presented regarding these fees.

Financial report: The financial report was distributed by Ms. Farnsworth. She noted that 4th quarter payments have been received for both the dental sealant and dental clinic grants. The 2nd quarter of the PHI grant has also been received.

The list of bills was presented for approval. Mr. Daniell moved approval. Second Dr. Myers. Motion carried.

A list of budget actions including transfers of funds was presented for approval. These actions were primarily related to those required at the end of the year prior to closing out the accounts. Additional reductions in appropriations will be necessary as purchase orders are closed and end of the year encumbrance reports are prepared. Mr. Powell moved approval. Second Mr. Rodgers. Motion carried.

Dr. Meckstroth had previously distributed the Health Commissioner's report. In addition to that report, she discussed the smoking ban enforcement and her attendance at the Belpre City Council meeting. At that meeting, plans for an assisted living complex were presented. The Health Department will be following the plans in relation to plumbing.

The public health nursing report was presented by Ms. Betkoski. As a follow-up on the BCMH program, Ms. Betkoski reported that a new nurse has been hired to begin part time (10 hours per week) beginning January 5. She will work with Ms. Guckert to learn the program and then begin working 32 hours per week in February. Flu shots are still being offered. There are still about 500 doses remaining to be used. Most of the Medicare billing is up to date.

Mr. Robinson presented the environmental health report. Inspections are caught up and the work load has slowed somewhat as is usual for this time of year. He has one smoking complaint to investigate that will require a visit to the establishment after hours.

Old Business: The residential plumbing code was presented for discussion. Questions arose whether this included repairs to current plumbing or was only for remodeling or new residences. The code is written to exclude repairs. It is also written that homeowners may do their own plumbing, but it will require an inspection and that the plumbing be done according to code. A separate section of the code requires plumbers to register with the health department. This is already being done but will transfer this registration from the building department to the health department. After further discussion, the Board set a time during the next regularly scheduled meeting to hold a public hearing of the proposed resolution.

The third and final reading of the new food service fees was presented. Mr. Rodgers moved approval of the fees. Second, Mr. Powell. Motion carried with all members voting for approval. The new fees will go into effect with the next licensing cycle due March 1, 2009.

New Business: The budget for all funds except the general fund was presented for approval. This is a slim budget and one that will require close and constant monitoring. Dr. Myers moved approval of the budget. Second Mr. Rodgers. The budget was approved with all members voting in the affirmative.

The current dental hygienist has resigned effective the end of the year. She will however, be able to fill in on Wednesdays and Thursdays in January should we not have a hygienist available. Dr. Meckstroth asked the Board for approval to hire a replacement for this position. Mr. Powell moved approval. Second Dr. Myers. Motion carried.

Mr. Powell moved the Board to executive session at 9:44 p.m. to discuss the health commissioner's contract. Second Mr. Rodgers.

Mr. Antill Aye
Mr. Daniell Aye
Mr. Rodgers Aye
Mr. Powell Aye
Dr. Myers Aye

Mr. Daniell moved the Board out of executive session at 9:56 p.m. Second Mr. Rodgers.

Mr. Antill Aye
Mr. Daniell Aye
Mr. Rodgers Aye
Mr. Powell Aye
Dr. Myers Aye

Mr. Daniell moved that Dr. Meckstroth be offered a two year contract with the first year being at the same salary as the current contract. The salary for the second year will be negotiable. In addition, Dr. Meckstroth will receive a stipend \$30 per month for use of her personal cell phone for health department business. Second Mr. Powell. Motion carried.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen L. Meckstroth, Secretary

Wilbert Antill, President