

# Calhoun County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2009

## Board of Health

Rick Tsoumas, Chair  
Dr. Mahesh Karamchandani, Vice-Chair  
Lisa Gerow, Commissioner  
Samantha Pearl

## Health Department

Genessa Doolittle  
John Eva  
Paul Makoski  
Brigette Reichenbaugh  
Kristin Roux  
James Rutherford  
Cindy Southwick

## Absent

Kathy Foerster, Excused  
Ken Ponds, Excused

## County Administration

Jim Haadsma - Commissioner

## Other

Christine Kosmowski, City of Battle Creek  
Dr. Jeffrey Mitchell  
Cheryl Vosburg, City of Marshall  
Elizabeth Willis, Battle Creek Enquirer

Tsoumas called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Tsoumas presented a plaque and expressed the Board's appreciation to Dr. Mitchell for six years of dedicated service as Chairman of the Board of Health.

## **Consent Agenda**

Karamchandani motioned for approval of agenda. Pearl seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Corrections to October's minutes will be made and presented for approval at the next Board meeting.

## **Financial Report**

Eva presented the financial report. Overall CCPHD revenues exceeded expenditures for a cumulative net income of \$48,134 for the one month ending October 2009. Department revenues are 6% and expenditures are 6% compared to an anticipated 8%. Several programs have not started. There will be some minor variations.

## **Lawn Fertilizer Ordinance**

Coward (Coward Landscaping), Haadsma, Kosmowski, Rutherford and Vosburg met and discussed fee concerns and moving forward with the Lawn Fertilizer Ordinance. A compromise was reached for a first offense written notice in terms of the educational component part of the ordinance. The second offense potentially would be a fine for \$50.00. If Board approval is received, the committee will continue to work with the City Board of Commissioners and Calhoun County Legal Councilman, Richard Lindsey, to finalize ordinance language. CCPHD is asking approval of the concept and to continue drafting the ordinance language. Tsoumas asked to see a final draft before it is forwarded to the Board. Pearl motioned to support the concept and language of the ordinance. Gerow seconded. Motion passed.

### **Health Officer Report**

Rutherford presented the Health Officer report to the Board. This report included H1N1 (Swine Influenza) update, Hearing and Vision program which was awarded a grant from the Senior Millage of Calhoun County Senior Services, Teen Outreach Program grant award, the Nurse Family Partnership program update, Calhoun County Medical Examiner, and Nurse Family Partnership program update.

### **Healthy Lifestyles and Disparity Issues**

Doolittle presented the Healthy Lifestyles and Disparity Issues to the Board. Doolittle touched on Body Mass Index, inadequate physical activity and lack of consumption of fresh vegetable rates. More data from the 2010 Behavioral Risk Factor is required to provide in depth behavioral data. The Health Department would like to shift focus to community change, creating policy, environmental change, and working with more people rather than individual focus. County needs zoning ordinances, sub-division ordinances, walking trails to schools, improve lighting on pedestrian safety and sidewalk projects. We feel these are evidence-based proven interventions that will positively impact health. CCPHD will continue working on disparity issues.

### **FIMR (Fetal Infant Mortality Review)**

Doolittle presented the FIMR annual report to the Board. In 2007, Calhoun County had the highest mortality rate, 14.6 per thousand in Michigan. Several recommendations made including drug testing and providing higher education on healthy lifestyles to all pregnant women. Favorable lifestyle can have an impact on pregnant mothers. The Nurse Family Partnership program will assist with this.

Tsoumas reminded the Board to submit names of potential Board members for the vacant position. The process will take several months once names are submitted.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.