

Calhoun County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2010

Board of Health

Rick Tsoumas, Chairman
Dr. Mahesh Karamchandani, Vice-Chair
Kathy Foerster
Samantha Pearl, (via phone)

Absent

Lisa Gerow, Commissioner
Ken Ponds

Health Department

John Eva
James Rutherford
Kristin Roux
Cindy Southwick

County Administration

Richard Lindsay, County Legal Council

Other

Julie Camp, Commissioner
Jim Haadsma, Commissioner
Kim Kutzko, Regional Epidemiologist, Michigan
Department of Community Health
Elizabeth Willis, Battle Creek Enquirer

Tsoumas called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Consent Agenda

Tsoumas motioned for approval of agenda, Karamchandani seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Foerster motioned for approval of December minutes and January notes. Karamchandani seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Hearing formally opened at 8:30 am. No one was present. Public Hearing closed at 8:35 am. Richard Lindsay, County Legal Council clarified the citation wording in the proposed ordinance.

Financial Report

Eva presented the financial report. Overall CCPHD revenues have exceeded expenditures for the four months ending January 2010 by \$17,643. Department revenues are 27% and expenditures are 27% compared to an anticipated 33%. Everything is on target.

Health Officer Report

Rutherford presented the Health Officer report to the Board. This report included the United Way funding: Three grants including the School Wellness, the Nurse Family Partnership, and the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review programs have been approved; Data Analyst update: Jennifer Cook, Epidemiologist will be introduced at next Board meeting; Credit card/Debit card acceptance: Credit cards will now be accepted in the Environmental Health Department and the Clinic; Insight software: Approval of funding. A presentation is scheduled for a future board

meeting; County Health Rankings Report: This report can be accessed electronically at www.countyhealthrankings.org. Rutherford will continue to work with the Minority Health Partnership.

Presentation

Kim Kutzko, Regional Epidemiologist, Michigan Department of Community Health presented Health Disparities in Calhoun County to the Board. Calhoun County is in the top 10 counties in Michigan for high teen pregnancy rates. In 2005-07 Calhoun County's total infant mortality rate was 11.2% compared to Michigan 7.8%. Michigan rates have been decreasing since 1998 whereas Calhoun County rates have not consistently shown this downward trend. Kutzko quoted that "Adverse childhood experience is one of the largest contributors to such chronic health problems as diabetes and obesity, psychiatric disorders, drug abuse – almost every major public health challenge we face."

Public Comment

Bob Coward, a landscaping consultant and host of WBCK's The Garden show, expressed concerns with the lawn ordinance. Some of these concerns included: The ordinance is still in violation of state and federal policies, Calhoun County not having funding to enforce and no policy to handle complaints, the ordinance has zero tolerance level, and the expectation is that the homeowner will know what is printed on the fertilizer bag. Coward did verbalize that he wants to see phosphorus out of the watershed. The Board of Health will act on Lawn Ordinance at the next meeting in March.

March presentation: Child Abuse and Neglect.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.