



## Calhoun County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2015

### **Board of Health**

Dr. Mahesh Karamchandani, Chairperson  
Nancy Mullett, Vice-Chairperson  
Mary Jo Byrne  
Amy Davis  
Kathy-Sue Dunn, County Commissioner  
Rick Hensley

### **Health Department**

Jim Lefevre  
Paul Makoski  
Deb Metzgar  
Jacob Reece  
James Rutherford, Health Officer  
Kristin Tekiele

### **County Administration**

Kelli Scott

### **Other**

### **Absent**

Ronnie Sims

### **Meeting called to order**

Karamchandani called the meeting to order at 8:04 am.

### **Agenda**

Hensley motioned for agenda approval. Dunn seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mullett motioned for approval of the consent agenda. Byrne seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment

### **Presentation**

Makoski spoke about the Recyclorama event, which is scheduled on August 29, 2015 at Bailey Park. Makoski introduced Reece who spoke about his experience as an intern in the Environmental Health (EH) department this summer.

Lefevre gave a presentation on the Good to Grow Lead in Drinking Water program funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF). Key points of the presentation include:

- Lead exposure in children is down 90% since the 1970's. However, research has helped scientists better understand the effects of lead in children. This has caused the CDC to lower the blood level concentration of lead that is considered elevated.

- Differing from most EH programs, Good to Grow is not a mandatory regulatory program. Participation was very good overall, with the weakest participation being in Child Care facilities at just over 30%. Fifty-percent of Calhoun County facilities fully participated with testing during two years.
- Three-fourths of the facilities tested were constructed prior to 1980.
- Samples were submitted to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) labs for testing at no cost to the Calhoun County Public Health Department (CCPHD).
- Thirty-seven water outlets tested above 20 ug/L, which is the maximum level allowed by EPA guidelines. These outlets were spread out among 15% of the 84 facilities that were tested. This resulted in 4% of all outlets tested.
- Facilities tested were given a bar chart showing lead level results for every outlet tested, which was much easier to read than the report generated by the EPA test lab. In the case of an outlet with elevated levels, a more detailed chart containing a photo of the outlet in question was also given to the facilities.
- The EPA will be analyzing the results provided by the CCPHD. The WKKF will have a guidance document written by an outside contractor to assist facilities on starting their own water testing.
- Overall lead levels are low in drinking water within Calhoun County schools and child care facilities. Future directions could include having the CCPHD send a reminder letter to facilities every year or two to remind them to test their water for lead.

Lefevre would recommend repeating this testing every five years as buildings age. Flushing will help remove the lead or just move it around depending on the plumbing, but it will not eliminate the underlying issue. Unfortunately funding is always a hurdle.

## **Finance**

Tekiele presented the FYE16 budget. The budget is more complex than previous years and the FYE16 expenses have risen dramatically due to new programs such as the Michigan Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting Program (MI-APPP), Lakeview Health Center, Family Planning, Telehealth, and Albion Health Department expansion.

- The overall budget is almost \$7.5 million.
- Averages from the past year are used to determine expenses and revenue for the next budget year.
- Indirect costs are budgeted at 24%.
- The CCPHD is asking to use \$30,000, if needed, out of the fund balance to help pay for Family Planning software and equipment for the Albion Health Department location.
- Fringe costs for hospitalization have increased 7% over the previous year.
- The \$1.4 million WKKF grant has changed. The grant will no longer be used for the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program because NFP will be state funded. The WKKF has not informed the CCPHD as to what will happen with the money that was previously earmarked for Health Equity Alliance and NFP, so those revenue amounts have not been included in the FYE16 budget.
- Family Planning has been combined with the STD and HIV programs. Once there is a nurse practitioner (NP) on-site the CCPHD will be able to bill for STD testing.

- The refugee program will be billed to Medicaid for lab services instead of the state, which will probably cause revenue to go down. The CCPHD is also required to hire an NP for the refugee program this coming year.
- The fee schedule for the adolescent health care centers has not increased since they opened. Some insurance companies will pay more than the CCPHD is currently charging. The new fee schedule has increased to be 20% higher than the highest insurance reimbursement. However, students will not be required to pay beyond what the insurance reimbursements will be, including Medicaid reimbursement.

Suggestion was made to change headings on page 19 of the FYE16 budget proposal from “Current FYE15 Budget” to “Current Amended FYE15 Budget.” Also on page 19, it should clearly indicate that the mandated programs showing \$0 in revenue and \$0 in expenditures were rolled into another category, rather than being eliminated.

Question was asked if charging for STD services will impact participation of program users because of the cost. No, charges to clients will not change. The CCPHD will now have the ability to bill insurances for RN services once there is an NP working within the CCPHD.

Mullett motioned for approval of the FYE16 budget as proposed. Hensley seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Health Officer Report**

Rutherford presented the Health Officer Report. The report included:

- An NP must be hired for the Family Planning program. Ads have been placed, but the pay at the CCPHD is lower than some others in the area pay, which can make it hard to fill this position.
- Due to water being shutoff at the Triangle Mobile Home Park, the CCPHD went forward with preparation to condemn all of the properties. The owner paid the minimum payment owed on their water bill at the last minute to have the water turned back on. The park’s license is due to be renewed with LARA on October 1, 2015. The owner has agreed to meet with Rutherford in his office to explain his side of the story.
- Reece wrote a press release on the Giant Hogweed which was recently discovered in Calhoun County. This press release went viral. The release appeared on People.com, Yahoo!, etc. The CCPHD has been contacted by staff from Notre Dame University who are interested in coming to Calhoun County to study the Giant Hogweed.

### **Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.**

For a copy of the presentation or the Health Officer report, please contact Deb Metzgar at 269-969-6463 or via email at [dmetzgar@calhouncountymi.gov](mailto:dmetzgar@calhouncountymi.gov)