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**Calhoun County Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
August 21, 2017**

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**Board of Health**

Nancy Mullett, Chairperson  
Mary Jo Byrne, Vice-Chairperson  
Mark Crawford  
Steve Frisbie  
Sheryl Mitchell

**Health Department**

Eric Pessell, Health Officer  
Amanda Smith  
Michelle Thorne

**County Administration**

Michele Johnson  
Kelli Scott, Administrator

**Other**

**Absent**

Rebecca Fleury

**Meeting called to order**

Mullett called the meeting to order at 8:02am.

**Agenda**

Mitchell motioned for agenda approval. Byrne seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Consent Agenda**

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

**Public Comment**

No public comment

**Presentation**

Michelle Thorne, Personal Health Services Manager, presented on Immunization Waivers. The presentation included:

- Public Health Code overview
  - Parent must provide the school with a statement of exemption or certificate of immunization in order to attend school
  - Illnesses must be reported to the local health department (LHD)
  - Health Officer can exclude ill person, or any other susceptible people in a setting to decrease the transmission of disease threat

- House Bill
  - Representative Barrett proposing bills 4425 and 4426
    - ♦ Parent must meet with a public health department staff to determine if immunizations are a good option for their child
- History of vaccination
  - According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Michigan is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> worst in the nation with vaccine waivers
- Immunization waiver form
  - State of Michigan creates the waiver form, LHD cannot create their own
  - Decrease in waivers since the new approach
  - Calhoun County is 5<sup>th</sup> of the lowest waiver rates in 84 counties
    - ♦ Current Calhoun County waiver rate is 1.6%
    - ♦ 2013 Calhoun County waiver rate was 2.5%
    - ♦ 2014 Calhoun County waiver rate was 3.0%

Mullett suggested parents sign and receive a copy of the waiver acknowledging the consequences of a child not being vaccinated in the event of an illness outbreak. Consequences of carrying, exposure, or having symptoms of a communicable disease could result in exclusion from school for 21 days or more.

### **Health Officer's Report**

Pessell presented the Health Officer report. The report included:

- The School Wellness Program (SWP) continues to work on the future of the program and funding.
- Pessell, Glomski, Reichenbaugh, and Johnson visited the Kent County SWP and the Spectrum Health SWP to discuss SWP staffing patterns, funding, and operations.
- A small workgroup will begin meeting in October with a deadline of January 2018 to discuss a future SWP program model.
- Kevin Green will start on September 25<sup>th</sup> as the Environmental Health Manager
- Arcadia Brewery is closing September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.
- Recent water main break on Beckley road resulted in six restaurants voluntarily closing due to no power.
- FY18 budget will be presented to the Board of Health and the Board of Commissioners in September.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:04a.m.**

For a copy of the presentation or the Health Officer report, please contact Amanda Smith at 269-969-6477 or via email at [asmith@calhouncountymi.gov](mailto:asmith@calhouncountymi.gov)