

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Budget Subcommittee Meeting Tuesday, June 12, 2007, 10:00 a.m.

Call to Order

The Budget Subcommittee held a meeting on the FY2008 budget on June 12, 2007 in Meeting Room 2 at the Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington, Urbana. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by John Peterson.

Roll Call

Susan Maurer and John Peterson were the Budget Subcommittee members present at the time of roll call.

Others present were Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney), Julie Pryde (Interim CUPHD Administrator), and Teresa Sturm (CUPHD Director of Finance).

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Discussion of FY2008 Board of Health Budget With Interim C-U Public Health Administrator

Peterson has asked Pryde about the core services budget, because it was a major point of contention in last year's budget. Pryde said the budget was left in an "interesting state" and Sturm was working through it. Last year, the CUPHD Administrator, Vito Palazzolo, said he did not want to produce the Board of Health's budget. Instead the County Administrator should produce the Board of Health's side of the budget. It was agreed this would continue in order to have the budget in the County format, if it is acceptable with Deb Busey, the County Administrator of Finance & HR Management. Peterson acknowledged the Board of Health (BOH) was trying to obtain realistic figures from CUPHD so decisions could be made about what the Board could afford in the next fiscal year.

McGrath noted that CUPHD is contractually obligated to provide the BOH with a document titled Appendix B. Appendix B is supposed to be CUPHD's presentation to the BOH about the services provided with the BOH's money. CUPHD did not provide this document last year despite repeated requests.

Pryde stated that Environmental Health is the most costly of the core services. The other core service is Communicable Diseases, which is the division Pryde runs at CUPHD. Pryde spoke about the services offered by the Communicable Diseases Division, including which services are paid for by clients. She was unsure who pays for the services a client receives when the client does not pay. Pryde suggested using the big mobile unit as the most cost effective way of getting services to County residents. The BOH could set the calendar for mobile visits and CUPHD would comply. Pryde said the mobile unit is beneficial because it is highly visible, but marketing needs done to make people aware of it. She wanted to offer every possible CUPHD service on the mobile unit. She described some of her visits to rural communities and the need for health education.

Peterson said the BOH was concerned that the community service events put on by CUPHD in the past had low attendance. He recommended taking the mobile unit to a community center on a set schedule so people know services are available on certain dates. Pryde said a part of the problem was that the mobile was only being advertised for the elderly. McGrath passed along Stan James's recommendation to hold mobile visits at the same time as local fairs. Pryde said they could definitely look into that idea.

Maurer asked how the BOH will be charged when rural residents use services on the mobile unit. Pryde stated the BOH will not be charged per service, instead the Board will be charged for the staff time spent out on the mobile unit. The number of services provided will not matter because CUPHD will be billing Medicaid whenever possible or providing free services, like blood pressure screening. Pryde did not think it was practical to charge the BOH for each individual service because the goal is to provide a person with all possible services while that person is on the mobile unit. She envisioned charging the BOH a single rate and setting a schedule for visits. Pryde offered to have Tammy, the mobile coordinator, come to a BOH meeting to list all the services the unit provides.

Pryde said another area that needs improvement is emergency preparedness. McGrath stated the Illinois Department of Public Health is holding an emergency preparedness conference on July 16th that she will be attending on the first day. Pryde expressed concern about drug resistant TB coming to Champaign County with its isolation and quarantine requirements.

Pryde hypothesized that the BOH services comprise 10% of CUPHD's activities. McGrath asked if the Environmental Health fees paid by the BOH pay for the costs of that department. Pryde did not know and agreed to look into it. McGrath said the enforcement activities could be charged to businesses with some ordinance revisions. Peterson noted the BOH had not been given accurate figures about the true costs of Environmental Health activities and these were needed in setting the budget and reviewing fees. It was the BOH's intention to break even on the activities with the Environmental Health fees. Discussion was held over how the past budgets were set based on the information provided by CUPHD. Peterson said the BOH was likely going to contract with the Regional Planning Commission for the nurses' home visits. McGrath said the BOH would receive a proposal from RPC at the June board meeting. Peterson remarked the BOH was interested in maintaining a presence in Rantoul. Pryde talked about testing WIC clients in Rantoul for some STDs when other tests are run. Pryde offered to put the BOH's name and logo on the mobile unit. Peterson and Maurer confirmed the Board would want its name on the mobile unit.

McGrath announced Deb Busey would bring a proposal for a secretarial position to the BOH at the June Board meeting. The BOH has built the funding for this position into its budget. Also in the budget is funding for a grant-writing position that would be shared with another County department. A serious point of contention last year was whether the contract between the BOH and CUPHD included administrative services. The role of the CUPHD Administrator as the BOH Administrator was discussed. Pryde inquired why the BOH was budgeting for a grant-writing position. Peterson answered that the BOH did not receive administrative support from CUPHD under the previous Administrator, Vito Palazzolo. Under the previous administration, the BOH was informed that no grant work specific to the County would be done and any Medicaid or Medicare money coming in was not worth tabulating. Pryde explained most grants are for the entire Champaign County area. Grants are usually not written specifically for the Champaign-Urbana area versus the outlying County area. Peterson noted the grant-writing position has not been filled and the BOH was looking into

collaborating with the Mental Health Board for this position. McGrath said the Mental Health Board would like to perform more services in the county area and came to the BOH with a proposal to work collaboratively to look at more mental health related programs for county residents. The grant-writing position evolved from this discussion.

Peterson felt if CUPHD was willing to work with the BOH and have the CUPHD Administrator function as the BOH Administrator, then a number of concerns could be resolved. Pryde confirmed her intention was to re-establish the relationship with the BOH. McGrath said the BOH needs to know the CUPHD Board's position on the Administrator in a timely manner so the BOH can contract for another Administrator, if it is necessary. The subcommittee and Pryde preferred to have the CUPHD Administrator also serve as the BOH Administrator for the benefit of both health departments. Pryde would speak to the CUPHD Board to verify this was also their intention. McGrath felt the biggest issue was for the BOH to get a sense from the CUPHD Board regarding their plans to service the contract so all parties are clear on what needs to be done. The BOH budget must be presented to the County Board on August 26th and should be finalized the week before that meeting. The BOH wanted to have a clear cost figure from the CUPHD for services to complete their budget by mid-August. Pryde said that she and the BOH needed to settle on the services and total cost for the full year, then divide that figure into twelve monthly payments. If any unexpected outbreak occurs, then CUPHD will respond to it regardless of its contractual relationship with the BOH. Maurer asked that CUPHD maintain statistics on the number of people seen and the services they received so the BOH can adjust services as needed. Pryde verified CUPHD staff already collects that information.

Discussion continued over Pryde's intention of providing all services on the mobile unit and how to promote those visits to increase the rural people using those services. Peterson wanted to have a budget ready for presentation to the board within two more subcommittee meetings. Pryde said the BOH should consider having CUPHD provide their dental services because the district employs two dentists and offered to put together a proposal. The CIDES dental program funded by the BOH and dental needs in Champaign County were discussed at length.

Establishment of Next Meeting Date

The next Budget Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for July 16th at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Board of Health Secretary

Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.