

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, February 24, 2009, 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The Board of Health held its monthly meeting on February 24, 2009 in Meeting Room 3 at the Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington, Urbana. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Julian Rappaport. Board members Stan James, John Peterson, Cherryl Ramirez, Julian Rappaport, Bobbi Scholze, and Betty Segal were present at the time of roll call. Prashanth Gowda arrived after roll call. The staff members present were Kat Bork (Board of Health Secretary) and Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney). Others present were Carol Elliott (CUPHD Board Member), Nancy Greenwalt (Smile Healthy Executive Director), Julie Pryde (CUPHD Administrator), and Jim Roberts (CUPHD Environmental Health Director).

Approval of Agenda/Addendum

MOTION by James to approve the agenda; seconded by Segal. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Peterson to approve the Board of Health minutes of January 27, 2009; seconded by Segal.

Pryde provided a correction to Ramirez's statements about the CATCH program under the Wellness & Health Promotion discussion. She stated the CATCH program is being used right now in the Thomasboro, Fisher, Unity West, and Dr. Howard schools. Carrie Busey will be using it next year. Rappaport had minor corrections to words on Lines 123 and 181.

Motion carried as amended with all ayes.

Public Participation on Agenda Items Only

There was no public participation on the agenda items.

Correspondence and Communications

Bork reported that the joint study session with the Mental Health Board is still expected to be held in March. More information will be known after Thursday's quarterly planning meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of CUPHD Invoice for December 2008

Peterson noted CUPHD in running one month behind with its invoices. He inquired if CUPHD would catch up or if they were not concerned with the current situation. Pryde indicated the current situation was fine. She said some things would have to be adjusted and she would explain more under the Administrator's Report.

Gowda entered the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

MOTION by Peterson to approve the December 2008 CUPHD invoice for payment; seconded by James. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Peterson noted the Board of Health's budget process will begin in May. The Board will talk about budget more significantly in April. He was concerned about the IMRF issues every unit of government will be facing next year.

Issues Regarding CUPHD
Report from CUPHD Administrator

Pryde highlighted the new CUPHD website and email addresses. Peterson asked if CUPHD now had in-house technological support. Pryde confirmed CUPHD has had in-house support for a few years. Pryde provided information about a recent TB case the district is still dealing with because the infected individual is not complying with treatment. Pryde has given the individual a directive on treatment and will go back to court if he does not comply. The case has cost CUPHD \$21,000 since December. Pryde sent updates on the Lincoln's Challenge food-borne illness outbreak via email and emphasized that the *News-Gazette* article was not accurate. The Board discussed contacts from the press regarding the recent Lincoln's Challenge outbreak. Pryde confirmed the right way to handle questions from the press was to refer the media to her. She noted CUPHD has an after-hours answering service to direct calls to staff regardless of when someone calls with an emergency. Rappaport asked if the Board had a particular responsibility with the case. Peterson acknowledged this was an example of an event that can cost a lot of money which a public health department has no way of recouping. Pryde agreed and described how some public health cases can be costly, such as how the drug resistant TB cases can cost \$500,000 for treating one client. Segal inquired how the associated costs will be covered because it occurred in the County's area but the Board has a contract with CUPHD for a flat rate. Pryde said Andrea Wallace was still totaling the cost and a portion will be brought to the Board of Health. She stated there will be significant cost increases that CUPHD cannot absorb so she will ask to revise the budget because of unanticipated costs. She wanted to make sure the Board was aware of the planning considerations on Page 2 of her report. The Public Health Accreditation Board has released draft standards and it will take money to comply with the standards, though Pryde indicated CUPHD would likely receive grants for this purpose. The accreditation standards will be voluntary at first, but it is believed that funding and grants will be tied to the standards. Pryde pointed out the extreme cost of the Champaign TB case, the fact that not enough pandemic preparation has been done in County areas, the IMRF increase will cost CUPHD \$359,000 next year, worker's comp went up 17%, and utilities and mileage cost will go up too.

On the dental side, Pryde stated the number of children on Medicaid has exploded and CUPHD cannot keep up even with two full-time dental teams. She was worried the Board of Health was moving towards "United Way kind of model" with grants and advised this is a critical time to focus on essential public health services. She was concerned the Board would grant away all of its money and recommended the Board focus everything it has on core public health services, then keep some money in reserve for emergency situations. Pryde stated CUPHD's funding is flat and their salaries have gone up. She is not anticipating staff pay raises next year, but CUPHD's increased IMRF costs give her great concern.

James acknowledged there may come the day when agencies have to consider whether IMRF is a cost effective plan to offer employees. Pryde explained all plans are taking a beating right now in the current economy. James suggested CUPHD undergo some internal training or send out memos to lessen the worker's compensation claims because those rates are based on the claims coming from the agency. Pryde stated CUPHD is ironically having more workers' compensation claims because they had training about it. She said the HR Department is working on these things, but these costs are out of CUPHD's control right now. James asked about the mileage costs because the price of gasoline has fluctuated. He indicated the Board would be hard-pressed to cover the costs and still offer the services they are thinking about with the Board's limited budget. He encouraged the Board to have a conversation about the financial side soon. Peterson and Rappaport suggested the Budget Committee hold a meeting or a study session on financial issues. Pryde stated Andrea Wallace was working on developing the information and could have it ready the next time CUPHD sends an invoice to the Board. Rappaport explained that at this minute the Board of Health has a contract for services with a stimulated budget. The Board would have to make some decisions to do anything differently than its present contract. The Board could not just pay a new bill without some consideration. Pryde said the budget revision for the remainder of the contract year was a separate issue. These were her suggestions for future planning and the direction the Board could start looking. Peterson offered for the Budget Committee to meet with Pryde before May when she has everything together. Carol Elliott suggested waiting until after the County Clerk has issued the levy information in mid-March. James asked Pryde to relay a request for Wallace to include the percentage change for IMRF and other financial requests. Pryde agreed to do so.

The Board decided to hold a Budget Committee meeting on March 17, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. and to invite Deb Busey to attend. Further discussion was held about a possible future study session on budget issues.

Division Monthly Reports

Maternal & Child Health (Gowda)

Gowda found information about the Huff and Puff Children's Asthma Program and inquired if any schools were involved. Pryde did not know, but CUPHD would be starting a county-wide asthma coalition using grant money. Gowda thought it may be good to pass information about asthma education programs onto all Champaign County schools. James suggested sending flyers to the Regional Superintendent's Office.

Infectious Disease, Mobile Unit (James)

James has spoken with Pryde about the mobile unit program and his concerns. He had hoped more people would have utilized it for the amount it costs and suggested having routine community stops lasting several hours. He is trying to get the Ludlow mayor more involved. CUPHD has adjusted the mobile unit's locations and schedule, but people do not visit it in winter unless for a specific purpose like a flu shot. James suggested finding ways to increase the publicity of the mobile unit. The Board will evaluate whether it will continue this program based on its cost-effectiveness.

Environmental Health (Peterson)

Peterson and Roberts met today and decided to look at enforcement issues and changes to the ordinance to reflect CUPHD's costs. The costs associated with noncompliance mount up from the notification to the actual hearing. They are looking at the \$25 per hour re-inspection fees and increasing this fee to \$75 per hour. Peterson wanted to put in real fines for businesses who repeatedly fail the inspections. The shortfall between the income and expense would not be recouped, but there would be additional incentives to comply in the ordinance. Roberts reported there was an enormous hassle with about a third of the food establishments' late license fees. Peterson felt he and Roberts made good progress towards looking at late fees and making an inspection failure into an ordinance violation. They are not contemplating adding the travel costs, but definitely looking at reflecting the cost of staff time. Rappaport asked where they were in the process. Peterson said he and Roberts took the narrow task of developing enforcement provisions and this is what they focused on today because McGrath was not present. McGrath was at the first meeting and then the project became a complete review of the public health ordinance. The intent is to bring something to the Board of Health, CUPHD, and the County Board in the fall. Pryde and Elliott agreed it was a good idea for CUPHD and the County to have consistent ordinances.

James emphasized they only want to penalize those establishments doing something wrong. Pryde anticipated more problems because when the economy is bad more hourly food service employees go to work sick instead of staying home. Discussion was held about the outbreak at Lincoln's Challenge and the causes of it. Rappaport asked if the outbreak was the result of a human problem or structural problem. Roberts attributed the problem as being more human because a sick person came to work and contaminated the kitchen, but there were problems with the building's condition. Discussion continued over the incident.

Peterson asked about the situation at the Cherry Orchard Apartments that James has brought up at past meetings. James spoke about how constituents have called him about the condition of the Cherry Orchard area. He was surprised there has not been an outbreak over there. It is outside the Rantoul city limits so James contacted the County's Planning & Zoning Department, only to be told they have a backlog of 300 cases. Roberts explained the County has an ordinance that deals with food, sewage, water, and infectious disease. Roberts explained the water supply at the Cherry Orchard Apartments is inspected/monitored by the regional office of Illinois Department of Public Health. In this case, the township supervisor acts as health officer and Roberts suggested contacting the supervisor. McGrath confirmed the County has limited authority to enforce nuisance complaints because it is not a home rule unit. The Board discussed who could be contacted to address the Cherry Orchard situation, including state legislators. Scholze suggested the writing a letter expressing concerns to the Rantoul Township Supervisor, James Rusk, and keep doing so with some regularity. McGrath concurred the township supervisor could receive a communication from the State's Attorney's that Cherry Orchard has pending nuisance complaints and the State's Attorney will be moving forward on the sewage issue. Rappaport asked McGrath to draft such a letter. Segal suggested sending a copy of the letter to the property owner and McGrath noted her office is in contact with the owner on other issues. James wanted the Township Supervisor to do his due diligence. Rappaport suggesting carbon copying the state legislators on the letter to the Township Supervisor.

MOTION by James for McGrath to draft the letter for Rappaport to sign; seconded by Scholze. **Motion carried with all ayes.**
Wellness & Health Promotion (Ramirez)

Ramirez met with Deb Fruitt and Nikki Hillier from CUPHD about other schools that offer the CATCH program. A presentation will be made about this program at the March meeting. This type of program is very cost effective type program. The Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois is co-hosting a policy forum with the Illinois Public Health Association on state and national legislation on March 25, 2009. The former State Medicaid Director will address the forum. The Board supported Ramirez forwarding emails on Illinois public health-related legislation.

MOTION by James to receive and place on file the CUPHD Division Monthly Reports for January 2009; seconded by Scholze. **Motion carried.**

Issues Regarding RPC Senior Wellness Program (Scholze)

There was nothing new to report this month.

Issues Regarding Crisis Nursery Perinatal Depression Program (Segal)

Segal remarked the quarterly planning meeting with the Mental Health Board representatives will be held this Thursday on February 26, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Mental Health Board Office.

Issues Regarding Smile Healthy

Greenwalt provided the yearly tally with the monthly report. There were no mobile clinic events in January, but many were held in February. Greenwalt described the Give Kids a Smile event held on February 7, 2009. With 100 volunteers, including 14 dentists, over 209 documented exams were provided to children at the event. Smile Healthy has done many dental exams at Lincoln's Challenge and are working with Frances Nelson on the Bright Smiles from Birth Program. This program will target children ages 0-3 who do not normally go to a dentist. Greenwalt continues to work with Bridge to Healthy Smiles to improve the level of Medicaid reimbursements for dentists, Smile Healthy, and other organizations. A pediatric dental chair was added to the Savoy Head Start site and is serving Head Start families 3 days a week. The mobile dental clinic will start in March at Frances Nelson.

Greenwalt described how the Medicaid administration continues to be frustrating. The demand for dental services continues to grow. Pryde stated the reason is that CUPHD and Smile Healthy are it for services. James asked about the Medicaid claims. Greenwalt explained the state loses some Medicaid claims for months and this delays reimbursement even further. Some work from August has still not been paid. The Board discussed the number of people on Medicaid, the county unemployment rate, and the possible effect off the stimulus package. Greenwalt described a meeting she on Friday about the collaboration for rural public transportation system. RPC has the opportunity to receive substantial funding from the Illinois Department of Transportation, but they

must have a certain number of surveys completed. The Board directed Bork to contact RPC about the rural transportation survey.

MOTION by James receive and place on file the Smile Healthy January 2009 monthly report; seconded by Segal. **Motion carried.**

Other Business

Follow-Up Report from Ramirez and Scholze Regarding Grant Process

Scholze stated Peter Tracy had been very helpful and willing to share his documents with the Board of Health. Scholze and Ramirez met with Tracy to discuss the Mental Health Board's templates and the indirect costs they typically see with programs. They provided a list of twelve recommended to the Board, including holding strategic planning or study sessions, increasing the Board's understanding of the state contracts for CUPHD, and developing a policy regarding overhead after administrative costs when funding program. The Board discussed the information presented and the need to develop a systemic way to evaluate programs. Rappaport was in favor of the Board increasing its understanding of the state grant contracts and what piece of those contracts should be focused on the County. He was surprised to learn how much the Board is paying for overhead with some programs. Scholze asked what kinds of documents the Board would like to see and what would a strategic plan be based on. The Board of Health has less money than the Mental Health Board, but that format can be a useful sample. Ramirez liked Mental Health Board's application process timeline with its formal decision-making process being complete well in advance of the fiscal year budget process. James stated that even with budget concerns, it does not hurt to get everything in place and come up with a list of programs. He advised the Board of the Health to remember its charter. If this application is put into place, then it will be ready whenever the Board has some discretionary funds. James was concerned about decisions being made at the last minute without a through knowledge of what programs are available in Champaign County. He spoke highly of Tracy's progress in administering the County Board's Juvenile Delinquency Grants.

Scholze asked if the Board wanted Ramirez and her to continue their work to clearly define the process and present something to the Board. Rappaport indicated they should, including sample forms with timelines. Segal said the Board could always develop a wish list in case some money comes along and James agreed. Pryde encouraged the Board to read the public health statutes and the CUPHD website to try to understand more of what they can statutorily do. She was willing to help assist with the Board's understanding, but a great deal of understanding involves reading. James suggested setting money aside in each budget for contingency purposes that could be spent on wish list items if it has not been spent by the last two months of the fiscal year. The Board discussed developing the forms and then submitting them to McGrath for legal review. Scholze asked how to proceed. Rappaport was in favor of a study session and to have the Scholze-Ramirez team make some recommendations about the process. The Board agreed Ramirez and Scholze should continue developing the forms and procedure to be used to evaluate Board of Health programs and funding requests, using the Mental Health Board documents as a template.

The Board discussed having a Budget Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m. immediately before the joint study session on March 17th.

Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items Only

There was no public participation on non-agenda items.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.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.