

# CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

## Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Champaign County Board of Health held its monthly meeting on March 27, 2007 in Meeting Room 2 at Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington, Urbana. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Kim Winston. Upon roll call, the following board members were found to be present: Rappaport, O'Rourke, Peterson, James, Kassem, Maurer, and Winston. The following members were absent: Carrie Storrs. Others present: Susan McGrath

### **Public Participation**

Claudia Lenhoff spoke regarding the Home Nursing Visit Program reminding the committee that they had talked about how to develop a different model for a program that could reach more people and make more effective use of the resources. At that time she mentioned her organization would have the capacity to research some programs around the country. She explained they have completed the research process and have identified a lot of programs that might be very nice models for our community. She mentioned getting together so they can present what they found and what more needs to be done. She spoke in her capacity as a member of the board of CIDES, informing the committee that Lisa Bell resigned from the program. The Board of Directors went through a search and hiring process with the goal being to hire in a way to strengthen the organization and make a seamless transition process. She introduced Nancy Greenwalt as the new Executive Director and stated they also hired a Dental Hygienist who is also working as program coordinator. Because of this transition and because the Board of Health wanted a change in the monthly reports, they haven't been able to get the Board the February monthly report but they will next month and they are going through the information and are going to re-vamp how they get it to us.

The committee decided the report will be sent to the recording secretary who will distribute it with the agenda.

Nancy Greenwalt introduced herself stating the program goal is to keep things seamless for the people who use the program. She presented the board with new contact information stating they now have office space in downtown Champaign. Mr. James stated he believes Nancy is a great choice for the position.

**Approval of Minutes of Regular Board meeting January 30, 2007**

Mr. O'Rourke stated he had asked Mr. Grosser a question in the meeting regarding Mr. Palazollo's attendance at their meetings and if it was because he wishes to be there or because he feels it is part of his obligation. He remembers Mr. Grosser stating he would find get back with an answer and Mr. O'Rourke would like that dialogue between himself and Mr. Grosser included in the minutes.

**MOTION** by O'Rourke to approve the regular board meeting minutes of January 30, 2007, as amended; seconded by James. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Rappaport asked about getting the minutes more than an hour before the meeting. Ms. McGrath stated they are working to catch up on all the minutes.

**Monthly Reports (February 2007)**

**CIDES**

Ms. Winston stated the Board is fine with holding off until next month for the February and March reports.

**Correspondence & Communications**

There were no Correspondence & Communications.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Report from Champaign County Administrator Deb Busey**

Dr. Peterson explained Ms. Busey has copied the format the committee likes and there is a line where they pull out the CUPHD tax revenue which makes it clear what we are dealing with. **MOTION** by Dr. Peterson to receive the report and place it on file; seconded by Dr. Rappaport. **Motion carried.**

**Approval of Invoice submitted by CUPHD for 1/07 and 2/07**

**MOTION** by Dr. Peterson to approve the January invoice; seconded by James. **Motion carried.**

**Report from the CUPHD Administrator**  
**Further discussion about Home Health Nursing Program**

Mr. Palazzolo and Deb Fruitt, both of the CUPHD, passed out information which provided the board with a history on the Home Health Nursing Program; how it was put together, what it is and what it does. It also gives an overview of the current program and who is responsible for what as well as a proposal for a revised program. He stated he wants to emphasize this is a work in progress and will continue to be so; these are preliminary thoughts on what he is looking at as the Administrator. One thing very evident to him as he looked at the program and its functionality and cost is it continues to need to be reviewed which they have started to do. In 2006 the program cost CUPHD \$463,983 and roughly brought in about \$50,000 so it was a drain on the CUPHD budget to provide services, at that time, for 175 people. In reviewing that, he reduced staff immediately from 5 to 2 and they are still seeing about 136 clients. Currently they have two Bachelor of Science nurses and they looked to see if that expertise is needed in this program. The information provided will show that they have determined they don't need Bachelor of Science nurses to do some of the stuff being done in the program and some of those things wouldn't constitute skilled nursing. They are paying for the highest salaried nurses to provide low type services to the client so they will continue to look at that. He reminded the committee that Dr. Rappaport had mentioned looking at a case manager position. He feels strongly that is the direction this program needs to go in and this board has looked at or thought about funding a position in that capacity and that is something that CUPHD and the County can work into. He believes that will be the key in the success of this program; one thing they don't have is the evaluation of what and how we do so they are looking at that case by case to see what is done in each home. In the information provided, he has laid out what that case manager position would be responsible for; preliminary could do and should do to facilitate this program. He emphasized this program needs to transition to a concentration on education and training. He also mentioned that CUPHD cannot do this alone and so far, in his opinion, they have been. They need to figure out exactly what is needed out there and see if family members could take on any of those duties which will reduce the program; he is also looking at reducing the nursing staff and would look at LPN's or RN's. When asked where he would like to see the cost of this program, Mr. Palazzolo stated he will not put a number on it. With this program it is not the cost of the funds, it's what are we getting for those dollars and \$500,000 could be a great number if we were servicing 500 people in a lot of areas. He will say he needs to justify why they are spending \$500,000 on the program and what it does. Mr. James stated if he is setting a budget he will have to know how much he has to spend and he is hearing that \$500,000 is too much therefore he would like a ballpark number to work with. He reminded Mr. Palazzolo that they discussed, as a board, that some of the services that have been provided may be a bit much and at this point he was hoping for more information.

Mr. Palazzolo stated the County needs to decide what they want to spend; he is getting no support from the County, other than our contract, which is about \$40-45,000; once the board decides what services they want he can put a number on it and it is the job of the county board to answer those questions, it is not his job. He can tell them what they can do in C-U but the County is their own responsibility. Mr. James stated he needs to see costs. Mr. Palazzolo stated they can look at their statements, which are divided into 12ths, and figure out what the costs are. The program is going to change because he wants it to be more cost effective and efficient and he pointed out that how the CUPHD functioned in the past is irrelevant to him, the past administrator allowed staff to do stuff in the county in the past without getting paid, using CUPHD dollars, which is not right either. He is not trying to be negative against this board or county taxpayers but CUPHD dollars have to stay in CUPHD borders, he does what his board tells him to do.

O'Rourke stated they were concerned about the past services and the amount of people and it is good they are reviewing. He asked if they find out there are 100 cases that need these services, if they could then come back to the board with costs for that. He pointed out that we all share the same concerns. Mr. Palazzolo stated that is what they are working for and he asked the board to understand that CUPHD, as a health department, has not been managed very well and it is going to take him some time to fix it; they have made great strides and will continue to.

Mr. Palazzolo reported that over the last month they have created a new program, they just bought a new mobile unit, already set up for exams, they are going to modify and provide eye care. They have received money to facilitate the needs of the equipment on the mobile and through a partnership with Carle; they are paying them back for the mobile and giving \$50,000 to add dental units. They are also going to start an adult dental program 2 half days a week and the goal with the mobile is to get Optometrists and dentists to take it to a location and let kids come on and receive the services. This board can look at their interest in offering those services in the County. His goal with the new program is to start slow but expand within the boundaries of C-U within the next several months.

#### **Old Business**

- 1. Response from Board President Letter to Carol Elliott**
- 2. Response from Board President Letter to Vito Palazzolo**
- 3. Report on payment of fee to Illinois Association Board of Health**
- 4. Response from Board President Letter to Peter Tracy**

Ms. McGrath stated items 1-4 were items Board members asked for follow up on to make sure we were making progress or had sent out correspondence.

The Board may recall the President sent a letter to Carol Elliott, after the January meeting, asking for specification on what programs CUPHD thought the County was not making its fair contribution to and find out what needed to be done. As of today they have not received a response from that correspondence. The board also asked to make sure we had paid the fee for them to belong to the Illinois Association of Boards of Health, which has been paid and they are official members. Ms. Winston sent a letter to Peter Tracy to inform him about the appointments made at the February meeting, the joint committee to talk about cooperative efforts between the two boards. Mr. Tracy is taking that issue to his board for their appointments to be made so we should hear something from him shortly.

### **New Business**

#### **Set date for contract committee to study action items assigned to committee at February 20, 2007 Board meeting**

The members stated they will find a date that works. Ms. Winston stated she and Ms. Storrs are to meet to look at the County ordinance and they will also set a date and time for that meeting.

#### **Agenda for April 10, 2007 Study Session if needed**

The Board determined the Study Session was not necessary. Mr. Rappaport stated we need to include the proposal presented by Mr. Palazzolo on next month's agenda. When asked how soon they intend to implement the new program, Mr. Palazzolo stated it will depend on the County board and what they decide they would like, the program is under review. He stated he would like to respond regarding the letter to Ms. Elliott explaining that she has asked where the information is to respond to that letter and the bottom line is that they have not finished looking at services and costs. There are no programs that have been cut off.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **Adjournment**

**MOTION** by James to adjourn; seconded by Peterson. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.