

**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Monthly Meeting**

**January 30, 2007**

The Board of Health of Champaign County held its monthly meeting on January 30, 2007 in meeting room two at Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington, Urbana. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m by Ms. Maurer. Upon roll call, the following board members were found to be present: Nezar Kassem, Susan Maurer, Thomas O'Rourke, John Peterson, Julian Rappaport and Carrie Storrs. The following board members were absent: Stan James and Kim Winston.

**Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**Approval of Minutes – Regular Session of November 27, 2006 and Study Session of January 16, 2007**

**MOTION** by Kassem to approve the regular session minutes of November 27, 2006 and the Study Session minutes of January 16, 2007 as presented; seconded by Rappaport. **Motion carried.**

**Monthly Reports – CIDES December 2006**

Ms. Maurer asked if they could get this report via email and not on paper. Dr. Peterson stated there are still some people who would prefer to receive a hard copy of this report; he stated he will circulate a list at the end of the meeting to determine who would like to receive the reports by email.

Ms. Busey stated they have a number of other reports that go along with County Board committees that are not copied but are posted on the website so if the board would like, that is an option.

Claudia Lenhoff stated they can propose a summary report and get that to the committee.

**Correspondence and Communications**

Ms. McGrath stated in addition to the correspondence and communications included in the agenda, the members also received, via email, copies of correspondence to and from the attorney for the Public Health District regarding the Administrator's role in the contract between the two entities.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Approval of Invoice submitted by CUPHD for 12/06

Ms. Busey stated, in the future, if the board would like, she could provide a statement showing where they are in terms of the fund balance with the projected budget revenues and expenditures for the year. Dr. Peterson stated that would be helpful and he stated he would like to defer the approval of the invoice until after the CUPHD Administrators report.

### **Chair's Report**

Communications sent to CUPHD Administrator & Board Chair

Ms. McGrath stated the attached letters are communications between the Administrator and the Board Chair, which were asked to be sent out. When asked about her interpretation of the letter from Mr. Grosser, She explained that in their existing contract paragraph 13 states the Board of Health is required to appoint a medical health officer as the executive officer or appoint a public health administrator for the County Health Department. The public health administrator of the Public Health District shall function as such public health administrator for the County health department. She explained the correspondence is designed to answer that question and now they have to look at the interpretation of the contract between the district and ourselves. Our interpretation is based upon the agreement that we believe was reached three years ago saying that the Public Health District would allow its administrator to also function as our administrator. We need to examine what people believe that paragraph means and what capacity we believe the administrator serves for our public health department.

Mr. Grosser explained the initial contract was negotiated between the State's Attorney's office and the Public Health District and this provision was in there at that time. For the County's health department to be designated as a certified local health department under the regulations of the Illinois dept. of public health it was necessary to designate someone as public health administrator or the medical officer and that was the sole reason for doing that. It was discussed with Steve Zielger during discussions. The next section in the contract made it clear that was the only function that the public health administrator did, saying no employee of the public health district is an employee of the county health department for any purpose. When the 2<sup>nd</sup> contract was negotiated this was discussed in numerous conversations but was pointed out in a letter to Mr. Fletcher, that the public health district is selling a service to the county.

Mr. Rappaport asked if this contract prohibits the Public Health Administrator from lending advice or guidance? Mr. Grosser stated there nothing in there that would prohibit that but often it is a matter of degree. He stated he doesn't tell anyone in that position what they should be doing with the County health department, there are not sharp lines saying what he is and isn't to be doing. It is his understanding that he has been asked to do some clerical duties, including being asked to write a job description they proposed to hire and he doesn't feel that is his duty.

Ms. Storrs stated they are asking for monthly reports and Mr. Grosser stated that is appropriate and he can designate someone to attend the meeting to discuss the different reports. Ms. McGrath stated until she and Mr. Grosser have the opportunity to discuss some of what was said at the meeting she doesn't want to give an incorrect answer, she will report to the committee at the next meeting.

#### CUPHD Administrator's Report Response to Request for Information

Mr. Palazzolo stated he feels the statement that he shows up when he wants to is a mis-statement and it is what he feels is on the agenda. He stated that the letter from Kim Winston, to him, the second part is something that he doesn't feel is an administrative duty and that is putting together a short term plan on the County Board of Health nursing program. That is something this board needs to put together – that was just an example of what is being asked of his position that he does not feel are part of his job duties.

Ms. Storrs stated their intent was since they had been in on-going discussions with him about changes in CUPHD's home nursing program and therefore the County's home nursing program, the request was from that perspective, what is going on so we could appropriately make our own plans. Just wanting an update as to what was happening that we might need to respond to.

Mr. Palazzolo stated the looked at numers for residents being provided, what types of services are being provided, how often and they are on hold because they are still in a transition. There is a new director for that program and she has been assigned to look at those things and she has put together statistics. The criteria for people coming and going off and on the program, what they re putting together for CUPHD has nothing to do with the desires of this board.

#### New Business

Presentation by Cheryl Ramirez, Executive Director, Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois, regarding chronic disease self-management program and upcoming workshop sponsored by Champaign County Extension Service

Motion regarding potential co-sponsorship of Champaign County extension service program

Discussion with Peter Tracy, Executive Director of the Champaign County Mental Health Board, regarding potential joint efforts with the Champaign County Mental Health Board

- a. Programs
- b. Grant Writing

Mr. Tracy stated about one year ago they initiated some discussion about the possibilities of working together. They have joined the Illinois Public Health Association and as a result of that they have created a behavioral health section which is something that was lacking before in Illinois. They now have a structure to begin looking at how behavioral health and physical health can be blended better. With regard to mental health, the President's new freedom commission report made some recommendations concerning the need for linkage between physical health and behavioral health and the fact that those recommendations were made reflects that around the U. S. there are not good connections. The other area their board is interested in is underserved populations. There was a report from surgeon general a couple years ago and the findings of that indicated that the public mental health system does not do a good job with how it serves people of color. They, as a board, have taken some steps to attempt to address these issues; they have required that any agency that contracts with either of their boards has to develop a cultural competency plan that is to look at a whole variety of areas that are of importance to serving people in this community. Proud to say that in the state of Illinois they are the only funding organization that requires this. In terms of other ways they are working in this area, they are looking at primarily children's mental health. Don't have a state system for the development of systems to serve kids in our state, they have attempted to put together a pilot project focused on kids in the juvenile justice system. These are some areas of interest they are working on and he would like to begin dialogue on how they can look for points of connection and ways to address mental health and public health issues through some collaborations. They do have, with regard to the pilot project. They fund a position that is primarily responsible for writing grants and he feels there may be some capacity within that position to do some grant writing that may have some connection between mental health and public health. The developmental disabilities board is interested in putting on a resource fair in the fall to make families aware of what resources are available in the community. Mr. Tracy stated they have met at one time and could be a way for discussions to begin again.

Mr. Rappaport and Ms. Storrs stated they would both be interested in joining any discussion that would take place.

Motion regarding potential joint efforts with the Champaign County Mental Health Board

Motion to form ad hoc committee to investigate alternatives for service delivery of Board of Health programs, including organizations and agencies within and outside Champaign County, including other County Health Departments

Motion to form ad hoc committee to investigate alternative funding for Board of Health programs, including grant research and applications, and raising the Board of Health Levy

Adoption of a Resolution Designating the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the basis for incident management for the Champaign County Health Department

Adoption of 2007 meeting schedule

Other Business