

Henry County Health Board Meeting  
March 4, 2009

**Members Present:** Jan Berghult, James Golby, Jan May, Holly Maes, MD, Van DeVilder, Doug Tomlinson, DMD,

**Absent:** Duward Inch, Art Cajigal, MD

**Also present:** HCHD Staff: Gail Ripka, Administrator; Sandy Sommer, Karen Sumner, Duane Stevens

**MINUTES**

**Agenda Item:** I. Call to Order

**Discussion/Evaluation:** The quarterly meeting of the Henry County Health Board was held on March 4, 2009, at the HCHD office in Kewanee.

**Action:** President Jan Berghult called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with 6 members in attendance.

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** None

**Agenda Item:** II. Approval of Minutes

**Discussion/Evaluation:** Jan Berghult entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of the December 3, 2008, meeting.

**Action:** Mr. Golby motioned for approval of the minutes. Motion was seconded by Dr. Maes and carried via voice vote.

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** None

**Agenda Item:** III. Comments from Visitors

**Discussion/Evaluation:** None

**Action:**

**Conclusion/Follow Up:**

**Agenda Item:** IV. Department Overview - Informational Items

A. Monthly Reports: Incident & Complaint Management Reports

**Discussion/Evaluation:** Incident and Complaint Management Reports were included in Board packets. Complaint Report – There was one complaint in January. A private caregiver complained about the care provided by a HCHD homemaker. The Homemaker Supervisor did a thorough investigation and concluded that the complaint was unfounded.

Incident Report – During the months of December and January, there were 3 employee falls, 2 client falls, and two needlesticks. One client called to report loss of \$1100 after the home care assistant (HCA) left her house. The HCA was immediately removed from the schedule and was subsequently terminated. The HCA was later arrested by the police and charged with theft.

**Action:** None

**Conclusion/Follow Up:**

B. Environmental Health

**Discussion/Evaluation:** Gail reported that Kurt was not at the meeting because he was attending training in Rockford to obtain a Mosquito Pest Control Applicator license. His report was in Board packets.

Smoke Free Illinois law. Gail reported that Senate Bill 2757 was approved to address issues related to the enforcement of the statewide smoking ban. Since the ban was originally passed, there has been confusion on how to enforce the provisions of the ban. SB 2757 specifies that the violations are treated as civil matters and the hearings shall be conducted by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Previously violations had been treated as a criminal complaint rather than as civil matters, but there were some questions as to the legality of this procedure. One judge ruled that the county courts could not enforce the statute until the State adopted administrative rules. IDPH had proposed rules, but the legislative oversight body (JCAR) objected to the rules and they were never adopted. This led to sporadic and inconsistent enforcement of the smoking ban. The Smoke Free Illinois Act requires the Department of Public Health, local public health departments and local law enforcement agencies to enforce the provision of the Act through issuance of citations. Under the provisions of SB 2757, if a person is issued a citation, they shall be afforded the opportunity to pay the fine without objection, or to contest the citation in accordance with the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. The hearing shall be conducted at the nearest regional office of the Department of Public Health. In a couple weeks, Gail and Kurt will be going to a meeting in Springfield where the IDPH legal team will be available for further information and clarification. The fine for an individual who violates this law is \$100 for the first offense and \$250 for the second offense. If the establishment owner or operator violates the law, the fine will be \$250 for the first offense, \$500 for the second offense within one year, and \$2500 for each additional violation within one year after the first violation. One half of the fine goes to IDPH and one half goes to the enforcing agency (Health Department).

Food Pantries: Gail stated there is new legislation which requires food pantries to register with local health departments so that they can be notified of food recalls. Kurt will make visits to food pantries to do inspections at no charge. His main objective is to provide education and oversight to ensure that foods provided to the public are safe.

**Action:** None

**Conclusion/Follow Up:**

#### C. Emergency Preparedness

**Discussion/Evaluation:** The Health Department continues to prepare for a large regional dispensing exercise in June. Stark County falls into the Peoria East Region of the City Readiness Initiative (CRI) along with Tazewell, Marshall, Woodford & Peoria counties. Henry County will be incorporated into this exercise as well. The actual pill dispensing part of the exercise will be from 10-12 noon on June 4<sup>th</sup> at the National Guard Armory in Kewanee. The State will also exercise their plan to distribute the medications to hospitals and local health departments in the region. Gail noted that lots of volunteers are need to participate in the exercise as “victims” for pill dispensing, and encouraged Board members to participate as well as their families, friends, neighbors, etc.

**Action:** None

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** The Emergency Preparedness report showing staff and community education and other activities was included in Board packets.

#### D. Health Education

**Discussion/Evaluation:** Carrie Titus was not able to attend the Board meeting. She has been actively working toward IPLAN objectives. Most recently, Heart Smart for Women sessions were started in Orion. In Cambridge, 100 participants showed up on March 3<sup>rd</sup> for the first session of their community walking program. Carrie has been providing monthly nutrition and exercise education to students Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grades at Cambridge Elementary School.

**Action:** None

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** The Community Health Education report showing IPLAN and other community education activities was included in Board packets.

#### E. Clinic Services

**Discussion/Evaluation:** Sandy reported that as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, the State no longer provides tetanus or MMR vaccine free of charge to the Health Department. It will be necessary to purchase the vaccine from a private vendor and this will result in an increased cost to our clients. We may be able to coop with another health department to share the cost.

Teen Parent Services – Sandy had requested additional funding but was denied due to State fiscal constraints. This will make it difficult to initiate services to new volunteer clients or continue services with current volunteer clients.

Sandy reported that administrative personnel from the Kewanee School district contacted the Health Department with concerns about the increasing number of teen pregnancies. Our staff will work with the schools to provide information and education. In addition, three health department employees will be attending *Adolescent Sexual Health Toolkit* training in April.

**Action:** None

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** Jan May commented on the graph that was included in Board packets. She shared the graph showing Henry County Teen Births from 1998 to 2008 with the health teacher, Charley Eads. They felt one of the issues that should be addressed was self esteem and self worth. It would be a good place to start, rather than going focusing on sex education and contraception. Sandy stated that self esteem and self respect are strong components of Adolescent Sexual Health education.

#### F. Home Health

**Discussion/Evaluation:** Gail reported that a new home health director, Pam Bennett, started work in January. She previously worked for the Health Department for several years and then worked for Kewanee Hospital for several years. We are pleased to have her back. An increase has been noted in patient referrals, so Gail is relieved and happy that things are going well at this time.

**Action:** None

**Conclusion/Follow Up:**

#### **Agenda Item:** V. Financial Report

**Discussion/Evaluation:** At the end of January, the bank balance was \$1,602,564.44. Currently, things are looking pretty good; revenues are ahead of budget at 21.5%. Medicare revenue is still a little low, as is interest income. The CD was renewed at 2.37%, down from 3.17%. Duane noted that Medicaid is at 77.21%; a check for \$70,382 was received in Medicaid Match reimbursement, going back two years, and all payments are now current. Expenditures are under budget at 16.11% to start off the new fiscal year.

Building expenses are running a little high due to snow removal and salting. Salary expense is also a little high because of 5 payrolls in January (3 regular and 2 homemaker). Equipment repairs ran a little high because of upgrades to our phone system. New phones were purchased, and then the software had to be upgraded to be compatible with three of the larger units used by the front office secretaries.

**Action:** None

**Conclusion/Follow Up:**

#### **Agenda Item:** VI. Action Items\* (require Health Board approval)

##### A. Home Health Program Evaluation

**Discussion/Evaluation:** A copy of the 2008 Home Health Program Evaluation was provided to Board members in their meeting packets. Gail noted that this is required annually as a part of the licensing requirements.

**Action:** Jan May made a motion to approve the Evaluation report as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Golby and carried via voice vote.

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** None

##### B. Health Board Appointments

**Discussion/Evaluation:** The terms of Jan Berghult, James Golby and Duward Inch expire in June, 09. All members agreed to be reappointed for another 3 year term.

**Action:** Van DeVilder made a motion to approve the reappointment of the three Board members. Motion was seconded by Dr. Tomlinson and carried via voice vote.

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** Jan May will bring these reappointments before the County Board for

approval.

C. FY 08 Annual Report

**Discussion/Evaluation:** A draft copy of the FY 08 Annual Report was presented to Board members for their review and approval. A 3 year statistical report was also provided to enable Board members to compare stats from 2006, 2007 and 2008. Jan May stated that she appreciated this report because it was very easy to note any increases or decreases in the programs and services.

**Action:** After review and discussion, Van DeVilder made a motion to approve the FY 08 Annual Report as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Golby and carried via voice vote.

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** None

**Agenda Item:** VII. Old Business  
Ferrellgas Property

**Discussion/Evaluation:** Gail stated that she signed the contract for the purchase of the Ferrelgas property and the closing is March 20th. Gail talked to Sally about the removal of the large concrete cradle which they initially agreed to remove. However they decided to deduct \$1500 from the purchase price and the Health Department will have to find someone locally to remove it. The soil sample submitted for testing showed no hazardous materials from the propane tank storage but there were traces of herbicides, probably from farmers spraying surrounding fields. Kurt did ask to test the well water at the Flex Court facility next door and the results were satisfactory. They anticipate having all the tanks removed in the next two months. The Health Department will have to remove the old building and the concrete cradle.

**Action:**

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** Gail stated that once the property is cleared, it will probably be used for additional parking the rest of this year. Plans for building are still in the idea stage.

**Agenda Item:** VIII. New Business

**Discussion/Evaluation:** None

**Action:**

**Conclusion/Follow Up:**

**Agenda Item:** IX. Adjournment

**Discussion/Evaluation:** None

**Action:** It was properly moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

**Conclusion/Follow Up:** The next quarterly meeting of the Health Board will be Wednesday, June 3, 2009.

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_