

Stark County Health Board Meeting June 2, 2009

Present: Glenn Miller MD, Janet Hager, Remi Satkauskas MD, Betty Hoy, Tim Haas, DDS, Nancy Egelston, Chief Buzz Melton

Absent: Sharon Sager

Also Present: Gail Ripka, SCHED Administrator; Kurt Kuchle, Sandy Sommer, Duane Stevens, Karen Sumner, Carrie Titus, Health Dept. Management Staff

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The quarterly meeting of the Stark County Health Board was held Tuesday, June 2, 2009, at the Stark County Courthouse, Toulon. In the absence of President Sharon Sager, Vice President Tim Haas called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with 7 members in attendance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2009 meeting. Motion was seconded by Janet Hager and carried via voice vote.

III. DIVISION REPORTS

A. Home Health Services

The Home Health Services report was included in Board packets. March statistics show 101 visits made to 19 patients; April stats: 95 visits to 16 patients; May stats: 118 visits to 18 patients.

B. Homemaker Services

The Homemaker Services report was also included in Board packets. March statistics show a total of 728.5 hours of service provided to 30 clients; in April, 770 hours provided to 30 clients; May, 767.5 hours provided to 31 clients.

C. Clinical Services

As of January 1st, the State stopped providing adult tetanus & MMR vaccine free of charge to the Health Department. It will be necessary to purchase the vaccine from a private vendor. At the last meeting, Dr. Miller questioned whether it's possible to co-op with another health department to share the cost. Sandy followed up on this but no other health departments were interested in sharing the cost/ordering of MMR vaccine. Tetanus vaccine has been purchased privately and is available to clients.

The Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer prevention program has increased the assigned caseload to 325 participants, an increase of 75 women from last year.

A "Celebration of Women" event was held at the Bistro in Toulon on May 2nd. A \$2000 mini grant was obtained from the Office of Women's Health to provide education and health screenings to area women. In addition to receiving information on breast health, the attendees received vouchers for screenings including cholesterol, osteoporosis, blood pressure, BMI and colorectal kits. These screenings were to be completed at the Health Dept during the month of May. Although 81 women attended the event, only 25 took advantage of the screenings.

Last fall, the Illinois Department of Human Services elected to have the Family Planning grant be a competitive process and sent out RFPs (Requests for Proposal) to service providers. The RFP was submitted in November and IDHS was to notify successful grant recipients in January. However, in May they decided to cancel the RFP process and instead awarded one-year contracts to selected providers; funding awards would be based on 90% of FY09 levels with the opportunity to earn the remaining 10% in incentives by enrolling clients in the Illinois Healthy Women (IHW) Medicaid Waiver program. Sandy has received notice that the Health Department will be awarded \$87,390 with \$9,710 of incentive funding available.

A Clinic Services client satisfaction survey was included in Board packets. Of the 179 surveys completed and returned, 73.2% rated services excellent & 24%, good.

D. Environmental Health Services

Kurt reported that the State has come out with a new food sanitation examination. The instructors will never see the exam because new security rules require that the exams arrive sealed; each student is given a new seal which is to be placed on the exam and signed before turning in the completed exam.

The water well on the property south of the Ferrellgas property was tested for Atrazine. The report came back negative, so this is additional evidence that any residual contamination on the property is minimal and localized. The Health Department has purchased the Ferrellgas property, which is located next door to the south.

A new sanitarian has been hired for the Colona office; Jarrod Loerzel from Mineral began employment on March 30th. The previous sanitarian resigned to take a job with the USDA.

Kurt stated he has been sending out quarterly letters to registered septic tank pumpers to remind them to submit a list of tanks that they have pumped. This is to document pumping dates for all properties on file. He noted that Stark County now has 911 addresses which will make it easier to cross reference property legal description with the property owners.

Kurt has completed mosquito training and obtained his Pest Control applicators license. He plans to start testing mosquitoes for WNV about mid-June or when 80 degree temperatures become more consistent. He will also testing up to 5 birds this year.

E. Emergency Preparedness

The Health Department is hosting a full scale regional dispensing exercise from 10-12 noon on June 4th. Stark County is part of the Peoria East Region of the City Readiness Initiative (CRI) along with Tazewell, Marshall, Woodford & Peoria counties. Henry County will also be incorporated into this exercise, working with community partners such as EMS, law enforcement, fire department, both hospitals, Abilities Plus, Salvation Army, Red Cross and the Lions Alert program. The National Guard Armory in Kewanee was the intended dispensing site originally, but a couple weeks ago, that plan was nixed by higher ranking guard officials. The new site is Kewanee High School; Gail noted that the school superintendent and staff have been very helpful and accommodating. It is hoped that lots of volunteer "victims" will participate so that we can measure throughput.

F. Health Education

The Heart Smart for Women grant has been reapplied for and includes a site in Toulon this year. The 12 week class meets one hour per week and focuses on behavioral changes for women such as increasing physical activity and fruit & vegetable consumption. It is open to women 18 and over.

The Steps for Better Health program, sponsored by Health Department and Mental Health Task Force, began in April with approx 50 Stark County participants. Pedometers are used to keep track of steps which are recorded on cards. A grand prize will be awarded to two participants, ages 59 and under & 60 and over, who walked the most steps.

The Senior Living Series kicks off on June 24 from 2-4 p.m. at Bradford Courtyard Estates. Topics include Healthy Eating, Yoga, Medication 101, Caregiving and Downsizing.

Carrie reported that both Bradford and the Stark County school districts applied for a grant called the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables program. This is a federally funded program administered by the State Board of Education. It provides fresh fruits and vegetables to students Pre-K through 5th grades during the school day as well as nutrition education which Carrie will provide.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

As of April 30, the Health Department bank balance was \$119,307.22. Duane reported that \$36,750 was transferred to the Stark County General Fund as a loan to be paid back when the property taxes are collected in June. Dr. Haas asked if this transfer should have been approved by the Health Board. Gail stated this was an emergency situation as the County Board could not make payroll. Duane stated he had checked with the county auditors and they were okay with this fund to fund transfer as long as the money was transferred back by the end of the fiscal year. Dr. Haas suggested having a process or procedure in place should this situation arise in the future. Buzz made a motion to establish the following policy for fund-to-fund transfers: 1) transfers will be of a limited nature, not to exceed \$30,000;

2) any transfer must have joint approval of the Health Department Director and Financial Director, and the Stark County Treasurer; 3) repayment will be made within 90 days or by the end of the fiscal year, whichever is less; 4) the transfer will not deplete Health Department balance below \$72,000. The motion was seconded by Dr. Miller and carried via voice vote.

The cost for Family Planning services for the period of 12/1/08 through 4/30/09 was \$2,206.35; this is an average cost of \$51.31 per client. The total cost for providing homemaker services to two clients was \$49.50 for the period of 12/1/08 through 3/31/09.

In March, the final installment of the Local Health Protection grant was received. This payment of \$30,652.48 makes the State of Illinois current on contracts owed to the Health Department for their fiscal year ending June 30, 2009. There is a lot of uncertainty about passage of the State budget for the new fiscal year, but the Health Department is in a good position financially.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. H1N1 Influenza

Gail passed out a report showing the number of cases of H1N1 flu state wide and nationally. There have not been any positive cases in either Stark or Henry County. Gail noted that this situation came up suddenly with the outbreak in Mexico and rapidly moved into the U.S. In late April, the Federal government made the decision to release 25% of SNS allocation of antiviral drugs & personal protective equipment to states and localities. This included 11 million courses of treatment with antiviral drugs, enabling states to have medications and supplies on hand locally should they be needed. Gail reported that Illinois distributed the antivirals to all hospitals and local health departments. Shipment initially went to central dispensing sites where it was repackaged for distribution and then IDOT delivered the meds to the health departments and hospitals in our region. She received a phone call at 10:00 p.m. on Thursday that the shipment was enroute to the drop site in Cambridge; however it didn't actually arrive until 4:45 a.m. Friday morning. Later Friday morning, she participated in a conference call with IDPH, IEMA and all health departments about how the medications were to be dispensed. Health Departments were informed that the antivirals could only be dispensed with a doctor's prescription; they could neither dispense nor give the meds to pharmacies. Since there were no clear directions on what the Health Dept could do, Gail made the decision to position the antivirals with local physicians. Two pallets were delivered for Henry and Stark Counties; Gail and several staff members unpacked and delivered the meds to all private doctors' offices that same afternoon. The doctors had to sign a chain of custody form which states that the receiving authority accepts full responsibility for the materials entrusted into its possession. The meds were designated for uninsured persons who have been symptomatic for no more than 2 days. As of this date, only 4 bottles have been dispensed by doctors. The severity of the H1N1 flu was not as bad in the US as anticipated although cases are still occurring nationally. Buzz commented that UPS and FedEx would have delivered the medications in a much more efficient and timely manner because that's their business. Gail added that the antivirals were delivered to only 251 sites in the State; each health department could have driven to the regional distribution site and picked up their supplies in about 3 hours. Approx 4000 bottles of Tamiflu & 800 doses of Relenza (nasal spray) were provided to Henry & Stark Counties for symptomatic people, with Tamiflu being the drug of choice. The drugs have a shelf life of 2012 and do not need to be returned to the State. Gail will leave the medications with the doctors for use this fall. Buzz made a motion that the Health Board officially commend Gail for her dedication and initiative in making the right decision to get the medications out to the physician offices. Betty Hoy seconded the motion; the motion carried with a unanimously vote.

Gail heard that Federal health officials have already awarded H1N1 vaccine contracts to Sanofi Pasteur, Novartis and GlaxoSmithKline. In June, a major contract was also awarded to MedImmune, the makers of FluMist. MedImmune will continue to make its seasonal FluMist vaccine and also develop a vaccine targeted specifically at the H1N1 virus. FluMist is a nasal spray instead of an injection; the vaccine is formulated using live but weakened virus strains. However, like traditional flu vaccines, MedImmune's product must also be grown in eggs, an important part of a manufacturing process that takes several months. Because the H1N1 strain is new, it is unclear how well it would grow in the eggs, and therefore the firm was unsure of how much vaccine it would be able to make. Gail stated that in

addition to the seasonal flu clinics in October, the Health Department may have to provide another round of clinics for H1N1 vaccine, which requires two doses. It will be a particular challenge to document/track the 1st and 2nd doses now, because there are many providers in addition to physicians and the Health Dept.

B. Mental Health

The Mental Health Task Force met in May. Because of State budget issues, there is concern about continued funding for mental health services. Stark County is funded through a small line item grant, so it remains to be seen whether that will remain or be cut. The psychiatrist continues to provide services at Aunt Martha's once a week and is seeing new patients. The Senior Living Series helps to reach more seniors, 55 & older, and make them aware of the therapy services. Gail explained that the Health Department does not receive any funding for mental health. Funding goes directly to North Central Behavioral Health System and they provide the therapist; another portion goes to the Mental Health Association of Illinois Valley and they provide the advocate, Neil Post. Dr. Haas asked about the amount of funding received from the State; if funding is cut for mental health services, would it be feasible for the Health Department to fund these services? Gail wasn't sure of the actual funding amount but assumed it would be between \$115,000 and \$150,000. This only pays for the therapist and advocate; the therapist is an employee of NCBHS and sees clients at Aunt Martha's, however the psychiatrist is an actually an employee of Aunt Martha's.

**VI. ACTION ITEMS*
FY10 Budget**

The proposed budget for FY10 was included in Board packets. Duane explained that there is not a lot of difference in the budget from 2009 to 2010. Projected revenue for property taxes was reduced to \$12,000 so total receipts were reduced from \$89,750 in FY09 to \$87,000 for FY10. Expenses for Homemaker client fees were reduced from \$1200 to \$400 for FY10. Total Disbursements for FY10 are \$83,600 compared to \$91,150 in FY09. Net revenue over expenditures is projected to be \$3400. Nancy Eagelston made a motion to approve the FY10 budget as presented. Motion was seconded by Janet Hager and carried via voice vote.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Haas stated that Stark County is very fortunate to have Aunt Martha's, a federally funded, not-for-profit organization. He suggested it might be interesting to invite someone from Aunt Martha's to a Health Board meeting and have them present information about the services they offer to Stark County residents. Board members commented that it would be nice to know more about them. Gail will invite Jan Sams, the nurse manager to come to a meeting and bring some literature to share with Board members.

Buzz encouraged Board members to attend the Illinois Rural Health Association meeting. This year, their annual conference was held in Effingham in April. Buzz mentioned that he has been invited to be the keynote speaker next year. The conference will again be held in Effingham in April 2010.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was properly moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Stark County Health Board is Tuesday, September 1, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: _____