

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**January 4, 2012**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Kraft at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Kraft, Supervisor Bostwick (left at 7:00 p.m.), Supervisor Peer, Supervisor Thompson, Dr. Best, Dr. Peterson, Dr. Winter, Mr. Rooney, and Ms. Wade.

Board of Health Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Karen Cain – Health Officer; Tim Banwell – Environmental Health Director; Janet Zoellner – Nursing Director; Sancee Siebold - Nursing Supervisor South Office; Deborah Erickson – Nursing Supervisor North Office; and Geri Waugh – Account Clerk .

Others Present: No one at this time.

**Adopt Agenda**

Supervisor Bostwick made a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Wade seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

**Approval of Minutes 12/7/11**

Supervisor Peer made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12/7/11 Board of Health meeting. Dr. Peterson seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

**Citizen Participation**

None at this time.

**Unfinished Business**

None at this time.

**New Business**

**Administrative Division**

**Approval of Bills/Transfer of Funds**

Chair Kraft asked if the health department will be reimbursed for the Veolia bill under #64900 in the amount of \$5,350.54. Yes, that amount is part of what was submitted to the Department of Agriculture for the grant they had awarded to the health department, and the grant payment to the health department will include the reimbursement for this bill.

Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the Health Department bills for the month of December, 2011 in the amount of \$9,358.32; bills for the Consortium Funds in the amount of \$1,958.87; bills for the Radon Testing

Balance Sheet account in the amount of \$624.75; and bills for the 2012 Budget in the amount of \$175.00. Supervisor Peer seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

There is no transfer of funds this month.

### **Health Department Report**

Ms. Cain asked Dr. Peterson to report to the Board about the animal control meeting held recently. Dr. Peterson stated a meeting concerning animal control in Rock County had been held at the City of Janesville on 12/8/11. Dr. Peterson also stated he received many phone calls in the next days after the meeting, praising the efforts of Lt. Dan Davis of the Janesville Police Department and Dr. Peterson in trying to have effective animal control in Rock County. One of the phone calls received was from the owner of a vacant warehouse at the corner of highway 51 and Avalon Road, who stated he is willing to offer the use of this heated building as a holding place for stray animals. Dr. Peterson stated Dane County Board of Health oversees the animal control in Dane County, for which they bill the municipalities and towns in Dane County for the service. Dr. Peterson stated he will be meeting soon with Lt. Davis to plan the next steps for this issue.

Pertussis in Wisconsin: Ms. Cain asked Ms. Zoellner to give a report on the incidence of pertussis in Wisconsin. Ms. Zoellner stated there has been an upsurge of pertussis in Wisconsin, mostly in school-age children, including Rock County. Rock County had an outbreak of pertussis last summer in which not many confirmed cases were found. The health department's public health nurses needed to contact all persons that had been in contact with the confirmed cases, which was a very time-consuming effort. Approximately 3 weeks ago, an infant too young to be immunized contracted pertussis, most likely from an ill adult. The health department has been working with Rock County hospitals to try to make sure adult relatives of newborns have been immunized for pertussis.

Community Health Needs Assessment: Ms. Cain stated she has been working with this group, including the Rock County hospitals. This community health needs assessment is a requirement for the hospitals to complete. The group is in the final stages of the completion of their report.

Health Department Plaque: Ms. Cain showed the Board members a plaque recognizing health department staff with 10 years of service or more. There are currently 9 staff members with these years of service at Rock County Health Department: Ann Klesic, Tim Banwell, Geri Waugh, Roger Eychaner, Sancee Siebold, Janet Zoellner, Carol McComb, Janis Baumann, and Rick Wietersen. The plaque hangs on the wall across from the front desk at the health department's Janesville office.

Meeting with Juvenile Justice Division: Ms. Cain reported she and Ms. Zoellner recently met with staff at the Rock County Juvenile Detention Center. The health department has been asked to assist them in helping meet the health needs of juveniles at the detention center.

STI Grant: Ms. Cain reported the health department was recently notified by the Wisconsin Partnership Program that our grant application has been approved. The grant will be for nearly \$50,000, and will be used to assess sexually transmitted infections (STI's) in Rock County, what services are available, and where gaps in service occur in Rock County. The department received complimentary statements on the way the grant application was written. Laura Fadrowski, health educator at the health department, wrote the grant application.

## **Semi-Annual Report – Attendance at Conventions/Conferences**

For the period of July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, there was one Rock County Health Department staff person that attended a training, convention, or conference in which costs exceeded \$1,000.00 per event, per employee, whether in-state or out-of-state.

Sancee Siebold attended a Dale Carnegie training in Chicago, IL on October 12-13, 2011. The registration fee for this training was \$1,595.00

## **Public Health Nursing**

### **Lead Collaboration with Rock County Planning Department**

Ms. Zoellner stated Rock County Health Department staff will be working in collaboration with Rock County Planning Department concerning childhood lead poisoning. Rock County Planning is administering a grant that offers funds to homeowners of homes with lead-based paint to abate the lead present in their homes. Health department public health nurses will be doing blood lead testing (finger stick) for children under 6 years of age that live in homes with lead-based paint. Part of this service includes educating the parents on good nutrition to help prevent lead poisoning. A diet rich in iron helps to prevent lead poisoning. The health department will most likely assign one public health nurse in each office (Janesville and Beloit) to work with these families.

Since only a fraction of the total number of children living in older housing have been tested for lead, there are likely many more lead-poisoned children that haven't been identified.

Lead interferes with the normal development of a child's brain and can result in lower IQ, learning disabilities, and behavior problems like aggression and hyperactivity. Scientific studies show that the most violent crimes committed by adults are strongly associated with children's earlier lead poisoning.

Children who have been lead poisoned are at greater risk of a shortened lifespan due to heart disease and stroke as adults. Lead poisoning is also linked to adult kidney disease, diabetes, and cognitive deficits such as memory loss and Alzheimer's disease.

Lead-based paint is the primary source of lead in children's environments. Chipping and peeling lead-based paint creates dust on windows, floors and porches, and the leaded dust gets on children's hands and into their mouths.

## **Environmental Health**

### **Report on Septic System Failures**

Mr. Banwell stated septic systems normally last 25-30 years. When a sanitary permit is issued for the installation of a septic system, additional land on the property needs to be available for a replacement septic system should the need arise. Pumping the septic system at least every 3 years, per the Rock County Public Health Ordinance, helps extend the life of a septic system.

Mr. Banwell stated the health department did a study of the septic systems in Rock County that failed between 2008-2010. This is the information that was obtained from the study:

## Causes of Failure

- Faulty system components
- Installation damage to system soil surface.
- Excessive clear water
- Grease
- Heavy paper products
- Chemicals – antibiotics, disinfectants, paint, solvents
- Excessive surface drainage
- Poor maintenance

## Age of Failing Septic Systems

2008-2010

<u>Age Groupings</u>	<u>Number of Permits</u>	<u>Percentage of Permits</u>
< 10 years	3	1%
11-19 years	9	4%
20-25 years	10	4%
26-40 years	33	14%
>40 years	181	77%

## Facts of the Study: 2008-2010

- 236 replacement permits issued
- 61% of all permits issued
- average 79 replacement permits/yr
- Since 1982 = 107 replacement permits/yr

## Top Five Towns in Rock County

### Number of Septic Systems

Janesville	1,438
Beloit	1,229
Fulton	1,115
Turtle	994
Harmony	973

## Top Five Towns in Rock County

### Number of Failing Systems

Fulton	33
Janesville & Beloit	21
Union	16
Rock	15
Turtle & Milton	14

**Communications and Announcements**

None at this time.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Wade made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Peer seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Waugh, Recorder  
Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health