

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**May 1, 2013**

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

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Kraft, Supervisor Peer, Supervisor Bostwick (left at 7:00 PM), Supervisor Rundle, Dr. Peterson, Dr. Best, Ms. Wade, and Dr. Winter.

Board of Health Members Absent: none

Staff Members Present: Karen Cain – Health Officer; Timothy Banwell – Environmental Health Director; Janet Zoellner – Public Health Nursing Director; Sancee Siebold – Nursing Supervisor South Office; and Elizabeth LaBelle-Administrative Secretary

**Adopt Agenda**

Dr. Winter and Ms. Wade made a motion to adopt the agenda. MOTION APPROVED.

**Approval of Minutes 4/3/13**

Supervisor Peer and Supervisor Bostwick made a motion to approve the minutes of the 4/3/13 Board of Health meeting. MOTION APPROVED.

**Citizen Participation**

None at this time.

**Communications and Announcements**

Health Officer Cain announced that we are celebrating Board of Health Appreciation at tonight's meeting. Each board member received a certificate of appreciation that was signed by the staff at the Rock County Health Department. There will be an acknowledgement on the Health Department Facebook page as well. Health Officer Cain thanked the Board of Health for their support, input, engagement, and all they do for the citizens of Rock County.

A Board of Health photo will be taken at the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Health Officer Cain announced that Jim Rooney, R.PH has resigned from the Board of Health. Health Officer Cain has contacted Eric Gresens, R.PH, of the Edgerton Pharmacy to fill the remainder of Jim Rooney, R.PH term. This is contingent upon the Board of Supervisor Approval.

Per discussion at the meeting, Board of Health Members will now receive Board of Health meeting reminders via e-mail. Doctor Peterson will receive a phone call reminder.

***The July Board of Health Meeting date has been changed to July 1, 2013 6:00 PM.***

**New Business**

## Administrative Division

### Approval of Bills/Transfer of Funds

Dr. Peterson and Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the bills. MOTION APPROVED.

### Health Department Report

Environmental Health Director Banwell and Chair Kraft gave a summary on the low cost rabies clinic, which took place at the Rock County Fair Grounds on 4/27/13.

#### Rabies Clinic Summary

- 428 vaccines were given.
- Clinic was scheduled 1-4, but closed at 3:45 due to running out of vaccines.
- Overall, the clinic was well attended.
- Handicapped clients were able to have their animal(s) vaccinated at their vehicle.
- No dog fights.
- Clients were asked if their dog is easily scared or aggressive.
  - If yes, a yellow ribbon was given to the animal and they were kept 4-6ft from other animals.
  - Purpose of this was to keep the animal's stress level down.
- 78 cats and 350 dogs were vaccinated.
- People were very appreciative of the clinic.
- Ms. Wade inquired where a majority of the people came from.
  - Chair Kraft, said the Health Department will be doing some data analysis and graphing of this.
- Sheriff Department had an animal control officer onsite.
- Chair Kraft announced that The City of Beloit is going to be working with the low cost rabies committee to have a low cost rabies clinic this fall in the core of Beloit.
- Supervisor Rundle inquired if any animals were turned away due to health.
  - Chair Kraft did not see this occur, but if client's had health questions, they were recommended to have a health check exam at their vet.
- Friends of Noah had 20 volunteers and all were needed.
- Discussion among board members on ECHO and other charity organizations donating pet food that people can pick up if they provide documentation of current rabies vaccine.

Health Officer Cain announced that she will be at the Board of Supervisor Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> to present the 2012 Health Department Annual Report.

Health Officer Cain announced that the Health Educator, Katie Schroeder and Environmental Health Director Banwell will be doing a yearlong display on food safety in Rock County at the Rock County Historical Society. After seeing the County Health Rankings for Rock County, the Historical Society took an interest in helping to improve the health of Rock County. Health Educator, Katie Schroeder will be doing a monthly blog focusing on the nutrition aspect and Environmental Health Director Banwell will focus on Food Safety incorporation into the Restaurant Program.

#### Beloit Powder Incident Update:

Nursing Director Zoellner gave an update on the lock down at the Eclipse Center in April. She has met with emergency management teams to ensure going forward the Health Department is contacted in a timely manner

when/if an incident like this occurs again. Supervisor Peer inquired if there is a way for the first responder to check names of who to contact on a flow chart? Supervisor Rundle suggested that dispatch be given a list of things to do and contacting the Health Department could be on the list. Overall, this was a learning experience and low frequency event.

Supervisor Rundle inquired if there has been any more information released on the potential prescription drug collection program changes by the DEA. Environmental Health Director Banwell and Health Officer Cain have not yet received any updates on potential changes.

**Resolution – Accepting Contributions and Amending the 2013 Rock County Health Department Budget.**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013 does hereby authorize the Rock County Health Department to accept these contributions from Farm and Fleet of Janesville, TOPS WI #395 of Janesville and the Kiwanis Club of Beloit totaling \$350.00.

<u>Account/Description</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>1/1/13</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended</u> <u>Budget</u>
<u>Source of Funds</u>			
31-3000-0000-46000			
Health Department Contributions	\$2,800	\$350	\$3,150
<u>Use of Funds</u>			
31-3000-0000-64904			
Health Department Sundry Expense	\$2,800	\$350	\$3,150

Supervisor Rundle inquired what is purchased with the donations. Nursing Director Zoellner explained that the funds will be used to purchase safety supplies such as door/cabinet locks, gates, smoke alarms, etc, to assist families in complying with recommendations made by the Health Department during Healthy Home Visits.

Supervisor Bostwick and Supervisor Rundle made a motion to approve the resolution. MOTION APPROVED.

**Environmental Health**

Environmental Health Director Banwell gave a presentation on the Town Hall Well Water Testing. Town of Porter and Lima were done in April 2013.

**Town of Porter Well Sampling Program**

Summary of Results

- Number of Well samples = 69

Bacteria Results

- Number of samples Unsafe for Coliform Bacteria = 5
- Percent unsafe = 13.8%
  - Similar to county average of 15%
- Number of E.Coli Positive samples = 0

#### Nitrate Results

- Number of samples > 10 mg/L Health Standard = 32
- Percent of samples > Health Standard = 48%
  - This is higher than the County average of 30%
- Porter Average Nitrate Level = 10.6 mg/L
  - Higher than County average of 7.6 mg/L

### **Town of Lima Well Sampling Program**

#### Summary of Results

- Number of Well samples = 48

#### Bacteria Results

- Number of samples Unsafe for Coliform Bacteria = 8
- Percent unsafe = 16.7%
  - Similar to county average of 15%
- Number of E.Coli Positive samples = 1

#### Nitrate Results

- Number of samples > 10 mg/L Health Standard = 17
- Percent of samples > Health Standard = 35%
  - This is slightly higher than the County average of 30%
- Lima Average Nitrate Level = 8.2 mg/L
  - very similar to the County average of 7.6 mg/L

Results were presented to the public by sections of land, not property address. Well pits and bad construction are typically causes of bacteria in well water. Supervisor Rundle inquired what the average well depth is. Environmental Director Banwell stated that some are 100 feet deep.

The environmental health staff plans to look at the areas of higher concentration of nitrate and bacteria in the Town of Porter and Lima to figure out possible causes. Past events, land use, and geography will all be looked at.

Chair Kraft inquired how property owners are notified of results. Environmental Health Director Banwell stated that results were discussed with clients at the town hall and result letters were sent via e-mail or mail. Clients

with high levels of bacteria and/or nitrates received a phone call from the Health Department with recommendations for their well water issues.

Environmental Health Director Banwell announced that town hall sampling is planned for the town of Bradford in May 2013 and Town of Harmony in June 2013. The town hall is where clients pick up test bottles and return the samples to the town hall a few days later. This is to encourage well testing by the Health Department coming to their local town hall and the quick turnaround time.

Chair Kraft inquired if people affected by the river flooding this year were notified of well testing. Environmental Health Director Banwell informed the board that a press release went out to local media and information was posted on our website. The clients affected by flooding have the option to receive a State Lab Fee exempt water test.

Dr. Winter inquired if there were a lot of calls regarding flood issues this past month. Environmental Health Director Banwell stated that there were not many calls. The board agreed the public did a lot of preparation this year in regards to the flooding. Environmental Health Director Banwell did state that it is best to test your well when the water has gone back down to a normal level after flooding. Do not drink your well water when you are being affected by a flood or if your well is covered in flood water.

### **Public Health Nursing**

Nursing Director Zoellner gave a presentation on the emerging H7N9 (Avian Influenza) in China.

On March 29, 2013, the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed through laboratory testing three human infections with A(H7N9). This is a virus not previously reported in humans. All three initial cases died from severe pneumonia and Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome. The cases were not linked to each other in any way.

As of April 29, 2013, China has reported a total of 126 confirmed infections, 24 (19%) have died. The source of infection remains under investigation. Exposure information is available in 82 of these cases. 63 (77%) involved exposure to live animals (poultry). At least three family clusters have been reported where limited human-to-human transmission may have occurred. 1,689 individuals and health care workers in close contact with the sick cases have been investigated for evidence of transmission. None of these contacts have fallen ill as a result of exposure to the H7N9 patients. Ongoing blood testing is being done on these individuals to continue gathering information.

Characteristics of the individuals initially infected:

- Most are older (median age 61)
- Most are male (71%)
- Most have poultry exposure; however relatively few virus-infected birds have been detected.
- Most cases have also had another underlying health condition (76%)

Why are we worried about this virus?

- Evidence suggests that the H7N9 virus is more easily transmitted from birds to humans than other avian influenza viruses.

- Initial studies have shown genetic differences in H7N9 that are associated with an increased risk of respiratory droplet transmission.
- Further adaptation of the virus in mammals might lead to more efficient and sustained transmission among humans.
- Human illness is significantly more severe than with other H7 viruses. (This may be because those with milder symptoms are going undetected)

What the implications for public health?

- Clinicians have been given guidance for recognizing and reporting severe flu-like illness in those that have recently traveled from China.
- So far this illness is treatable with several antiviral drugs if recognized early.
- There is a reliable lab test to detect the illness and it has been distributed to public health laboratories in the U.S.
- CDC is working on a vaccine for the H7N9 strain. Vaccination is not currently warranted, but may become necessary if the virus changes significantly and can be transmitted person-to-person.

Reference: MMWR/ May 1, 2013 / Vol. 62 *Emergence of Avian Influenza A (H7N9 Virus Causing Severe Human Illness – China, February-April 2013*

Dr. Winter inquired how effective the flu vaccine was for the past flu season. Nursing Director Zoellner stated that the regular dose vaccine was 3% effective for the elderly. The high dose (double dose) vaccine, which is given to clients over age 65, will not have data released for eight (8) years. The CDC must have eight (8) years of data before they can say if it was effective or not. Nursing Director Zoellner stated that it is important for people working with the community and elderly to receive a flu vaccine to prevent spread to the community and elderly.

### **Adjournment**

Dr. Best and Ms. Wade made a motion to adjourn the meeting. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth LaBelle, Recorder

Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health