



Public Health

Delta & Menominee Counties



Board of Health Meeting

Pinecrest Medical Care Facility
Powers, MI

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Board Members Present

Amanda Hess

Larry Johnson

Patrick Johnson

Excused at 1:45 CDT

via telephone

Larry Schei

Gerard Tatrow

Tom Trudgeon

Public Health Staff

Mike Snyder, Health Officer/ Administrator

Dr. Robert Van Howe, Interim Medical Director

Lynn Woelffer, Director of Finance

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta-Menominee District Board of Health (BOH) was held on October 31, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. CDT by Chairman Trudgeon. Roll call was taken by the Director of Finance, and is recorded above.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Tatrow moved the October 31, 2019 agenda be approved. Motion was supported by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment on the October 31, 2019 agenda.

8. **Review and Approval of September Check Register**

The Board of Health reviewed the September check register. Questions were answered by Mr. Snyder and Ms. Woelffer.

Mr. Tatrow moved the September check register be approved and placed on file. Motion was supported by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously.

9. **Medical Director's Report**

Dr. Van Howe reported:

Influenza -- The 2019-2020 influenza season is beginning. The term "flu" is imprecise and is frequently applied to any viral illness. Influenza is a specific infection caused by the influenza A or the influenza B virus. A typical infection results in a high fever, dry cough, and muscle pain that lasts several days. While some will have gastrointestinal symptoms, most do not. A substantial percentage of patients can develop pneumonia weeks after the initial viral infection. There has been a spattering of reports of influenza-like illnesses reported recently in Michigan (about 20 per week). Only a handful of these have been confirmed to be caused by the influenza virus (about 7 per week). Half of the confirmed infection have been from influenza A H3N2, and half from influenza B.

Each year in October a vaccination for influenza that is targeted at covering the strains of the virus that are expected to be prevalent in the coming winter becomes available. This year's vaccination covers four strains of influenza. The first is influenza A H1N1, the famous "swine flu" that caused a pandemic in 1918 and killed more people than World War I. The second is influenza A H3N2. The third and fourth are strains of influenza B. The manufacturer of the recombinant vaccine (which does not contain egg products) is reporting that they will be unable to produce enough vaccine in time for this winter. While we recommend that everyone, with few exceptions, be vaccinated, a shortage of vaccine may force us to prioritize who gets vaccinated. Currently the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that vaccine be prioritized to children 6 months to 59 months of age, adults 50 years old and older, adults with chronic illnesses (such as heart disease, lung disease, kidney disease, and endocrine disease such as diabetes mellitus), individuals who are immunocompromised, women who are or may become pregnant during the influenza season, individuals on high-dose aspirin, people living in nursing homes, Native Americans and Alaskans, obese adults with a BMI of 40 or greater, health-care workers, and household contacts of those in high-risk groups. We are promoting the vaccination and are making efforts that the vaccine is available to all patients who wish to be vaccinated. A high-dose vaccination is recommended for those over 65 years of age, but if that is not available, a regular-dose vaccination is preferred to forgoing vaccination.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Larry Johnson made a motion the meeting be adjourned at 1:50 p.m. CDT. Motion was supported by Mr. Tatrow and carried unanimously.

Thomas L. Johnson 12-19-19

Chairperson

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