Public Health
Delta & Menominee Counties

Board of Health Meeting

Pinecrest Medical Care Facility, Powers

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 15, 2009

Board Members Present

Venetia Bryers
Robert Burie
David Schultz
Thomas Elegeert

Board Members Absent

Gary Eichhorn
Bernie Lang

Public Health Staff

Barb Chenier, Health Officer/ Administrator
Dr. Terry Frankovich, Medical Director
Mike Snyder, Environmental Health Director
Connie Jensen, WIC Coordinator
Sharon Engelsgjerd, Executive Secretary

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

The July 15, 2009, meeting of the Delta Menominee District Board of Health was called to order at 4:32 p.m. CST by Chairperson Schultz. Roll call was taken and is recorded above. A quorum was not present. A decision was made to continue the meeting, with actions to be confirmed at the next Board meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Bryers moved to approve the agenda. Motion was supported by Mr. Burie and carried.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Elegeert moved that the June 17th minutes be approved as presented. Ms. Bryers seconded and motion was carried.

4. Education Session

4.1—Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Update

Connie Jensen, PHDM's WIC Program Coordinator, reviewed the WIC Program's goals and procedures. WIC is a federal program (U.S. Department of Agriculture) designed to promote good health and nutrition for low to moderate income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, infants, and children 1-5 years old. The program provides the means to purchase specific nutritious foods. The program also includes nutrition education pertinent to the families' needs, and referrals to other health and social services. Major changes have been made recently in the WIC program:

- Plastic Bridge Cards, or Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards, have replaced coupons. WIC clients are given a WIC Bridge Card which is programmed for the food benefits specific to that family. The client uses the Card at approved grocery stores only for those foods allowed by the WIC Program. The grocery stores are equipped with special WIC Bridge Card machines to process the card.
- Beginning August 1st the WIC food choices will be updated to include whole grain breads and tortillas, baby food fruits and vegetables, and grocery store fresh fruits and vegetables.
- WIC now has a new computer system called MI-WIC. This is an internet program that will completely replace paper files with electronic files. Included in this program is the ability to configure the WIC Bridge Cards with benefits and print related shopping lists for the clients.

5. New Business

5.1— Technical Advisory Committee Recommendation

In the June meeting the Board asked the Technical Advisory Committee to review the requirements for alternative technology maintenance visits and consider allowing landowners without monitoring to have annual visits instead of 6-month visits, after the first two years of the alternative treatment system's operation. (The National Sanitation Foundation, which approves alternative technology, requires alternative systems be inspected every 6 months for the first two years.) Don Shirley, Technical Advisory Committee Chairman, explained that since PHDM has no current applicants for alternative technology and the requirement in question would not apply until after the first two years of a newly installed alternative system, the Technical Advisory Committee recommends the requirement for annual inspection be kept as currently stated in the Technical Manual.

Ms. Bryers moved that the Board accept the Technical Advisory Committee's recommendation. Mr. Elegeert seconded and motion was carried.

5.2—**Sanitary Code Board of Appeals Appointment Process**
The Sanitary Code states that the Board of Health shall appoint a Board of Appeals consisting of 4-5 members, at least 2 members from each county and of varied expertise. In March of 2008 the Technical Advisory Committee presented a list of suggested members. The Board asked Mike Snyder to talk with these persons to determine whether they would be willing to serve on the Board of Appeals. Further action was tabled.

6. **Medical Director's Report**

Dr. Frankovich gave an update on the H1N1 influenza disease:

- National estimates report more than one million people have had the H1N1 flu at some level of severity; Michigan estimates a couple thousand. Nationally, over 200 deaths are estimated to be the result of this flu; Michigan, 8 deaths.
- Delta County recently had its first case of H1N1 influenza identified. The patient had no travel exposure so we can assume the virus is in our community. Little seasonal influenza is circulating at this time of the year, so we can generally assume that anyone with influenza at this point in the summer has H1N1.
- CDC is asking local Public Health to start planning for vaccinations in the coming fall/winter. However, we don't know when or how much we will receive or who the target populations will be. Public Health will distribute the vaccine using a variety of community channels, e.g., schools and private health care providers.

Ms. Bryers stated that one of the concerns in the EMS community is the potential for EMS and emergency departments to be overwhelmed by calls from people who are not seriously ill but are afraid they have the H1N1 influenza. Public Health can help greatly by educating the public with concise messages during the flu season.

7. **Health Officer's Report**

- In planning for possible H1N1 vaccinations in the fall…
  - We have been meeting with the school superintendents to discuss the possibility of coming to the schools to vaccinate students and staff.
  - We are reviewing our available cold storage to ensure we have adequate space to store the vaccine when we receive it.
  - We are holding our regular seasonal flu clinics a little earlier; they are scheduled for the first weeks of October.

- Next year our Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment funding is projected for 15-20% reduction. To reduce facility costs, we are planning to move our Menominee Prevention staff to Stephenson and close the Menominee AODS office. AODS counselors from our Escanaba office will travel to Menominee a few days a week to meet with clients at the Menominee Health Department. The Menominee County Board will address this action at their next regular meeting.

8. **Public Comment – None**

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Burie with support by Mr. Elegeert to adjourn the meeting. Motion was carried and meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m. CST.

Chairperson

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