Public Health
Delta & Menominee Counties

Board of Health Meeting

Pinecrest Medical Care Facility, Powers

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Board Members Present

Venetia Bryers
Robert Burie
Bernie Lang
Thomas Elegeert

Board Members Absent

Gary Eichhorn
David Schultz

Public Health Staff

Barb Chenier, Health Officer/ Administrator
Dr. Terry Frankovich, Medical Director
Jennifer Grabowski, Prevention Specialist
Ruth Botbyl, Prevention Specialist
Sharon Engelsgjerd, Executive Secretary

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

The October 21, 2009, meeting of the Delta Menominee District Board of Health was called to order at 4:38 p.m. CST by Vice-Chairperson Lang. Roll call was taken; attendance is recorded above.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Bryers requested Public Comment be moved to a time before the Education Session.

Mr. Elegeert moved to approve the agenda with the change. Motion was supported by Mr. Burie and carried.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Elegeert moved that the September 16th minutes be approved as presented. Motion was supported by Mr. Burie and carried.

(8) Public Comment

- Don LeBeau of Carney presented his concern in regards to how the Health Department is addressing a septic tank which was installed without a permit near Carney. He wanted the Board to be aware that many people are watching to see how the situation is resolved.

- Venetia Bryers spoke for the Emergency Medical Services community in Delta County expressing concern that they were not informed of availability of the H1N1 flu vaccine. They had submitted their request through OSF St Francis Hospital and have not yet been given access to the vaccine. Also, when seasonal flu vaccine was found to be scarce, she suggested that vaccine should have been set aside for EMS workers.

- Reflecting on the past well contamination in the area near County Road 366/US 41, Tom Elegeert suggested that in similar situations efforts be made to keep the local commissioners apprised of the situation.

4. Education Session

4.1—Prime For Life Substance Abuse Prevention Program

Jennifer Grabowski and Ruth Botbyl described the Prime For Life substance abuse prevention program, a research-based drug and alcohol curriculum directed toward behavior change. In the program participants use workbooks to apply the instruction directly to their own lives, first performing a self assessment concerning such things as what they value, attitudes, and individual risk factors. Instructors address areas such as negative influences in their lives, e.g., media and social groups; stages of abuse and how it progresses; what alcohol/drug-related arrests actually cost them; and how their drug/alcohol abuse affects what they value in life. Throughout the program instruction emphasizes the results of bad choices and the importance of making good choices. The program has consistently received positive feedback from participants, and follow-up reports with students indicate slightly more than 50% were choosing abstinence. Until recently the Prime For Life program was only presented to youth with alcohol or drug related arrests. However, we have now expanded it to include classes for adults with arrests for drugs or Driving Under the Influence of alcohol and classes in schools as a preventive program for students.

5. New Business

5.1— Status of Body Art Facilities Licensing

Presentation of a fee schedule to the Board of Health is deferred at this time. The State Association of Local Environmental Health Directors is asking the Michigan Department of Community Health to address their concerns regarding inadequate training for this new role and the added requirements for local Health Departments with no funding support. Michigan Association of Local Public Health and Michigan Association of Counties is supporting this appeal.

5.2—**Alcohol Highway Safety Education Fee Increase**
The Health Department requests the Board approve an increase in the Alcohol Highway Safety Education fee from $100 to $125. This increase covers the cost of the Prime For Life curriculum workbooks.

> **Ms. Bryers moved that the Board approve the proposed fee increase. Mr. Elegeert seconded and motion was carried.**

5.3—**MERS Defined Contribution Feasibility Study**
Our MERS contract manager has suggested a new option to consider for our retirement plan before making the switch to a Defined Contribution plan.

> **Ms. Bryers moved that the Board defer decision until the Personnel Committee can study the options. Mr. Elegeert seconded and motion was carried.**

6. **Medical Director's Report**

- Michigan has just gone from regional outbreaks to widespread disease. This week emergency room visits with flu-like symptoms increased from an average 10% to 42% in Delta County.
- Most flu cases are not sent to the laboratory for confirmation but can be assumed to be H1N1 since we are not yet in the regular flu season.
- Vaccine is coming in small amounts. Our Health Department has distributed most of this first vaccine via healthcare providers to be given to high risk population groups identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Last night Dr. Frankovich attended the Delta County Medical Society meeting in which Tom Casperson spoke.

7. **Health Officer's Report**

- Our seasonal flu clinics went well, vaccinating almost 1300 people. We hope to receive more seasonal flu vaccine in late November.
- We received our first H1N1 vaccine October 9th—all intranasal—and since then have received two small shipments of both intranasal and injectable. When the Health Department distributes the vaccine to healthcare providers, we track the use of the vaccine through the Michigan Care Improvement Registry program. We are currently targeting pregnant women, young children and healthcare workers, and will soon reach out to those who live with or care for children under 6 months old.
- We expect to continue to get the H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines in small shipments with little notice. Our goal is to get the vaccine out to the public as quickly as possible.

8. **Public Comment** – See above

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 6:06 p.m. CST.

Chairperson

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