

FINDLAY CITY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

August 19, 2015

FINDLAY CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Members Attendance:

- X Mayor Lydia Mihalik, *President Ex Officio*
- X Dr. Stephen Mills, Health Commissioner/Board Secretary
- X Mr. Gregory Cline, *President Pro Tempore*
- X Mr. William Alge
- X Dr. Robert McEvoy
- X Mrs. Joan Work
- A Licensing Council Rep Vacant

Staff Attendance:

- X Mrs. Barbara Wilhelm, Deputy Health Commissioner
- X Mr. Craig Niese, Environmental Health Director
- X Mrs. Becky Bern, Nursing Director
- X Mr. Eric Helms, Plumbing Inspector
- X Mr. Chad Masters, Emergency Response
- X Mr. Noah Stuby, Implementation Coordinator

- X Guest: Paul Schmelzer
- X Will McHugh

Call to Order: Mayor Mihalik called the meeting to order at 7:32 A.M.

Minutes: Mayor Mihalik called for a motion to accept the July minutes. Mrs. Work moved to accept the minutes from the July 22, 2015 Board of Health meeting as circulated. Seconded by Mr. Cline. Motion carried 4-0. Filed.

HEALTH COMMISSIONER REPORT

1. Dr. Mills has recently reviewed Ohio's *Plan to Prevent and Reduce Chronic Disease 2014-2018*. As a public health entity, he noted, we should be using this plan. Many agencies were involved in putting this plan together including the Ohio Department of Health and the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners. Basically heart disease, strokes, and some cancers are associated with risk factors and this plan helps identify ways to reduce the prevalence and mortality of these diseases. Increasing screening for these diseases and increasing education of risk factors are important roles for public health. Although things like Ebola and H1N1 get a lot of attention these diseases are something we actually see every day.
2. The new surgeon general is Vivek Murthy and Dr. Mills provided some background information on him. He is promoting a partnership with the YMCA to start a program called *A New Way to Move*. This is an intergenerational program to promote physical activity. Dr. Mills will reach out to Stephanie Parsons from our local YMCA to gauge interest in this program.
3. Looking forward to Heart Month in February Dr. Mills has met with cardiologist Pamela Reed to discuss an initiative called "Heart to Heart" which was done in Mississippi. This program focuses on nutrition, activity and education. Dr. Mills would like to start a Heart to Heart program that would link family members of known heart patients with information and screening services. He will be meeting with her again, along with members of the cardiac rehab team, to discuss this further.

DEPUTY HEALTH COMMISSIONER REPORT

1. Will McHugh was introduced as the new interim health commissioner for the combined health department. He has a long history of service with the Ohio Department of Health and has most recently been part of the consulting team for the merger through Strategic Health Care. In the board packets Mrs. Wilhelm has included a resolution that Mr. McHugh is proposing for the current boards of health and she asked Mr. McHugh to explain further.

Since January is rapidly approaching, Mr. McHugh is proposing that both city and county boards begin to allow the staffs to work together. The resolution will allow Mr. McHugh to assign staff as needed between departments so that he can get a good picture of staffing capacity. Mr. Cline inquired if the city law director had a chance to review this. Mr. Schmelzer reported that Don Rasmussen has reviewed it and has no issues with it. **Mr. Cline then motioned to adopt the staff sharing resolution as presented.** Seconded by Mrs. Work. **Motion carried 4-0. Filed.**

2. Also included in the packet was the Naloxone Distribution Policy that was created. Mrs. Wilhelm is also currently working on the protocols for the program. The Hancock Metrich unit has already asked for 5 kits as has one of the recovery programs in town. The materials for the kits have all been ordered and Mrs. Wilhelm is just waiting to receive them and to put all the pieces together.
3. Mrs. Wilhelm apologized for not presenting a midyear budget review earlier but did distribute a year to date expense/revenue report to each board member. The report includes a look back on expenses and revenues through July for the years 2012-2014 to give the board members prospective. Both revenues and expenses have risen in 2015. Mrs. Wilhelm pointed out that with 58.3% of the year complete we have collected 61% of the expected revenues for 2015 and have expended 54% of the budgeted expenses. When taking a closer look at individual line items; Help Me Grow, plumbing permits, vital statistics and all environmental program revenues are ahead of last year while expense are up in staff cost (due to 3% raise) and vaccine cost.

We are behind in reimbursements but Mrs. Wilhelm explained that a new grant year for ODH starts in July and because the notice of awards were late it has taken a little longer to get those projects set up. This has caused a lag in reimbursing the health department for employees who are paid with grant funds but that should catch up shortly.

4. Mrs. Wilhelm thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the recent training that was held by Ohio State University on strategic planning. She noted that O.S.U. is very familiar with the public health accreditation standards that are associated with strategic planning and have structured the course around them. She also noted that O.S.U. does provide facilitation for strategic planning and although strategic planning for the newly combined health department will not likely occur until early next year it would be her recommendation that O.S.U. be considered for the process.

Going along with an internal strategic plan, a community health assessment is also required for accreditation. Mrs. Wilhelm explained that a letter will actually go out this week to the community to advise citizens that an actual community survey will be sent out in September to over 3600 random households. The letter was co-signed by William Kose M.D., John Urbanski, Kathy Kreuchauf and Stephen Mills D.O. Mrs. Wilhelm provided detail as to how the surveys will be collected so that reliable data can be obtained.

NURSING REPORT

1. For the last several years the health department has worked with the police department to distribute information regarding child passenger seat safety. This year car seat safety technicians were paired with police officers in patrol cars. Parking lots around Meijer's and Walmart were targeted and police officers approached families with young children offering to assist them with their car seats. There were also several technicians who rode on patrols. If car seats were found to be inappropriate the technicians would install them correctly or provide the means to correct the problem. Police officers provided coupons for ice cream and the whole event was done in a very positive manner and was warmly received by the families. Because of the success of the event, Mrs. Bern shared that we have been asked to present at the upcoming Ohio Child Passenger Safety Conference in order to promote the program to other communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT

1. Mr. Niese updated the Board on this summer's mosquito spraying efforts. Since last board meeting fifteen hours of spraying have occurred, normally between the hours of 9-11 pm. Efforts were initially concentrated around the fairgrounds prior to the antique tractor show and around Emory Adams Park for the balloonfest. In addition, spraying as occurred around at least 80% of the city. Mr. Niese anticipates that he will have enough chemicals on hand to complete spraying for the year. Some discussion followed regarding the amount of chemicals used and Dr. McEvoy inquired as to how employees are protected from the spray itself. Mr. Niese explained the mechanics of spraying and what safety measures are taken. This spray is one of the most environmentally friendly chemicals available.

Mr. Alge noted a recent report on West Nile Virus in the area from a Toledo news channel. Mr. Niese confirmed that mosquito testing has been done that confirms West Nile in the area and Mr. Alge was surprised to learn that many other viruses were associated with mosquitoes. Mr. Niese confirmed that the health department is aware of other viruses that can be spread via mosquito and Mrs. Wilhelm pointed out that many of these are reportable diseases in the state of Ohio so medical providers are required by law to inform the health department if any such human cases would occur in Findlay.

2. **Mr. Cline motioned to approve the plan and specifications for Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn – 1042 Interstate Ct...** Seconded by Dr. McEvoy. Motion carried 4-0. Filed.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE / EPI REPORT

1. Mr. Masters informed the Board that he had received notification from the Ohio Department of Health on August 6th that a camp in Virginia had experienced an outbreak of gastrointestinal illness in mid-late July. There were 500 attendees and a family from Findlay was identified as being present during the camp. Mr. Masters worked with ODH and the family to provide testing and education.
2. Mr. Masters also received a report on August 14th that a long-term care facility was experiencing a possible gastrointestinal illness outbreak among residents and employees. Mr. Masters provided stool collection kits to the facility and interviewed ill employees. There were a total of seven (7) residents and five (5) employees who were ill with GI symptoms. No stool samples were able to be obtained as of the Board meeting. *Note: Following the Board meeting, Mr. Masters did receive two (2) stool samples and submitted to ODH Lab for testing. Both samples came back from the ODH Lab positive for Norovirus G1. These results were conveyed to the facility along with education to reduce risk of future gastrointestinal illnesses.*
3. Mr. Masters provided an update on the AED training to be held at the Findlay Village Mall. The AED unit and supplies have been purchased and Mr. Masters will be coordinating the date and the MRC volunteers to offer the training.

PLUMBING REPORT

1. Mr. Helms had nothing new to report.

MEETING REQUESTS

Mrs. Work moved to approve the travel requests.

1. Sept. 9, 2015: Chad Masters to Regional Exercise Planning Meeting, Bowling Green, Ohio. No Cost.
2. Sept. 28-30, 2015: Barb Wilhelm to AOHC Fall Conference, Dublin Ohio. Cost Registration, Lodging, 1 Meal.
3. October 14-15, 2015: 2 Car Seat Techs to Ohio Youth Occupant Protection Conference, Columbus Ohio. Stipend will be received for travel.

Seconded by Dr. McEvoy. **Motion carried 4-0. Filed.**

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Alge inquired as to what, if anything, other health districts were doing in regards to the marijuana ballot initiative. Mr. McHugh noted he is not aware of what other health districts are doing. He did note, however, that a lot of hospital systems are starting to come out strongly against legalized marijuana. He felt AOHC would likely come out with a statement but he has not seen anything yet. Mayor Mihalik has been approached from Findlay City Schools about doing a joint resolution from the City and City Schools.

Mrs. Wilhelm noted that a local group is in place to oppose Issue 3 and a draft resolution has been put together that could be used by organizations wishing to come out against legalized marijuana. She will be bringing the resolution to the Board in September. A town hall meeting is also scheduled on October 5th from 6 to 8 pm at St Andrew's church using a format similar to the one used for community partners in July. This format included County Prosecutor Mark Miller and speakers from the University of Findlay, Findlay City Health Department and Hancock County ADAMHS Board. This group is also looking at putting together a public media campaign.

Mrs. Wilhelm noted that there was a statewide initiative against legalized marijuana launched yesterday at Nationwide Children's Hospital. Will McHugh explained that ballot Issue 2 is an attempt to prevent the type of monopoly that would be established with the marijuana proposal that is Issue 3. Responsible Ohio is a heavily funded and well run group. Mrs. Wilhelm also noted that there is a structured tax deal also built in to Issue 3 that would fix the tax rates on marijuana. In the past, she noted, raising taxes on things like tobacco has proven to be a deterrent but that will not be possible with this issue.

Discussion also followed on the relationship between Issue 2 and Issue 3. For those who are not in favor of legalized marijuana it will be important to vote yes on 2 and no on 3. Mr. Alge expressed concern over the lack of politicians speaking out against this and Mayor Mihalik noted there is concern since polls show people may be in favor. Mr. McHugh pointed out that many of the polls are being taken by Responsible Ohio and are skewed in such a way as to promote their agenda. It is a very difficult situation.

In other new business Mr. Schmelzer noted that he had a recent conversation with someone wishing to restore some of the old murals in town including one for Mail Pouch Tobacco. He asked the Board what their position would be. Although the Board recognized some historical

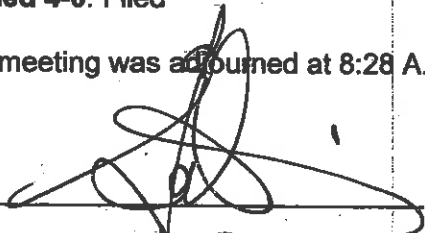
significance Dr. McEvoy responded that the Board is not in favor of supporting any type of tobacco products.

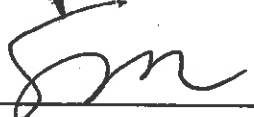
Mayor Mihalik also noted that Ohio ranks horribly in infant mortality rates and she wanted to point out a group entitled Cradle Cincinnati that works to combat and educate regarding infant mortality. Some of the things they work on are increasing time between pregnancies, smoking cessation and safe sleep. She noted there is a great organization in town called the William T. Ellerbrock Foundation that is doing wonderful things like funding the onesies that are handed out to all new babies at the hospital. The Mayor feels they would be a great partner in any efforts that the health department is making to address infant mortality. Mrs. Wilhelm noted that our home visitors have discovered that many babies they visit do not have safe cribs and bedding and perhaps that would be something they could help with. Mayor Mihalik noted that this would be a great opportunity moving forward with a newly combined health department.

EXPENSES

Mr. Cline moved to approve the expenses for August. Seconded by Mr. Alge. Motion carried 4-0. Filed

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 A.M.


_____, President


_____, Secretary (Health Commissioner)