

Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
October 9, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.
Minutes

1. Call to Order

At 6:30 p.m., Kenneth G. Amend, M.D., President, called to order the regular session of the Board of Health of Hamilton County General Health District, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Members

Members Present: Kenneth G. Amend, M.D., President
Mark A. Rippe, Vice President
James Brett

District Staff Present: Tim Ingram, Health Commissioner
Craig Davidson, Assistant Health Commissioner
Greg Kesterman, Assistant Health Commissioner
Anna Dowell, Finance Officer
Dr. Steve Feagins, Assistant Medical Director

Guests: Michael Binder, University of Cincinnati

3. Clean Kitchen Awards

Greg Kesterman read the list of five Clean Kitchen Award recipients and congratulated them for their efforts to maintain a high level of sanitation and staff education.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2017 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

5. Health Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Ingram called attention to the performance dashboard in his written report. Mark Rippe inquired about the percentage of completion color coding. Commissioner Ingram stated benchmarking is the last three year numbers; staff will review colors for accuracy. This is perfect timing as we are preparing metrics for the 2018 program implementation plan. The Board complimented recognized the staff for their program accomplishments. They are doing great.

Finance Officer, Anna Dowell, is here tonight to present on the financials and audit report. We also have the renewal of Bethesda Hospital Maternity License application for the Board's consideration.

There are several staff complements in the Board packet. Dr. Amend inquired about the A-List Animals. Assistant Commissioner Greg Kesterman explained that staff worked hard on

a very complicated nuisance complaint. Ultimately, the complaint was resolved and both businesses were satisfied with the outcome.

Commissioner Ingram stated the annual syphilis article for the Cincinnati Children's Medical Center newsletter shows progress, but there remains more work to do. The Harm Reduction Program is coming together and hiring new staff. Mark Rippe inquired if anyone heard opposition to the indigent health care levy. Commissioner Ingram has not heard, but will follow up.

Staff Reports

(a) Department of Community Health Services

Assistant Health Commissioner Craig Davidson provided highlights from his written report.

He participated in a panel discussion on naloxone at the University of Cincinnati- College of Medicine and is very optimistic concerning the future doctors' perspectives on the opioid epidemic. The dialogue with first year medical students was very interesting with the students showing a high level of interest and engagement with this topic. Clermont County web-based overdose surveillance and reporting tool is online and Hamilton County online portal will be next.

Activities associated with WeTHRIVE! In Montgomery were again featured in the local media. The Board of the Local Public Health Services Collaborative (18 health departments throughout Ohio) held its annual meeting and approved the 2018 membership fee schedule, operating budget, and hiring a new part-time operations coordinator. A notable change from previous years is a one percent reduction for charter members in the remittances retained by the Collaborative to defray monthly software and clearinghouse fees.

The monthly Communicable Diseases Epi report was provided in the Board packets. Dr. Steve Feagins, Assistant Medical Director, reported hepatitis C is most notable. Syphilis also continues to increase slightly over last year's numbers. Mark Rippe inquired if trend of increase for hepatitis C is changeable. The Harm Reduction Program should help as the opioid epidemic/needle sharing is a significant contributing factor and the program will also work to reduce spread of HIV among those who inject drugs. The shift in demographics and risk behaviors of HIV cases to those who inject drugs, rather than via sexual transmission, is of concern. A shift to younger, white, heterosexual males has also been noted.

Anecdotally, newly diagnosed cases appear to be more apathetic to HIV infection risks now that it can be controlled by medication. This is concerning as the average annual medical cost to treat someone with HIV is \$500,000. Dr. Feagins noted that patient medication cost is required to be covered as a result of the federal Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program legislation). The Board requested HIV quarterly history statistics is added to the Epi report. The quarterly HIV report prepared by Epi staff will now be included in all future Board packets. The Harm Reduction Program offers hepatitis C and HIV testing and referrals to treatment. As the program is transitioned, we plan to offer hepatitis B and A immunizations and are evaluating offering minimum wound care that can prevent more advanced infection issues; e.g. endocarditis.

Dr. Amend inquired about tuberculosis drug resistance. Mr. Davidson stated risk is highest for overseas population migrating to U.S. Dr. Feagins noted this is due to antibiotics being sold more liberally / over the counter in other parts of the world. Resistance to antibiotics is

an emerging public health issue. The reason new antibiotics are now coming to market more quickly is that antibiotic development is not high margin work and federal subsidies to do so are to be determined.

(b) Department of Environmental Health Services

Assistant Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman highlighted construction and demolition debris (C&DD) recycling in his report. Senate Bill 2 rules to regulate demolition and recycling will help mitigate problems with facilities recovering commodities from the construction/demolition waste stream.

Dr. Amend inquired about the condemned property with reptiles. Mr. Kesterman stated the residence was located across the street from A-List Animals business and that the owners quickly rehabbed the property and the residents have returned.

Mr. Kesterman reviewed his PowerPoint on the campground program. The PowerPoint provided an overview of HCPH's campground program including analysis of violations and the inspection process. At the conclusion of the power point, staff recommended the BOH consider a fee adjustment based on the state cost methodology. Since it has been ten years since the last rate change, Mark Rippe inquired about more frequent rate adjustments to avoid larger percentage increases. Commissioner Ingram agreed that was good policy and will have staff review all fees every three years. James Brett pointed out this rate review might even decrease fees.

Mr. Rippe moved to hold a public hearing regarding Campground fee changes at 6:15 p.m. prior to the November 13 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

6. Unfinished Business:

The Board of Health received 20 minutes of continuing education reviewing the statutory requirements of the Campground Program and license fee procedures.

7. Finances

Anna Dowell, Finance Officer, reviewed the year to date Financial Reports in the Board packets. Revenue and expense variances were discussed and the resulting net zero impact to the bottom line. We are right on track with where we expected to be at this time. Mark Rippe inquired did we lose any employees. Commissioner Ingram reported the turnover rate has not been calculated for 2017 and will be included in his next report.

Ms. Dowell distributed the 2016 State Audit that reported no material deficiencies. The audit report has been filed. The Board thanked all the staff for their good work.

Year 2017 disbursement reports are included in the Board packet. Dr. Amend inquired about the HIV testing vendor expenses. Commissioner Ingram reported they are under a "not to exceed" contract. James Brett inquired about the water pollution control program. Commissioner Ingram reported the state pays HCPH for this program. Mark Rippe inquired about next year's health care cost increase. Finance Officer Anna Dowell reported the increase will be 8.5% next year.

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote – All Aye; - Mr. Brett abstained on Whitewater Township expenditure.

8. New Business:


Commissioner Ingram presented the Tri-Health Bethesda North- Maternity Licensure Application for Board action. Dr. Amend inquired what level the maternity is. Commissioner Ingram reported the application is for Level 2.

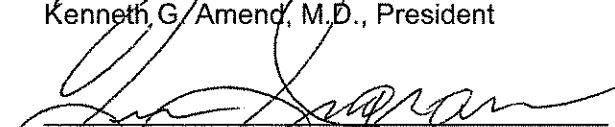
Mr. Brett moved to approve the Maternity Licensure Application.
Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote – All Aye

9. Adjournment

Mr. Rippe moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.
Mr. Brett seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Next Board of Health meeting: November 13, 2017.


Kenneth G. Amend, M.D., President


Tim Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner