

WABASH COUNTY HEALTH BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – January 17, 2006

**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** by President Dr. Jeffrey Pyle, DVM at the Wabash County Court House 1 W. Hill ST, 6:30 pm.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Jeffrey Pyle, D.V.M; Dr. Robert Beckett; Dr. Regan Andrade; David Ericsson; Linda Mattern and Dr. Stephen Fassino.

**BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:** Mary Brane.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. J. Dean Gifford, MD Health Officer; Larry Thrush, Attorney ; Jane Skeans and Lori Foust, Public Health Nurses; Keith Walters, Local Public Health Coordinator; Sharon Pattee, Environmental Assistant; Jennifer Swango, Environmental Health Specialist; Kathryn Carter-Lower, Deputy Registrar/ Office Manager; Lynn Dannacher, Environmental Food Specialist

**STAFF ABSENT:** no one absent

**GUESTS PRESENT:** none

**OLD BUSINESS:** Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

*Local Public Health Coordinator: Keith Walters: Reported on the Pandemic Flu. At this time Turkey is reporting 21 with this flu. Prevention of spread of this disease, washing hands, washing, hands, washing hands. Dr. Chester was in Wabash and gave a talk on the flu at the Wabash County Hospital. Keith was responsible for this program. Joe Hill has met with Keith and said he is up to date with his progress. Our Jeep needs to have a radio for communication, as Katrina showed us, cell phones and other communication did not work. Keith is working with EMA to get bids on a radio that would be compatible with all emergency units. So far 2 bids are for \$600 and \$650.*

**STAFF REPORTS:** All staff reports were mailed to the board prior to the meeting.

*Vital Records: Kathryn Carter-Lower Deputy Registrar/ Office Manager. Dr. Pyle and I discussed raising funds in birth and death certificates. This would cover pay raises for the environmental department. Dr. Pyle met with the Commissioners and Council in December. They were not opposed to the pay raise. We looked at the county health budget and decided that there was no room to cut. Grant County. charges \$19 for what we have been charging \$5. Extra monies can bring us more up to date. Vital Records program desperately needs a new pc. This was brought before the health board. Birth certificates used to be \$2.00, then we introduced the pocket size for \$5.00 which this should have been a total of \$7.00. We gave the combo pack for \$5.00. With all expenses and inflation figured in the health board made the motion to **raise both Birth Certificates and Death Certificates to \$10.00, this was passed by all the Health Board Members.** Dr. Pyle also brought up Genealogy requests. He said typing a genealogy sheet is putting the same time, energy and equipment to create this report as birth and death certificates. If the genealogist is willing to do the work themselves and use the microfiche to make their copies then this should be a reduced price of \$5.00. **This was also voted on by the Health Board all voted to charge \$10.00 for a Genealogy Information Sheet and \$5.00 for a Microfiche copy.** Dr. Beckett discussed a fact that dental problems are linked highly to heart disease. See attached report for year 2005.*

*Public Health Nurses: Jane Skeans and Lori Foust. See the attached report.*

*Environmental Food Specialists: Lynn Dannacher and Sharon Pattee. Se attached report. Lynn said with the new Super Wal-Mart Store coming, the health board may want to change her fee schedule for how many square feet are in a building.*

*Environmental Health Specialist: Jennifer Swango. The revised Lodging Ordinance was handed out. Lodging fees for hotel, motel and Bed & Breakfasts needs to be set. If the Bed and Breakfast is already paying the Health Dept. for serving food then they would be exempt from a fee for lodging. Jennifer said there have been many complaints about the Wabash Inn. Sharon Pattee will be taking over lodging, swimming pools and the lead program. This will be of big help to Jennifer. **A motion was made to charge \$75.00 for lodging of 1-10 rooms, \$150.00 for rooms of 11-30 and 31 and up \$300. Rooming houses will be under 10 at \$75.00. This was voted on and all Health Board Members agreed.** Next the environmental department would like to start charging for septic permits. There would be two different charges. There are the new install permits and then replacement permits. Dr. Pyle compared the foods and septic jobs*

*to come up with a compatible rate for the work that comes with inspections. Plan Commissioners is currently charging \$50-\$75 dollars for reviewing plans. This will be a policy set by the Health Department. **A motion was made and all agreed to charge new install permits \$100.00 and a replacement \$50.00.** Next will be the installer's ordinance and fee. Mr. Thrush says we will have this before the season starts. The season could start by the end of March. Installers will be requested to take a test with IOWPA. If the installer can not take this test when given by IOWPA, then Jennifer can administer this but they would only be able to work in Wabash County. **All installers must take the test and pass to be able to do any septic systems in our county. A motion was passed by all to charge \$300 per company per year.** Any false information given on any form or permit is liable to a charge of felon. See attached report.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** Dr. Pyle will send a letter to the County Commissioners regarding the pay raises and pay schedule increases.

Next meeting will be April 18, 2006 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Carter-Lower

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