

WABASH COUNTY HEALTH BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – January 16, 2007

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, DVM; Dr. Robert Beckett; David Ericsson and Dr. Stephen Fassino

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Brane and Linda Mattern

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. J. Dean Gifford, MD Health Officer; Larry Thrush, Attorney; Jane Skeans and Lori Foust, Public Health Nurses; Lynn Ellis, Administrative Assistant; Kathryn Carter-Lower, Deputy Registrar/ Office Administrator and Lynn Dannacher, Environmental Food Specialist.

STAFF ABSENT: Jennifer Swango, Environmental Health Specialist and Keith Walters, Local Public Health Coordinator.

GUESTS PRESENT: Dan Gray, Tobacco Free Coalition Coordinator and Richard Lower. Mr. Gray was at the meeting to introduce himself and hand out information on the Coalition. The purpose is to educate about the dangers of smoking and this program is governed by the state.

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

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

Local Public Health Coordinator: Keith Walter, see attached report.

Vital Records: Kathryn Carter-Lower Deputy Registrar/ Office Administrator, see attached report.

Public Health Nurses: Jane Skeans and Lori Foust, see the attached report. There was much discussion on the vaccines for children. The state funding has been cut per the nurses' report. Dr. Pyle says the nurse can either not offer the paid vaccine or say here is the cost. He also said determine if the patient is VFC or not. There should be two lists of vaccines, one list for VFC children and one for those who have to pay. Many schools are reporting a lot of illness. The nurses would like the schools to report to them when there is 10-20% out with illness.

Environmental Food Specialists: Lynn Dannacher, see attached report. Dr. Pyle asked if inspections are 2 times a year instead of 4 with the new ordinance. Yes, the regular inspections are 5 months apart and the state mandates two. Lynn discussed with the board a need for contractual labor. She has many events that happen at the same time and at opposite ends of the county. Dr. Pyle said 1. Do a study of the events. 2. Ask other counties what they pay per hour inclusive of mileage. 3. Present to the Commissioners and Council for Additional Appropriations for Contract Services.

Environmental Health Specialist: Jennifer Swango, see attached report. Do we need 3 quotes for the GIS program or does the state say we need to work with one specific company?

NEW BUSINESS:

The Health Board Members voted to keep Dr. Jeffrey Pyle on as the Health Board Chairman for 2007 and Dr. Robert Beckett on as Vice Chairman. The Board made 5 recommendations for the County Commissioners to consider as replacement for Dr. Andrade as she has resigned and left the state. These recommendations are: Dr. Lori Zimmerman, Dr. Eric Reichenbach, Dr. Pamela Higgins, Dr. Rose Wenrich and Dr. Lynn Losby. The new member must be a licensed physician and registered Democrat or Independent. Lynn Ellis was officially approved by the Board as a new employee, working as Administrative Assistant. Her employment starting date was January 1, 2007. The Board approved the new and revised Food Ordinance. The last time a food ordinance was created was in 1985. The Commissioner's need to review the ordinance and approve it. Jennifer is getting calls on building questions. The Attorney Larry Thrush made it clear that any building inspector questions go to the Commissioners. These are not Environmental issues. Until the County Commissioners appoint a Building Inspector they are liable.

Next meeting will be April 17, 2007 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Carter-Lower