

WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Mission: Promote Health * Prevent Disease * Protect the Public

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING (HEALTH AND AGING LIASON COMMITTEE)

March 5, 2008

Members Present: Supervisor Charlene Brady, Supervisor David Radermacher, Supervisor Melvin Ewert, Pat Hrobsky, Doreen Buntrock, Dr. Laura Radke, Director/Health Officer Linda Walter and Assistant Director Shari Winter

Chairperson, Charlene Brady, called the meeting of the Washington County Board of Health to order at 10:34 a.m. Notice of Posting was given.

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Motion by Doreen Buntrock, **Seconded** by Melvin Ewert to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2007 meeting. **Motion Carried.** No meeting was held on February 6th due to weather and absence of a quorum.

2007 Annual Report:

Linda presented the 2007 annual report and discussion followed. She asked for approval with the modifications suggested by the Board. **Motion** by Pat Hrobsky, **Seconded** by **Dave Radermacher** to approve the report with suggestions. **Motion Carried.**

Agent Status Discussion

An email from the state Food Safety and Recreational Licensing Program dated 2-26-08 was distributed and notified local health departments that fee increases for licensed facilities would not take place as anticipated. Linda discussed that the projections for revenue of the new proposed food safety program have been based on the state's intention to raise the fees. Linda raised the question of delaying the start date for the new service based on the new information. She reported there continues to be discussion at the state level about the DHFS/DPH program and the Department of Agriculture program which both use the same national food code and that additional change may also impact plans. Discussion followed by the Board about the need to provide high quality food safety services in the county and the state's decreasing ability to do that with budget cuts and decreased availability of state regional inspectors. Currently the county is serviced by 2 inspectors, one from the Green Bay regional office and one from the Milwaukee office. Both these inspectors are responsible for other jurisdictions not geographically related. The possible negative impact on tourism in the county from a food or water borne outbreak incident was discussed. The Board expressed concern about possible loss of sales tax revenue and negative impact on economic development if such an incident were to occur. The Board agreed that the planned start date of July 2009 may need to be revised and the situation monitored. The Board stressed that the Health Department's planning efforts to provide high quality cost effective food safety services should not stop or be lessened in anyway with the delay in the anticipated start date for local services. The Board also recommended that new supervisors be educated on the added value of a local food safety program and about the long standing concerns the Board of Health has had concerning the state's declining level of food safety services. **Motion** by Dave

Radermacher, Seconded by **Doreen Buntrock** to delay for 1 year the anticipated start date of a local food safety program to be administered by the Health Department as an agent of the state for licensed facilities. **Motion Carried.**

Special projects utilizing Kraemer Trust funds:

Linda reported Kraemer Trust funds in the amount of \$7,396.85 were received in January 2008. As previously determined these funds are used for special projects approved by the Board. **Motion** by Doreen Buntrock, **Seconded** by Pat Hrobsky to accept the proposal outlining needs through year 2016 to modernize office spaces and for incidental client service needs as presented. **Motion Carried.**

Outlay:

The request was held until a later meeting because additional items will be added. Emergency preparedness grant funds will be used to purchase radios compatible with the county's new system and personnel protective equipment (PPE) for use in mass clinics including powered air purifying respirators (PAPRs) will be included. The state DPH plans to release a recommended equipment list for local health department, but it is unavailable at this time. Preparedness grant funds are decreasing each year.

Monthly Reports:

The Board of Health reviewed the Health Department Communicable Disease report for January and February 2008. The Activity Report for February was not available yet.

Director's Announcements:

- This morning in-service on MRSA is attended by over 40 local health care providers and Linda thanked Dr. Radke for her presentation
- The April 19th medication collection day was again noted – many county agencies are working collaboratively on this event
- Wisconsin's smoke free air bill AB 834 – SB 150 passed out of committee in both state houses yesterday and needs a vote within the week to pass
- An educational Pandemic Flu CD and booklet were distributed to the Board. Linda asked if they were aware of any groups who would use or distribute them. The CERT groups being trained in the county are receiving a copy of either format through the Washington County Volunteer Center office.
- Linda thanked Supervisor David Radermacher for his service as he is not running for re-election. The Board of Health commended him for his dedication to the health of the citizens of the county.

Next Meeting & Adjournment:

Conflicts on April 2nd were discussed and another meeting in April will be scheduled if necessary. **Motion** by Dave Radermacher, **Seconded** by Pat Hrobsky to adjourn at 12:10p.m. **Motion Carried.**