

**VERMILION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
January 25, 2011
7:00 PM**

Present: Jason Asaad, Judi Benjamin, Dr. Jane Cooney, Brenda Larson, Jim Meharry and Connie Ostrander.

Absent: Dr. Karen Broaders, Lori DeYoung, and Dr. Todd Miller.

The meeting was called to order by President Judi Benjamin at 7:10 PM.

Dr. Karen Broaders, Lori DeYoung and Dr. Todd Miller asked to be excused from tonight's meeting.

Donna Dunham filled in for Shirley Hicks due to illness. She requested the deletion of two voting items under New Business – Item D – Budget Amendment for \$45,000 IEPA Grant and Item F – Budget Amendment for \$20,000 for WIC Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Project. Also she added item C to the Items of Information – Proclamation for Ivadale Foster.

A motion was made to accept Ivadale Foster into the meeting by phone.

Motion: Jim Meharry
Second: Jason Asaad
Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as revised.

Motion: Connie Ostrander
Second: Dr. Jane Cooney
Motion carried unanimously.

Connie Ostrander was listed on the October 19, 2010 meeting minutes as both present and absent. She was actually present. Donna Dunham will correct the minutes to read only that Connie was present.

A motion was made to approve the regular minutes from the October 19, 2010 meeting as corrected.

Motion: Ivadale Foster
Second: Dr. Jane Cooney
Motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal Status

The VCHD currently has approximately \$447,000 in the bank. The State has paid all past due monies from 2010 except for the \$9,000 Court of Claims and the Medicaid which is still about \$75,000. Donna Dunham told the Board that just today the County

has finished paying all of the 2010 bills so November has not been finalized yet. This information will be made available to them at the February Board of Health meeting.

A motion was made to approve the October 2010 Budget and Expenditure report and the Cash flow balance.

Motion: Dr. Jane Cooney
Second: Jim Meharry
Motion carried unanimously.

Donna Dunham reported to the Board that the County loan was paid off as of December 23, 2010. We paid about \$8,500 in interest to the County since the inception of the loan.

Old Business:

Jenny Trimmell reported that we gave 1743 influenza vaccinations to date. Compared to recent years, our clinics were very slow. She reported that we still have over 1,200 vaccinations available and we will be discussing how many to order for fall of 2011. We probably will be ordering significantly less.

Donna Dunham reported that we have received the requested Attorney General's Opinion regarding the inquiry about the residency policy that was passed by the County Board in February 2010. The Attorney General ruled that since we have our own governing Board, the County Board can not impose a residency policy for employees of the Health Department. The VCHD is a separate entity and is allowed to hire a person based on skills and job knowledge rather than location of residence.

New Business:

Donna Dunham presented the listing of Holidays for FY 2010 and 2011. She explained that based on a ruling of the Chief Judge of the Illinois Supreme Court, the Courthouse can not be closed except for the 12 days specified by the Judge. Since our union contract states that our union employees will receive 14 paid holidays, the union will receive the 12 listed days and two floating holidays designated by each individual employee. It was our understanding that this would be extended to all staff.

We are about 1/2 union and 1/2 non-union staff. Shirley Hicks suggested that we extend the same benefit for 12 listed holidays and 2 floating holidays to maintain equity of benefits for all staff to the extent possible.

A motion was made to extend the two floating holidays to all employees in order to be fair and equitable.

Motion: Connie Ostrander
Second: Jason Asaad
Motion carried unanimously.

Donna Dunham explained why the two budget amendments were deleted. Jim McMahon wrote Shirley Hicks a letter stating that until we received the money for the grants, we would not need to bring budget amendments to the committees and the County Board. They are extending us the privilege to expend the dollars and go over the lines if necessary until the money comes through. Once we receive the money, we can bring the budget amendments to the committees and the County Board.

Therefore, the Budget Amendment for \$45,000 for EPA funding and the Budget Amendment for \$20,000 for WIC Fetal Alcohol Syndrome project will be brought back to the Board at a later date.

Donna Dunham explained that the VCHD has applied for \$50,000 of Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) money to be used for a new telephone system and a new server and social networking system. The PHER money is money left over from H1N1 and therefore is federal money. Our telephone system is over 15 years old and it is hard to get parts. In the event of an emergency, we would need an updated system to help sustain communications with other agencies, the State of Illinois and County Officials. Our server is outdated also. In the event of an emergency, and the need for internet communication and notification, the server needs to be updated.

Doug Toole presented information regarding tipping fees for the landfill. He gave the Board information regarding tons collected and tons declared exempt. Increasingly more tonnage is being dumped in the landfill are being declared exempt. This results in much revenue for County Health Departments who have the responsibility to inspect and monitor the landfills.

There is a Senator willing to take on the project to remove the loopholes pertaining to declaring landfill items as exempt and require them to pay the County Health Departments based on tonnage collected irregardless of whether it is considered "exempt" or not. This Senator is gathering support for this issue and wants to know that he has the backing of the Counties affected by this action.

A discussion ensued regarding the landfill and the changes that have occurred over the years since the concern about recycling and the landfill has grown.

Items of Information:

We currently have one Data Entry Clerk opening in WIC and another will be open after February 4, 2011. We had a nursing position come open in WIC and it has been filled by a previous employee whose program was eliminated last May. The open EH position has been filled by an LEHP in training. The person hired was previously employed in our WIC department as a Nutritionist. She left our employment in October 2009.

Donna Dunham read a proclamation from the County Board declaring January 11, 2011 Ivaldale Foster day. This proclamation named all of the achievements throughout her lifetime, commended her for her community participation through Board membership and active involvement. The Board of Health members congratulated her and thanked her for her continued support.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Jim Meharry
Second: Dr. Jane Cooney
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna J. Dunham
Recording Secretary

Ivadale Foster
Secretary, Board of Health