Van Buren/Cass District Board of Health
Minutes
10/16/2019

Meeting was called to order at 3 pm at the Hartford facility. Roll call taken. Board members present were: Chairperson Don Hanson, Dwight (Skip) Dyes, Roseann Marchetti, Vicki Vaughn, Dr. Vincent Cabras, Robert Linderman and Randall Peat.

Health Department Employees Present: Jeff Elliott, Julie Beeching, George Friday, Jennifer Zordan, Dr. Frederick Johansen and Tina Cox.

Corrections to September minutes. Actual expenditures are $696,045.33. Difference of $29,700.62. Difference due to: HRA administration, Utilities, Telecommunications and Payroll. Motion by Dyes, 2nd by Marchetti to accept the minutes as corrected. All voting yes, motion carried.

Cash Flow Report was discussed and reviewed. AGENCY SUPPORT: Van Buren County appropriations have been received, waiting for Cass; discussed State Bioterrorism funding. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: Swimming pools, permits and PFOS reviewed. DENTAL: State Plan Amendment; waiting to receive.

Expenditures Report: Items reviewed were: travel and reminding staff to schedule more efficiently, permits up so travel will be more; law suit with PRN final invoice; dental lab costs for services done in house vs those taken to Dental Arts; purchase of vaccines and architectural fees for the building at VBISD. Discussed and reviewed. Motion by Peat, 2nd by Dyes to accept the expenditures in the estimated amount of $568,361.65 for payment. All voting yes, motion carried.

Administrator’s Report: Jeff informed the board that both Jim and Jan Sanders in the Dental Lab plan to retire in 2021 and with technology changes, the current system would become obsolete. Therefore the lab will not move to the new building. Makes more sense to contract out to someone who already has the new technology. Currently some dental lab work is contracted out and most dentists seem to be happy with the work done. Impact on the budget was discussed and reviewed. Jeff stated a lot still depends on whether or not the state will allow Medicaid for adults and what allowable fees are established for dental services. This was discussed and reviewed.

Jeff informed the board that George Kilts, Maria Veloz, Tina and he have recently met with Rose Street to look at health insurance costs for 2020. Current plan has a 1.5% increase with no changes to the services offered. Also looking at offering another plan, waiting for more information.

Jeff gave a brief report on the Veterans Program stating 78 veterans were seen, 11 spouses and 1 child. He explained that private insurance was billed first, if available, then the rest went through the Veteran’s Program funding. This way the available funds were able to go further. Peat stated that the Governor line item veto the Veterans Program funding for 2020, however another bill has been introduced: waiting to see if we get it or not. He stated a letter from Soldiers and Sailors Relief Board to the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners requesting them to put 1/10th of a mill mileage for veteran’s services. Will be on the March ballot and if voted in will raise approximately $300,000. So if the grant or the millage comes through the intent is to be used for Van Buren County veterans. How the money would be used was discussed and reviewed. Jeff stated that there are some United Way funds for veterans that can still be used until we hear something definite about the grant or millage. This was discussed and reviewed.

Nursing Activities Report for September for Van Buren. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE: There were 29 Animal bites, all non-rabid. There was 1 EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis), 1 CP-CRE, 1 Hepatitis B, 3 Chronic Hepatitis C, 2 Histoplasmosis, 180 Flu, 1 Legionellosis, 2 Aseptic Meningitis and 1 Yersiniosis. IMMUNIZATION CLINIC: Hartford: 62 vaccines were given to 37 individuals. Other locations: 0 vaccines were given to 0 individuals. CSIHCS: 2 Nursing Plans of Care were completed. 2 clients were assisted with enrollment, 2 clients were assisted with renewal. There were 8 Annual Assessments. 20 clients received Care Coordination of Services. 0 Diagnostics were issued. There are 359 active clients. STD/HIV: There was 2 STD Court Order for testing. There were 21 total STD clinic visits, 21 for testing and/or treatment. 23 Partner notification interviews were completed. There were 11 Gonorrhea, 33 Chlamydia and 1 Syphilis reported by private clinics. There were 2 Gonorrhea and 1 Chlamydia reported by the health department. 14 individuals received HIV/AIDS counseling.
Nursing to 34 and/or testing received clients. STD/HIV: Assessments. Legionellosis, Educational
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Health department Johansen stated that nursing staff reported that staff remains busy and should be working within the VBC Jail.

Julie stated staff busy with outreach flu clinics and end of the year and quarterly reports.

Medical Consultant’s report: Dr. Johansen gave a brief report on the EEE situation in Southwest Michigan. He discussed why the state decided to spray and explained how one could opt out. Though there were a few complaints most individuals were in favor of the spraying. EEE is rare and normally the country would see about 7 cases per year, however this was an unusual year with a number of human cases in a centralized area. As a result the state felt it should spray and an organic compound was used, not a poison like some believed. He informed the board that even after we have a hard frost, EEE and other mosquito illnesses will remain because their eggs and larvae will be left behind. Believe serious mosquito trapping will continue next year if funding is available. There is not a vaccine for EEE for humans at this time. This was discussed and reviewed.

Jeff stated that nursing staff has been through a lot of different situations this year; EEE, PFOS, Legionnaires, etc. and should be commended on doing such a great job with these unexpected occurrences along with doing their everyday duties.

Dr. Johansen stated next week is polio week and gave a short quiz on the topic.

Dental Report: Jeff reported that staff remains busy and he has started a campaign to find another dentist. Had two individuals inquire about the position. Expect to hire in 2020; plan to get with area universities to reach out to new grads.

Dental Lab Report for September: There were 37 Starts, 30 Finishes, 15 Repairs, 4 Flippers, 10 Resets, 11 Relines and 62 Priors.

Environmental Health: Jeff reported that staff is very busy; well and septic permits are up. Plus staff is also involved in PFOS, EEE and Legionnaires activities along with their other duties. Couple of subdivisions underway. Discussed how often public pool inspections are completed.

Other Business: Jeff informed the board on a recent change order for the VBISD project that involved the boiler. This was discussed and reviewed. He informed the board that a meeting is held every Tuesday at 3 pm on the 2nd and 4th week of each month at the ISD if anyone interested in attending.

No other business. Motion by Dyes, 2nd by Peat to adjourn. All voting yes, motion carried. The next regular District Board of Health meeting is scheduled Wednesday, November 13th, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at the public health department facility in Dowagiac, Cass County.
Richard H. Daughn
Don H. Haman
Randall Pett
Roscoe Marchetti

Oct 17

Robert S. Lind
Board of Health