

Washington County Board of Health

110 N. Iowa Avenue, Suite 300, Washington, Iowa 52353

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 2008 @ 3:30 p.m.

5th Floor Conference Room, 110 N. Iowa Avenue, Washington, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT:

LaVerta Eberly, RN, FNP, Chairperson
Mike Christensen, Secretary
Wendy Miller

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF PRESENT:

Environmental Health: Jeff Thomann, Lori Swan
Public Health: Edie Nebel, Peggy Wood

VISITORS:

Brad Lang, Solum Lang, LLC
Barrett Gady, Pohaku, Inc.
Cari Widdel, Pohaku, Inc.
Jim Miksch, Washington County Board of Supervisors
Tasha Beghtol, Washington County Empowerment
Bev Zwicki, Washington County Public Health Advisory Board
J.R. Fikuart, Washington County Public Health Advisory Board
Clarissa Malmberg, Washington County Public Health Advisory Board
Linda Burger, Washington County Public Health Advisory Board
Becky Godfrey, Planned Parenthood of Southeast Iowa
Linda Wenger, Washington Evening Journal
Ben Stanton, KCII Radio
Steve Olson
Kristin Jones
Terry Phillips

Call to Order: Chairperson LaVerta Eberly called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

The minutes from October 23, 2008, were approved as written on a motion by Mike Christensen, second by Wendy Miller. Motion carried.

Public Health Report

Brad Lang of Solum Lang Architects, LLC presented the space needs assessment per his contract with Public Health. Information was shared in regards to current space configurations as well as anticipated current and future space needs. The data used to compile the information was gathered through programming questionnaires completed by Public Health staff and other interested space sharing parties as well as site visits.

Cari Widdel and Barrett Gady of Pohaku provided highlights of their research findings related to Public Health. Over the past two months, Pohaku had conducted a series of surveys and interviews with other Public Health agencies, clients, staff and the general public. Included in the surveys were questions of demographics, usage of Public Health services and overall perception of Public Health. Cari also introduced a new Washington County Public Health logo and website design. Due to the amount of data and information received in the surveys, it was determined that a Board of Health work session will be planned at a later date to review their findings in detail.

Eddie Nebel presented a financial update of the agency's revenue and expenses. Eddie notified the Board that the RN vacancy had not yet been filled and that she would pursue additional newspaper advertising for the position.

Eddie noted that board terms will expire for Wendy Miller and Murval Weidlein on December 31, 2008. Wendy Miller will be submitting a letter of interest for renewal and Murval Weidlein will not be renewing her term. Eddie received consensus from the Board of Health that the vacant position should be filled by a Washington County Supervisor.

Eddie Nebel presented a chart audit related to Home Health Aide supervisory visits. A total of (12) charts were audited with only (1) chart showing deficiencies. A re-audit will be scheduled in the next quarter. The chart audit was approved on a motion by Wendy Miller, second by Mike Christensen. Motion carried.

Environmental Health Report

Jeff Thomann presented a marketing initiative proposal from Pohaku. The proposal contained 3 website options for Environmental Health and a cost sheet for each option. Discussion continued in regards to the necessity of a website for the department. Jeff has advised Pohaku that it would not be cost effective to create a website for Environmental Health at this time.

Jeff presented a septic variance request from RUSS for the septic project in Rubio. A variance to the code needs to be requested to the BOH. Jeff explained the variance request that RUSS has presented is based on proposed code changes to Chapter 69, which if passed, will not go into effect until March '09 at the earliest. Jeff has suggested that the RUSS variance proposal needs to be based on the current Chapter 69 code. Jeff has also sought advice from the Washington County Attorney, and she agrees that a variance request cannot be made on a draft copy of Chapter 69. It was requested that Jeff work with the RUSS board.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, January 22, 2008 at 3:30 pm, Federation Bank 5th floor conference room.