

# Washington County Board of Health

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

## WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

July 28, 2009 @ 7:15 a.m.

*5<sup>th</sup> floor Federation Bank, Washington, Iowa*

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

LaVerta Eberly, RN, FNP, Chairperson

Don Miller, MD

Wendy Miller, BS, DVM

Jim Miksch, Board of Supervisors

Lori Bauer

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF PRESENT:

Environmental Health: Jennine Wolf, Lori Swan

Public Health: Edie Nebel, Peggy Wood

### VISITORS:

Linda Wenger, Washington Evening Journal

Tashia Ehresman – Washington Community Y

Call to Order: Chairperson LaVerta Eberly called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m.

Edie Nebel requested that the agenda be amended to include discussions about committees being developed at the State for Public Health Modernization and a recommendation for potential policy changes for office visits. The agenda was amended and approved on a motion made by Jim Miksch, second by Don Miller. Motion carried.

The meeting minutes from June 16, 2009 were approved on a motion by Don Miller, second by Lori Bauer. Motion carried.

### Public Health Report

Edie Nebel presented a financial overview of the agency's revenue and expenses for fiscal year 2009. Edie announced that approx. \$81,000 was being returned to the General Fund as unspent budget dollars. Edie indicated that the 2009 Public Health Annual Report would be made available at the August Board of Health meeting.

Edie discussed the hiring of Crystal Woller with an anticipated start date set of August 31, 2009. Edie presented the Board with a summary of employee expenses and a justification as to how the expenses for this position will be allocated into the FY2010 budget through various line-item adjustments. The personnel change request was approved on a motion made by Don Miller, second by Wendy Miller. Motion carried. The personnel change request will be placed on the Board of Supervisor's agenda for August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Eddie Nebel presented a chart audit related to Home Health Aide supervisory visits. A total of (12) charts were reviewed with 100% compliance and no deficiencies. The chart audit was approved on a motion by Wendy Miller, second by Lori Bauer. Motion carried.

Eddie provided information in regards to the recent Federal stimulus funds approved for H1N1 activities. It is anticipated that the local public health agencies will be responsible for dispensing vaccine to their local partners, including medical clinics and hospitals or providing mass clinics. Washington County has been designated \$12,667. Of the total amount, \$10,134 is slated to offset staff time for mass clinics. Further details will be released from the CDC and IDPH as information becomes available.

Eddie informed the Board that Public Health had received an amendment to the Immunization Services grant to increase funding in the amount of \$3,250. The funds will be allocated to flu supplies and immunization data entry time. The new funds are to be spent by the end of the contract year, December 31, 2009.

Eddie presented information about a Region 5 Emergency Preparedness Exercise scheduled for October 19-23, 2009. The exercise would include the establishment of an Emergency Operating Center (EOC) and mass clinic in a local school. Eddie encouraged Board members to be on site to oversee the process and provide assistance if necessary. If the need arises to address H1N1 vaccinations during that time frame, the exercise will be re-scheduled for the Spring of 2010.

Eddie provided a brief update from the Building and Finance committee meeting held Monday, July 20th. Eddie indicated that the Board will continue to be kept informed of Committee status through the sharing of meeting minutes. The Committee is currently awaiting the Request for Proposal (RFP) submissions that are due to the County Engineer's office on Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Interviews with the selected architectural firms are scheduled to take place on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Tashia Ehresman made a presentation to the Board outlining her involvement and results from activities provided through the Y Wellness Program. Tasha highlighted benefits of group exercise and detailed the programs implemented during the five month partnership with the Washington Community Y. Tasha anticipates that childhood obesity will be one of the main focus areas in the community as new programs are created and implemented in the future.

Eddie reviewed a letter from Tom Newton, Director of IDPH, indicating that the Public Health Modernization Act had been signed into law. In conjunction with that law, two committees will be formed at the state level, the Public Health Advisory Council and the Public Health Evaluation Committee. The letter requests nominations of up to 3 individuals to serve on either committee. The final committee selection will have membership across the state and be gender-balanced. Eddie indicated that she would be interested in serving and will submit the necessary paperwork.

### **Environmental Health Report**

Lori Swan provided an update on Grant to Counties. We will receive \$11,224 this fiscal year, resulting in a decrease in funds of 1/3 from the previous year. Lori explained that the funds can

be used for private well water tests, assistance with well and cistern plugging and well renovations. Due to the cut in funds, we have considered allocating all Grant to Counties funds toward well water tests. Jim Miksch questioned whether we can charge a small fee for water tests to allow for funds to go towards well plugging as well. Lori will address the question with the state.

Jennine Wolf presented her standardization certificate from the state. A food inspector is required to be re-standardized every three years. Standardization consists of ten food inspections over a 3 day period. Jennine, along with a state inspector perform an inspection at the same establishments. They then make a comparison of the reports to determine whether Jennine is following state guidelines.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m. Next Meeting Date - Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at 7:15 a.m., Federation Bank 5<sup>th</sup> floor conference room.