

Minutes of the Health Committee

The Health Committee of the McLean County Board met on Wednesday, October 7, 2015, at 7:30 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, IL.

Members Present: Chairman McIntyre; Members Wendt, Harris, Robustelli, Gordon and Martin

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Ms. Hannah Eisner, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Amy L. Brooke, Recording Secretary, County Administrator's Office; Mr. Don Knapp, First Assistant Civil State's Attorney

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present:

Mr. Walt Howe, Director, Department of Health

Others Present:

Ms. Cathy Covertson Anderson, Director, Personal Health Service, Health Department; Ms. Cathy Dreyer, Maternal-Child Health Services Supervisor, Health Department; Ms. Laura Beaver, Behavioral Health Programs, Health Department; Ms. Nicole Aune, Health Promotions Program Manager, Health Department; Mr. Tom Anderson, Environmental Health Director; Ms. Jane Turrley, Board of Health President; Mr. Tom Barr, Center for Human Services

Chairman McIntyre called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM and declared a quorum.

Chairman McIntyre presented the minutes of the September 5, 2015 Health Committee meeting for approval.

Motion by Gordon/Harris to approve the Minutes of the September 5, 2015 Health Committee meeting.

Motion carried.

Chairman McIntyre confirmed there were no appearances by members of the public.

Mr. Howe requested that the order of presentation be amended to allow Ms. Covertson Anderson to go first due to another engagement.

Ms. Covertson Anderson presented information on the Mumps outbreak in the area. The first reported case was August 31, 2015. An outbreak is declared when there are three

cases which are linked in time and space. By Friday September 4, 2015, there were three linked cases at Heartland Community College. In the past few weeks there have been approximately twenty cases.

Immediately following the first case on August 31st, the Health Department contacted stakeholders (hospitals and student health centers) to inform them of the confirmed case of mumps and work to prevent an increased number of cases.

Ms. Covertson Anderson stated that there is an incubation period of 12-25 days. People with mumps are contagious 2 days before symptoms are present and 5 days after symptoms begin. They will continue tracking cases for 2 months after the last reported case.

Member Harris asked if this was preventable given the prevalence of vaccinations.

Ms. Covertson Anderson stated that most of those impacted have had their vaccinations; however, an outbreak among a vaccinated population is not unusual. The vaccine effectiveness rate is only 88%. Thus, there is always a subgroup in the population who are at risk without knowing it.

Member Wendt asked if those involved in the McLean County cases which had been vaccinated.

Ms. Covertson Anderson stated that almost all of them have verified vaccination through a state registry and through medical records.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the request for approval of an Amendment to the McLean County Revised Code, Chapter 26, Food Service and Chapter 28, Health and Sanitation. He stated that in the mid 1990's that the Board of Health had requested that the Health Department raise their fees incrementally 3% to level it out on an annual basis.

Motion by Gordon/Harris to request approval to amend the McLean County Revised Code, Chapter 26, Food Service and Chapter 28, Health and Sanitation.

Member Robustelli stated that he has heard from smaller restaurant owners that the fees are prohibitive. If we have increased the fees 3% since the mid 1990's, we have increased the fees over 50% since then without a real justification as to what precisely accounts for the increases.

Mr. Howe stated that the Health Department has background data to justify the expense. The providers are paying less than 30-40% of the actual cost. Most of the increase is salary plus the cost of doing business. The 3% does not fully cover the cost.

Member Wendt suggested that whenever there is going to be an increase in fees that the committee be provided a breakdown of the cost.

Member Gordon asked that the data regarding all of the program cost and fees be sent to the committee electronically.

Mr. Howe stated that the information could be sent to the committee today.

Motion by Wendt/Harris to table amendment of the McLean County Revised Code, Chapter 26, Food Service and Chapter 28, Health and Sanitation.

Motion carried.

Mr. Wasson stated that the budgets presented today are based upon the proposed fee increases. He recommended that approval of budgets be made tentatively until the fee increases are approved or that the approval of the budgets be delayed or tabled until action has been taken upon the fee increases.

Committee discussed methods of handling the fee increase and approval of the budget. Chairman McIntyre stated that the fees would be handled at the Standup in October and that the committee could move on the budget approval at the November committee meeting.

The information will be provided as part of a packet for the Standup meeting for the meeting immediately prior to the October County Board meeting and the information will also be included in the County Board Packet.

Mr. Howe stated that if the fees are not approved, taxes will need to be raised.

Mr. Wasson gave a brief overview of the Health Department Budget. He noted the following as part of the overview:

- There is a significant re-appropriation of personnel in the Health Department.
- Overall, total FTEs for all funds is 89.11 versus the 2015 Adopted Budget FTE number of 89.31.
- The total for the 112 Fund increases from 52.84 to 53.87. That increase is due to the request for an epidemiologist position.
- There has been a decrease in several programs in revenue and expenditures.
- The 112 Fund includes an increase in the outreach program funding through general Property Tax Revenue and decreases in expenditures in that program overall.
- There is a decrease of 50% in funding for the Drug Court Program due to associated changes related to billing for services in Drug Court.

Mr. Howe presented a Power Point Presentation on the 2016 Health Department Budget. The presentation included a breakdown of the two applicable tax levies:

1. Developmental Disability 377 Fund budgeted at \$705,871

2. Healthy Levy

- a. \$1,328,510 for Mental Health-substance Abuse 553 Service Contracts
- b. \$2,229,582 for Traditional Public Health Services

Member Gordon pointed out that some of the numbers on the slides for the presentation did not match information members had received in their packets. Mr. Howe stated that the slides contained a more detailed explanation than the information in the packet.

As part of the presentation, Mr. Howe noted that the TB Care & Treatment Services has been shifted to be part of the actual health fund.

Mr. Howe noted that there has been a new position request: epidemiologist/Division Manager for Clinical Services. This person would fill 2 critical roles in the department: 1) oversee Public Health Surveillance 2) Operate as a Division Manager for Clinical Programming.

Mr. Howe shared that the Health Department has asked that given expanding responsibilities that the Behavioral Health Services Coordinator be given an appropriate salary adjustment.

Mr. Howe noted that the Health Department has asked for a reclassification of the Network Specialist from Grade 9 to Programmer Grade 11.

Mr. Howe stated that the Health Department has never solely relied on taxes for the providing services to the community. The Health Department always aggressively seeks alternative sources of revenue.

Mr. Howe provided a breakdown in the requests for the 377 Fund and the Health Fund. He noted that the requests for the 377 Fund increases by \$18,727 from FY'2015 to \$705,871 in FY'2016. The Health Fund requests increases from \$3,471,226 in FY'2015 to \$3,558,092 in FY'2016.

Mr. Howe noted that only a portion of the \$105,500 need for salary maintenance and requested position reclassifications are covered by personal property tax.

Mr. Howe stated that Group Health Insurance in the 112 fund goes up approximately 13% in costs. This is the result of a 9% increase in the cost of insurance and the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act mandates that employees working an average of 30 hours a week receive health insurance. Previously, only full-time employees received Group Health Insurance. As a result of the Affordable Care Act, the number of health insurance eligible employees has increased.

Mr. Howe noted that Drug Court funding decreases by 50%. He stated that this was due to alternative sources of revenue available to the Drug Court program.

Member Robustelli expressed concern that there has been a change in funding philosophy related to Drug Court that has not been addressed with the County Board. He

stated that there was no one in the room who could address the issue of what it would mean for Drug Court if there was an inability to access alternative funding.

Mr. Howe shared that the Drug Court program was instituted approximately 15 years ago to provide Court Service programming for drug service individuals. At that point there was no room in the County levy to provide these services. The Health Department agreed to provide the funding through their levy. The change was based upon a discussion at the Board of Health level with the contractors. There is a limit to the dollars that can be provided.

Member Robustelli stated that the argument here is that in the absence of this funding we are going to pay for this in other ways. He would like to see a letter stating that if the alternative funding did not come through that it would still be supported through Health Department funding.

Mr. Howe noted that all of the programs were evaluated based on the needs of the community and the overall good provided. The process was done through the Board of Health and that Drug Court was the program that needed to have a reduction in funding.

Member Robustelli stated that this is not the justification that is being presented to the committee. Based on the information provided to the Health Committee, it is purely a fiscal matter. What is the process that the Health Department went through to ascertain the viability of this program in the absence of this funding?

Member Harris stated when it was discussed that the Drug Court funding would be reduced because it was going to be covered by another funding source.

Mr. Wasson advised that in the previous State fiscal year, funds that were anticipated to be used for the Crisis Stabilization Unit were ultimately only allowed to be used for treatment services. For that year, we were able to utilize those additional treatment dollars from the Department of Human Services (DHS) for treatment. We utilized that funding for Drug Court client treatment and we billed DHS. That gave us the capacity to leverage some of the Drug Court funding for the Crisis Stabilization Unit start up process. There have also been some savings with Drug Court by moving to the payer of last resort philosophy.

Mr. Howe stated that all of the grant programs are self-balancing. Grant supported programs are down about \$129,159. Most of that is State of Illinois decreases. Mr. Howe provided an overview of each grant fund.

Member Harris asked if the Health Services Coordinator would aid in procuring grants.

Mr. Howe stated that the Health Department has a grant writer on contract to aid in obtaining grants.

Mr. Howe noted that in the Dental Program, the revenue is down about \$66,000. They are anticipating that the State will eliminate adult dental service in the near future. If it is

eliminated, the Health Department will continue to provide adult dental service on a fee for service basis. The Community Healthcare Clinic is currently working to develop a dental program for the non-insured. The Health Department would like to partner with the Community Healthcare Clinic to provide a low-income dental clinic for the entire community instead of carving out separate segments of the population.

Mr. Howe shared that the number of McLean County residents living below the poverty line continues to increase and is a major factor in the demand for Health Department Services.

Chairman McIntyre stated that there are a number of procedural questions to address. Can there be a tentative approval of the budget now as presented or must it wait until next month's meeting?

The committee concluded that due to the issue of raising fees, which needs to be addressed, the approval of the budget must be deferred.

Member Gordon stated that the sense of the original motion to table the approval of a fee increase was to postpone until a time certain. The Standup just prior to the October County Board meeting would be for the discussion of fees and the final action on the budget would be at the November Health Committee meeting.

Chairman McIntyre stated that questions regarding the budget would now be entertained.

Member Gordon presented the concern that the data that was presented on the screen was difficult to find in the information that had been given in hard copy format to the members of the committee. He also stated that there were inconsistencies in the information that was presented and stated that it would be helpful to have the information presented upfront. It would be useful if the information that is presented on screen matched the order of the information presented in the packet.

Chairman McIntyre asked that the slide presentation be provided to the members either in a paper form or electronically.

Mr. Wasson stated that the presentation will be provided as part of the Standup packet.

Chairman McIntyre asked that the Administrator's office prepare an overview of the budget for the Health Department to clarify information.

Member Robustelli pointed out gaps in the information presented in the information that was provided prior to the meeting and the information that was presented at the meeting. He noted that the request for an epidemiologist was omitted from the information received before the meeting.

Member Robustelli stated that he is unable to support a reduction in funding to Drug Court without information regarding the likelihood of other funding for this program.

Ms. Turrley stated that it was the contractor of the Drug Court program that proposed a reduction in the funding. The funding was moved toward funding the Crisis Stabilization Unit.

Mr. Wasson stated that if the funding level that was provided to the Crisis Stabilization Unit remained unchanged from the last State fiscal year budget that they would be asked to leverage funds to provide Drug Court services. It is unlikely that it will remain the same.

Member Robustelli cautioned that by deciding to cut the funds available to Drug Court they are making a significant change in the way Drug Court will be funded. This may result in indirectly paying for Drug Court in other areas in the community or the jail.

Member Robustelli noted that as a net, we appear to be reducing grants for mental health by 7%. Member Robustelli would like more information to clarify this.

Mr. Wasson stated that that Drug Court and Mental Health are separate programs. Due to an increase in EAV, the Mental Health program increases by \$32,000. In the Drug Court Budget the \$196,000 2015 levy is decreased to \$100,000. Including an increase in the EAV results in 50.34% reduction in the tax rate being applied for those services.

Ms. Beavers offered clarification regarding funding. Every year they put out a request for Mental Health proposals. This year they received approximately \$2.1 million in requests. There is no way to fund all of those requests. They go through a vigorous process to evaluate the proposals – including holding hearings. Last year, Chestnut Health Systems took a stab at doing a fee for service for Drug Court. \$182,000 was allocated to Chestnut Health Systems in a contract so that they can bill up to that amount in services. The average billing per month was \$10,053.

Member Robustelli clarified that based upon a fee for service model, the financial demand is less than what it previously was. He suggested budgeting up to what the financial demand for Drug Court could be, and if there are savings, that is great. This would insure adequate continued coverage.

Mr. Howe stated that doing that would result in an inability to fund other programs.

Member Robustelli reiterated his question that he would like to know what would happen if there wasn't funding for the Drug Court program.

Ms. Beavers stated that it is necessary to look at programmatic resources - how much goes into the criminal justice system, as well how much is available for early intervention, youth and families, or community education. There is just not enough money to fund everything. There is an ongoing dialogue with Chestnut about the implications of the reduction.

Member Wendt noted that we are spending \$300,000 on TB. He asked for a breakdown of where that money goes and if there are a lot of TB cases in the County.

Mr. Howe shared that a lot of that money goes to testing and following up on latent TB cases. Much of the testing is employment based testing for school based programs, those who work in correctional facilities, and other places where there is a confined space. There is a charge for testing but the Health Department has found that a number of providers who would previously come to get the testing have decided to no longer have the testing done now that it is fee for service. It is \$20 for a one-step test and \$35 for a two-step test. Private insurance can be billed for the test.

Member Wendt asked if the Health Department is doing tests that are not reimbursed.

Ms. Dryer stated that TB testing is supported through property tax.

Mr. Howe noted that a large portion of the cost is the result of follow up needs. The required TB physician is very expensive.

Member Wendt asked for a breakdown of the cost for the TB program.

Member Wendt noted that more money is being spent in health promotion.

Mr. Howe stated that it was a result of decreasing state funding and the need for a public health campaign.

Ms. Aune shared that public health promotion speaks directly to our community and the specific needs in the community. It is extremely difficult to get grants to promote awareness and education.

Member Harris stated that community awareness and education can be a long term health savings.

Member Gordon supported the idea that each citizen must be responsible for his or her health supported by an array of organizations. He stated that he is disturbed by the fact that local business are not supporting TB testing.

Member Gordon shared that he is always interested in more information regarding grant funding and intergovernmental funding.

Mr. Wasson stated that the Administrator's Office will provide a breakdown of the 112 Fund by program packet for the next committee meeting.

Chairman McIntyre clarified that fees will be addressed at the Standup meeting and the Health Department will present the requested information for the members for the Standup meeting for October. The final action regarding the budget will be at the November meeting of the Health Committee.

Member Harris requested the minutes of the Board of Health Meetings.

Member McIntyre presented bills for approval with a Prepaid Total of \$323,450.66 and a Fund Total that is the same and a Developmental Disability Board amount of \$56,027.20 with a Fund Total that is the same.

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AS OF 10/1/2015

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0102	DENTAL SEALANT GRANT		\$28,333.87	\$28,333.87
0103	HEALTH DEPT. - WIC		\$15,606.38	\$15,606.38
0105	PREVENTIVE HEALTH PROGRAM		\$6,075.32	\$6,075.32
0106	FAMILY CASE MANAGEMENT		\$38,356.74	\$38,356.74
0107	AIDS/COMM.DISEASE CONTROL		\$26,548.05	\$26,548.05
0112	HEALTH DEPARTMENT		\$208,530.30	\$208,530.30
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			\$323,450.66	\$323,450.66


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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AS OF 10/1/2015

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee - Dev. Disability Board

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0110	PERSONS/DEV.DISABILITY		\$56,027.20	\$56,027.20
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			\$56,027.20	\$56,027.20


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Wendt/Harris to approve bills as presented.
Motion carried.

Chairman McIntyre asked if there were any other business or communication items to come before the Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy L. Brooke".

Amy. L. Brooke
Recording Secretary