

Minutes of the Health Committee

The Health Committee of the McLean County Board met on Wednesday, January 4, 2016, at 4:30 PM in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, IL.

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

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: None

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

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present:

Mr. Walt Howe, Health Department Administrator

Others Present: Ms. Laura Beavers, Mental Health Program Supervisor; Mr. Tom Anderson, Environmental Health Director; Ms. Lisa Slater, Public Health Communication Specialist; Ms. Kim Anderson, Assistant Health Department Administrator; Ms. Linda Foutch, Environmental Health Program Supervisor; Ms. Cathy Covertson-Anderson, Director of Personal Health Services

Chairman McIntyre called the meeting to order at 4:33 PM and declared a quorum.

Chairman McIntyre noted that a schedule of meetings has been provided since, in some instances, the first Monday of the month falls on a holiday. He also noted that there were no minutes to present for approval from the previous meeting.

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

Mr. Howe presented a request for an Emergency Appropriation amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2015 combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the WIC Program. Mr. Howe stated that they were able to bill Medicaid for more services and this resulted in additional revenue. This additional revenue allowed the purchase of 5 scales for children (\$1,000 each) and 4 scales for adults (\$500 each). The funds also allowed for more community education.

Motion by Martin/Harris to recommend approval of an Emergency Appropriation amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2015 combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the WIC Program.

Motion carried.

Member Gordon pointed out a scrivener's error in the presented appropriation. The "Present Amount" should total \$1092 rather than \$992.

Mr. Howe shared that the Health Department had provided the minutes of the Board of Health meeting. These are unapproved minutes as the Board of Health has not had an opportunity to approve them.

Chairman McIntyre stated that the Committee was formed partially due to the Mental Health Action plan as well as other items. Chairman McIntyre asked if there are other things that the committee can do to be assistance to the overall Health Department.

Mr. Howe stated that he would need time to think about it. Support of all of the programs that currently operate is important. He would like to see all of the boards work in unison. He added that review of some of the salary ranges within the Health Department is needed to enable attraction and retention of qualified people.

Mr. Howe shared that the Health Department is in the process of completing a strategic plan. They are currently adding a timeline and finances for the plan. Ideally, it will be completed in February and presented to the Board of Health in March. It should be available to the Health Committee shortly thereafter.

Member Harris asked what kind of conversation Mr. Howe would like to see between the Health Committee and the Mental Health Advisory Board.

Mr. Howe stated that there is a need for an open dialogue to continue to provide mental health services and identify how mental health services in the community can be improved within the constraints and resources available. The dialogue needs to include a give and take discussion of the best providers of those services.

Chairman McIntyre stated that the County Board voted to keep the tax levy where it is rather than raise it. He asked Mr. Howe the amount of money he believes is necessary to have in reserve. He stated that he saw in the Board of Health minutes a possible figure of 20%. He understands that part of that figure is in case of an epidemic.

Mr. Howe stated that it is not a hard and fast amount, that differing amounts could be levied in different areas for different objectives. If a pandemic occurs, the Health Department has a responsibility to respond. Another example of the need for reserve money is current situation with the State. The emergency reserve allows the Health Department to continue operating until the tax dollars arrive.

Ms. Linda Foutch and Mr. Tom Anderson presented on the McLean County Food Program. Mr. Anderson explained that they are a regulatory part of the Health Department.

The Environmental Health Division is made up of 8 different programs. The most robust program is the Food Program. The majority of staff spend their time in the Food Program. As of December 31st, there were 829 food establishments. This does not include temporary food establishments during holidays, festivals, etc. Other programs include the Grease Trap Management Program, Sewage Program, National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems, Water Well Program, Geothermal Program, Vector Surveillance Program, Inspection of Tanning Facilities, and the Nuisance Program.

The Division employs 13 people. Eleven of these people are licensed sanitarians. Each person is in charge of an area of the County and all of the programs within that area.

Ms. Foutch is the supervisor for the Food Program. The Food Program encompasses inspections, food borne illness, power outage, boil orders, recalls, investigation of complaints, temporary food permit reviews, consultation, education, and referrals.

Ms. Foutch shared about a consultation with Safe Harbor. They needed more hot holding space. Safe Harbor was sent the price of \$1,000 oven from one company. Ms. Foutch looked on-line and was able to find one for \$500.

Ms. Foutch shared that the sanitarians work closely with the Communicable Disease staff regarding food borne illness. Norovirus is the stomach flu. Typically, it is not fatal. However, on a cruise ship you can get 600 people ill quickly. It isn't just food borne. It is on surfaces people touch and then transferred to their mouths when eating. It can happen at a long term care facility or a school just as easily.

In contrast to norovirus, listeria is deadly. In 2011 there were 30 people dead from cantaloupe listeria. An outbreak of listeria associated with deli meat made 46 people ill, caused 8 fatalities, and 3 fetal deaths.

Ms. Foutch stated that the Food Program's authority comes from statutes, acts, and codes. There are 4 mandated programs required in the State of Illinois for being a Health Department: infectious diseases, potable water, private sewage, and food protection.

Member Gordon commented on the consultation that the department does that results in saving private organizations money. Ms. Foutch stated that she does this for both profit and non-profit.

Ms. Foutch shared that the new Cancer Center was not going to be able to have a café. They were told by someone that they would need a 1,000 gallon grease trap in the parking lot. That would cost over \$10,000. Ms. Foutch referred them to the appropriate people in the Town of Normal and spoke with them about the types of food they were actually

planning on serving. As a result, they are able to have a café without needing to spend \$10,000 on an outdoor grease trap.

Member Harris asked if there are on-site observations of temporary food permits.

Ms. Foutch shared that they do inspections. They attempt to do on-site education.

Chairman McIntyre asked if Mr. Anderson foresees an increase in geothermal heating plans and if an inspection is done beforehand.

Mr. Anderson stated that the inspection is done by the private contractor who then certifies that it has no leaks. While the industry is growing, there has been a reduction state wide in the number of geothermal constructs. In 2014 the State passed a law requiring that only Health Departments inspect geothermal technology.

Member Wendt asked the charge for these inspections.

Mr. Anderson stated that the first ten holes just went up from \$200 to \$206. However, these fees do not cover the entire cost.

Member Wendt clarified with Mr. Howe that we are not currently charging enough to cover our expense to inspect the geothermal fields.

Ms. Zangerle from PATH was introduced to explain some of the services her agency provides. Ms. Zangerle stated that the call center is where most of the activity takes place. Services include the suicide prevention hotline, adult protective services, and the 211 information line. In regards to adult protective services, PATH takes all of the calls for the entire State after hours. PATH recently took over the Illinois Women's Health Line. They began receiving those calls on January 4, 2016.

Ms. Zangerle shared that one of the most important things PATH provides is the suicide hotline. When a call comes in, they do an assessment to determine where the caller needs to be. When someone is deemed at low to medium risk, a plan of action is developed for them. People who are deemed high risk are transferred to the Crisis Team.

Volunteers are trained to national standards. This includes 80 hours of training. Volunteers must pass a test and score 90% or better.

After every suicide call, a staff person reviews the call within the next day or two. The staff person determines if the call was handled appropriately or if something else should have been done.

Other things that PATH does: outreach to the elderly, in home counseling to the elderly, care giver advisor services for the elderly, SHIP (insurance counseling), homeless services, screening for Emergency Home Repair for the Town of Normal, outreach to the transportation center in Normal, and self-neglect (hoarders).

Ms. Zangerle shared that the Federal Government wants services moved to a single point of entry. She stated that this is a very expensive thing to do.

Member Gordon asked if there is a demand for multilingual capabilities beyond bilingual.

Ms. Zangerle stated that PATH is accredited with two national bodies which require access to multiple languages. She shared that the volunteers have access to a service called Optimal. Optimal provides translation of over 150 different languages. They have had Mandarin Chinese, French Congolese, and many others call. The access to multiple languages is required 24/7. A screener is dropped into the call. The screener can determine which language translator that is needed.

Member Harris asked about the percentage of the volunteers.

Ms. Zangerle stated that there are approximately 100 volunteers and 32 paid employees.

Ms. Zangerle shared about the clinical follow-up program that has been developed in the past year. Once someone has been assessed for suicide, a person has much higher risk of completion of suicide following a visit to the emergency department or the crisis center. The follow-up program provides continuity of care for 5 weeks to make sure that those individuals receive the care that they need.

The Crisis Team has a document called the "Note" when they have contact with someone. The Crisis Team faxes the first two pages to PATH. PATH then attempts to get back to that individual within 2-3 days. The program also tracks to see if there has been an adverse effect: sent to the hospital, a suicide attempt, or completion of a suicide. The goal of the program is to have a clinician keep evaluating the risk of suicide and encourage people to follow through on appointments.

Chairman McIntyre asked what other things the County can do to be of assistance.

Ms. Zangerle shared that money is always a concern. It is very expensive to run a crisis team. A lack of funding from the state would have a direct impact on the current delivery of services. Another concern is the lack of an inpatient unit for youth. Case management is another challenge. The issue is that every organization has its own degree of case management.

Chairman McIntyre presented the bills to be paid totaling \$189,577.59 with a fund total of the same and a bill for the Developmental Disability fund totaling \$55,225.00 with a fund total of the same.

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AS OF 12/30/2015

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee - Dev. Disability Board

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0110	PERSONS/DEV. DISABILITY		\$55,225.00	\$55,225.00
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			\$55,225.00	\$55,225.00


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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AS OF 12/30/2015

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0102	DENTAL SEALANT GRANT		\$18,491.94	\$18,491.94
0103	HEALTH DEPT. - WIC		\$10,964.58	\$10,964.58
0105	PREVENTIVE HEALTH PROGRAM		\$1,103.01	\$1,103.01
0106	FAMILY CASE MANAGEMENT		\$14,403.64	\$14,403.64
0107	AIDS/COMM.DISEASE CONTROL		\$2,996.85	\$2,996.85
0112	HEALTH DEPARTMENT		\$141,617.57	\$141,617.57
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			\$189,577.59	\$189,577.59


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Gordon/Harris to approve the transfers and bills presented.
Motion carried.

Chairman McIntyre asked if there were any other business or communication items to come before the Committee. None were presented.

Meeting adjourned at 5:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy L. Brooke
Recording Secretary