

Teton County Board of Health Meeting
January 10, 2011
Minutes

Present: Florence Anderson, Gayle Harris, Jim Hodgskiss, Randy Morris, Corrine Rose, Tim Sinton, Lora Wier,

Topics:

Material Review: Wier reviewed some of the statistics relating to Teton County from the Publication, “Kids Count”. She noted that the percentage of births to teens is down considerably from 14% in 2000 to 3% in 2009. The number of residents utilizing food stamps, enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP are increased.

Immunizations: Lora reinforced the fact that maintaining high levels of immunization coverage in early childhood is one of the most effective methods to prevent the spread of certain communicable diseases. The office has implemented a timely parent recall for youth who are behind in their immunizations. A new state database will be implemented in the near future. Teton County Health Department is the sole source for immunizations and we complete data entry.

Employees: Dawn Baker, R.N. is the manager of the Cancer Control Screening Program. Dawn formerly worked for the Great Falls Clinic and since her employment with the department she has received her certification as a lactation (breast feeding) specialist; she has completed her training in immunizations and will begin her nutrition education training in February. When she completed that training she will begin assisting with the WIC program. Becky LaValley is working as a clerk and housekeeper in the office.

Accounts Receivable: The department has initiated a new a/r system using Quick Books. The department depends on reimbursement for immunizations and it is important to bill and recoup funds in a timely manner for all services. Sue Schilling is in the process of implementing the system.

Communicable Disease:

Influenza—as of 12/25 there has been 27 cases of Influenza confirmed in Montana. None have been reported in Teton County. A confirmed case is one that the State Lab has confirmed following standard laboratory procedures.

Sexually Transmitted Disease- Lora reported that there have been 9 cases of Chlamydia in Teton County this year. This is above average. It often takes several months to complete follow-up once a report is received.

Vision Screenings: Screening for school age children in grades—kindergarten, first, third and 5th have been scheduled and should be complete before the end of February. These screenings have been very successful with a large number of youth being identified as needing follow-up by a vision specialist.

Cancer Screening Rates. The Teton County Health Department is the lead county for Breast and Cervical Cancer and Colon Cancer screening. The sub-contractors are Glacier, Toole and Pondera Counties who report to Teton County. Dawn Baker and Elaine Sedlack work with this program. Colon cancer screening is open to males and females who don't have insurance coverage and are over the age of 50. Our fiscal year screening goal for Breast and Cervical Cancer are 500. To date we have screened 31%. Our screening goal for Colon Cancer is 43. To date this fiscal year we have screened 7.

Tobacco Prevention: Anderson filed a complaint in violation of the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act against the Antler Bar. She has met with the owner and the facility will be making some structural changes to the bar. Smoking in the back room will not be allowed. Anderson has heard that the owners of the Wagon Wheel Bar plan to construct a smoking shack. Rose spoke with Les Arensmeyer about the Legion wanting to construct a smoking room in the basement of their facility. Rose and Arensmeyer spoke directly with MTUPP Section Supervisor Linda Lee who reviewed requirements for a smoking shed. A basement cannot be utilized.

Montana Youth Tobacco Usage Rates: Youth smoking prevalence has declined to 16%, nearly a 40% drop since 2000. Fewer boys are using Chew Tobacco but the rate is still too high. In 2000 the use rate was 17%. In 2008 the rate was 15%. (When Montana boys graduate from high school, approximately 26% are chew users.)

Preparedness: Anderson is working with DES to hold a full scale exercise that focuses on Continuity of Operation/Continuity of Government. It will be held in March.

Sanitarian Report:

Rose reported she had attended the Fall Conference for Sanitarians and the Agricultural Practice Meeting where Dr .Dougherty spoke. Both conferences were excellent. She has received two grants for office supplies and equipment and Teton County is on the short list to receive funding for the plugging of old abandoned wellheads. The award will be on a cost share basis.

Inspections: Rose has notified the owners of J.D.'s Wildlife Sanctuary and Shorty's Steak House that they will no longer be given extensions in meeting the requirements association with licensure of their faculties. Rose is now paying particular attention to statistics which indicated what inspections she completes because some of the figures for Teton County being included in the statics were in error.

Fish Farm: Miller Hutterite Colony personnel are in the process of establishing a salmon fish farm. Rose will keep the BOH posted on status.

Septic System Installer Training: There was discussion on whether or not to conduct septic system installer training in the county and whether or not certification is required.

Our next meeting will be held in April, 2011. Notices with time and location will be sent.