

TETON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2015

Present: Tim Sinton, Randy Morris, Jane DeBruycker, Elaine Sedlack, Melissa Moyer, and Jim Hodgskiss

Absent: Ken Bassmann and Gayle Harris

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm by Melissa.

Old Business: Jim discussed the open position for sanitarian. Pondera County advertised the position first and got no responses. Teton County then advertised and has not had any responses either although there maybe someone who is a candidate for sanitarian in training for food service inspections but is not qualified for septic inspections.

Randy asked about the variance that the board had given to Dave Trexler for the Rock Shop in Bynum because when driving by he noticed there was excavation work being done. Elaine said the Board had given him a variance for a holding tank after determining there was not room for a regular drainfield and he could not pump to the Dinosaur Museum. A copy of the minutes of that meeting was not available but Elaine said she would send them to the board.

New Business:

By-Laws: Melissa presented the proposed new by-laws for the Board of Health. Following a review and discussion Tim made a motion to accept the by-laws as written. Randy seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Board Members: The Teton County Commissioners had agreed to expand the board to 7 members. Melissa reported that the 2 new members were Elaine Sedlack and Ken Bassmann.

Staggered Term Schedule: Melissa presented a 3 year staggered term schedule for the board members with Tim and Jane terms up in 2016, Gayle and Randy in 2017 and Elaine and Ken in 2018. The Health Officer does not have a term limit but his position would be reviewed every 3 years. Board members may re-apply for additional 3 year terms.

Quarterly Meetings: Melissa requested regular quarterly meetings on the 3rd Monday or Tuesday of the first month in each quarter (July, October, January, and April) based on the county's fiscal year. The board agreed to the 3rd Monday. The next meeting will be Monday, January 18th, 2016. Additional meetings maybe scheduled as needed to deal with issues.

Officers: Randy made a motion to appoint Tim as Chairman. It was seconded by Jane and approved unanimously. Tim requested that Melissa run the meetings as she is familiar with the issues that need discussion. Tim made a motion that Randy be vice-chair. It was seconded by Jane and approved unanimously. Randy made a motion that Elaine be secretary. It was seconded by Jane and approved unanimously. Jim noted that copies of the minutes, after they are approved, are sent to the county clerk and recorder to be kept accessible to the public.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plans:

CHEMPACK Plan: Melissa presented the updated plan for the board's approval. After review of the plan Jane made a motion to approve the plan. It was seconded by Tim, approved unanimously, and signed.

Specimen Transportation Plan: Melissa presented the updated plan for the board's approval. After review of the plan Tim made a motion to approve the plan. It was seconded by Randy, approved unanimously, and signed.

Teton County Health Department Updates:

Influenza Season: Melissa reported that they have been swamped with people wanting flu shots. Statewide there have been 32 cases reported which is early. Flu doesn't usually appear here until December or January. Early results show the vaccine is a good match for the circulating viruses. The Health Dept. has 170 doses of the high dose vaccine for people over age 65.

New School Immunization Laws: Melissa reported that the new laws require a Tdap booster for students in 7th grade and above. Previously only the Td was required but with the many cases of pertussis (whooping cough) occurring in the last few years the pertussis vaccine requirement was added. Two doses of varicella vaccine are now required for all students in K-12. The state had proposed allowing a personal exemption but that was knocked down by local health departments. Only a religious exemption or medical exemption is allowed for students. In daycare the religious exemption is not allowed.

Melissa said there is some parental resistance to the varicella (chicken pox) vaccine because many children had the chicken pox disease but were not seen by a medical provider so there is no proof. They could get a titer done but often just go ahead and get the varicella vaccine. The county immunization rates for varicella, Tdap, MCV4 (meningococcal),

and HPV (human papiloma virus) (causes cervical cancer) have been increasing. The HPV vaccine is also being given to males though not as frequently as females.

Cancer Control Program: Melissa reported the new year for the program began in July. The focus is now on Native American women. It is less about enrolling women but more about navigating them to access care and access treatment for those diagnosed with breast cancer. The health department does a lot of outreach through medical provider offices, every woman who comes into the health department, coffee cup sleeves, etc. Jane said more needs to be done in outlying areas like Dutton. The Region 5 Coalition Fund helps pay for tests, etc and is supported by fundraisers through the school teams and the Pink Ribbon Tea held in Great Falls.

Accreditation: Melissa said the accreditation process includes a quality improvement plan and a community health assessment and she needs more input from the Board of Health. Tim suggested Melissa send emails to the board members when things come up so we can keep up with the issues the health dept. is dealing with.

Jane asked about the health department employees. Melissa reported Dawn and Sue continue their usual duties in WIC and the cancer control programs and immunizations, etc. Erin Jones, LPN is new and does the tobacco prevention program and immunizations. Glenn is new and works about 10 hours a week on the diabetes prevention program.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Sedlack, Secretary