

**Ingham County Board of Health (BoH) meeting  
Ingham County Health Department – Conference Room C  
Tuesday, October 5, 2010**

**Minutes**

**In attendance for meeting:** Nancy Hayward, Molly Polverento, Dr. Dean Sienko, Dr. Renée Canady, Mark Kieselbach, Denaë Friedheim, Debbie Edokpolo, Dr. Nino Rodriguez, Martha Adams, Dr. George Rowan, Dr. Maurice Reizen, Jim Wilson and Sheila Akins

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Rowan. Dr. Maury Reizen motioned to support the minutes from September, Mark Kieselbach supported, minutes approved.

**Additions to agenda:** Assignment of Board members

**Public comment** – None

**By-laws Discussion – Dr. Maurice Reizen**

Dr. Reizen shared his thoughts about the passing of Jacqui Day who helped with changes in the By-laws. Draft of By-laws was sent to all members no changes noted. Dr. Reizen stated there were typing errors that needed correction.

**Molly Polverento made motion to adopt By-laws with corrections, motion supported by Dr. Nino Rodriguez and approved by Board. By-laws will now go to Board of Commissioners for their approval.**

**Visitors from School of Nursing U-M Flint – Dr. George Rowan and Sheila Aiken**

Sheila Aiken, Nursing Professors from U-M Flint attended meeting with five senior nursing students in their last year. Students are completing their Public Health experience in Lansing with ICHD. The students are from the Flint area and are as follows: Victoria, Katrina, Nick, Joel and Kristin. Dr. Rowan welcomed the students to the BOH.

**BoH as a Monitor of Appeals – Dr. George Rowan**

Dr. Rowan discussed the role of the BoH as Sanitary Appeals Board and a comment/question by Commissioner Koenig. Dr. Rowan paraphrase, “is the BoH a board that a rubber stamp wishes of health department or a perception”. Dr. Rowan ensured Commissioner Koenig that the BoH is not a “rubber stamp” and that they are arms length from ICHD. BoH also, reports to Human Services Committee in carrying out their duties as the Appeals Board. Dr. Dean Sienko commented Commissioner Koenig was addressing the possible public perception of the BoH ‘rubber stamping’ Health Departments wishes. Jim Wilson stated Dr. Rowan did an “excellent job at addressing this issue to Commissioner Koenig”.

**Vice- Chair/Pro-tem of BoH – Dr. George Rowan**

Dr. Rowan raised the issue of getting a Vice-Chair as outlined in the by-laws. Dr. Rowan asked all members to be thinking about possible nominations for this position. Dr. Rowan also suggested that all

members should be considering other responsibilities outside of the BoH. Dr. Rowan stated he thought all members had other responsibilities.

- Molly Polverento is involved with NALBOH
- Denae Friedham participates on the Charter Food of Michigan Project and Achieve grant
- Martha Adams is Community Person focusing on Mobile Food Pantries
- Nancy Hayward oversees the BoH website, is chairperson of Lansing Community College Nursing, a member of Allied Health Professions and a face in the community
- Mark Kieselbach is a member of the Land Use and Health Committee promoting the effect of land use on communities
- Dr. Maury Reizen stated (tongue in cheek) he is the resident “nuch”, but also serves on the by-law committee and is involved with passing the smoking legislation
- Dr. Nino Rodriguez serves on the Lansing School Board, is involved in getting health related curriculum in schools, works in addressing obesity and is involved in community gardens
- Dr. Nigel Paneth, M.D. is the second medical doctor on the board and an epidemiologist.

Dr. Rowan praised members; he is confident that anyone of the board members could go before the Human Services Committee and let them know what the BoH is doing.

#### **NACCHO Meeting in San Diego, CA – Dr. George Rowan**

Dr. Rowan recently attended a NACCHO meeting in San Diego and was proud to share with them the accomplishments of the Ingham County BoH and the degree of involvement by its members. Attendees at the meeting were impressed with the level of involvement by the board on such issues as the P2 through Environmental Health and having a clear plan to get resolutions passed. The hope is that this will be an opportunity to garner more funds for the county in the future.

#### **Public Health Update – Dr. Dean Sienko and Dr. Renée Canady**

**New ICHD Position – Dr. Canady:** ICHD in the process of creating a new position as Environmental Justice Coordinator to look at those issues that disadvantage communities. Dr. Canady states we believe this is the future of Environmental health. Dr. Sienko, states the word is out that Ingham County is a progressive and there is an interest in how we go forward with innovated ideas like the Environmental Justice position.

**Flu Season – Dr. Sienko:** It is influenza season again immunization clinic is continuing to provide flu shots. A shift has occurred and the number of shots given on the first few days of flu season has decreased. Dr. Sienko contributes the decrease in numbers is due to the large number of other providers in the area. The more people available to administer shots are better for the community. Anyone over the age of 6 months old is recommended to get shots. Discussion ensued about vaccinations, individual fears about the shot, individuals who are disenchanted to health care worker who are willing to receive the shot. Dr. Rowan, asked what can board do? Dr. Sienko, encourage others to get the shoot.

**Pertussis – Dr. Sienko:** Pertussis (use to be known as whooping cough) activity is on the rise in the United States particularly in California. There have been cases in Ingham County. The biggest threat of pertussis is in young infants. Pertussis is transmitted from adults. Pertussis is very serious can cause death, many infants diagnosed with pertussis are hospitalized. Now when you individuals get their

tetanus shot every ten years there is a pertussis component in to help boost immunity. Dr. Sienko states that pertussis is circulative about every 5 years.

**Chicken Pox – Dr. Sienko:** A ten-month-old in daycare suspected of having Chicken pox after exposure to an adult with shingles. An investigation and consultation revealed the child did not have chicken pox. Dr. Sienko stated case was involved and could have gone in many directions but because of collaborative efforts on the part of ICHD and the community it was resolved.

**ICHD Budget – Dr. Sienko:** The 2011 budget passed county controller used creative measures to lessen the financial impact.

#### **Late Agenda Additions:**

##### **Dr. Nino Rodriguez – Hospital Visit & Dr. Ron Davis Smoke Free Air Law:**

Dr. Rodriguez recently paid a visit to a local hospital and found that the level of nursing skills were not equal and thought that a nurse evaluation may reduce the inequality. He stated he was pleasantly surprised that parents and babies have their own room. Approximately 1500 babies were born to mother's who never saw a doctor before delivery. Dr. Sienko thought that number was high; he also commented that ICHD could do a presentation on prenatal care and infant mortality disparities at a future meeting.

He also commented on the Dr. Ron Davis Smoke Free Air Law and how the local community is doing better since the passage of the smoke free law. The law will affect the number of heart attacks in our community. Also the effect on business is less than expected. Benefits of passing the law have been tremendous.

##### **Dr. Maury Reizen – Marijuana Presentation and MSU Professor Jim Anthony:**

Dr. Reizen will follow up MSU Professor Jim Anthony about attending a board meeting to discuss marijuana and will update the board on this topic next month. In the meantime, Dr. Reizen is asking members of the board to think about and be prepared to discuss at a future meeting their thoughts about medical morphine, codeine and other pain meds and what makes marijuana different?

#### **Announcements**

- State Public Health Conference October 27 – 28 in Bay City
- NALBOH conference in June 2011 in Denver

**It was moved and supported to adjourn meeting.**

**Next Board of Health Meeting – 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 2, 2010 in Conference Room C** at the Ingham County Health Department. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m.