

Ingham County Board of Health (BoH)
Ingham County Health Department (IHD) – Conference Room C
Tuesday, February 4, 2014

Minutes

In attendance for meeting: Molly Polverento, Martha Adams, Dr. Christina Dokter, Dr. Maurice Reizen, Mark Kieselbach, Denae Friedheim, Dr. Nigel Paneth, Denise Chrysler, Dr. Nino Rodriguez, Garry Rowe, Nancy Hayward, Dr. Sugandha Lowhim, Jim Wilson, Chris Klawuhn, Rich Estill, Kate Nault and Wendy Duke-Littlejohn

The meeting was called to order by Molly Polverento, Chairperson. Molly called for review of December 2013 minutes, as the January 2014 meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. **Dr. Rodriguez moved to accept December 2013 minutes. Martha Adams seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.**

Announcements: Chairperson, Molly Polverento is expecting a baby which is due beginning of March, and so she will not be in attendance at the scheduled March 4th meeting. Martha Adams will chair the March meeting.

Additions to Agenda: Recognizing Dr. Canady by Board of Health, it will be included in the Public Health Update section of the agenda.

Public Comment: None

BoH Priorities: Food Access in Ingham County – Garry Rowe

The BoH has several priority areas which have been divided into three sections. Health Inequities is one with the sub-topic of Food Access for which board member Garry gave a PowerPoint presentation. He began by giving the definition of what Healthy Food is and outlining the top main sources of where people get their food which are from food markets, fast food, non-fast food restaurants, convenience/party stores, food banks, local garden clubs, faith based projects and farmer markets.

He shared data from MSU who uses Nutritional Terrain Mapping, a process utilized to find relative access to food. The data presented was a map of where fast food locations are, based on income levels as well as party stores. The overlying theme is that there is good and bad food available in all locations, but affordability and transportation are obstacles to the population making healthy food choices.

There was discussion on the BoH working to pull together an advisory group for the county that can provide updated information to the public on the food resources located in their community. It should include the collaboration of state community health staff, local health department, MSU, licensed dietitians, etc. It was suggested utilizing some existing groups like PWC to work and or support healthy food access. Kate Nault from the State of Michigan was in attendance and is supporting the work of food access and suggested that the board connect with the Land Use and Health Resource Team (LUHRT).

ICHD is supporting the work of access to food through its licensed dieticians that work in the health centers, PHN, WIC and the Pathways grant. It was suggested that should a sub-committee be formed that they connect with some of the ICHD programs to learn more of what they are doing and where they are at in addressing healthy food access, and then update board members in a few months.

ICHD Role during Winter Weather Emergencies – Jim Wilson, Nancy Hayward, Dr. Sugandha Lowhim
Ingham County has faced some severe weather challenges over the past couple of months and as such the question was raised as to what ICHD's role is. Nancy explained how staff goes through extensive training to be ready to respond to emergencies through FEMA and other agencies. Jim provided a copy of the Unified Command Procedures of the Emergency Operations. ICHD is a partner in the emergency process, by means of helping to identify facilities that can be used as emergency shelters. Our role is to deem them "up to code" i.e. is/will there be adequate water and electrical access, if public works (fire/police) can service area and so on.

In the role of severe weather, ICHD is not a "major" player as described in the handout. ICHD involvement was to just help with notification. ICHD would come into play should the severe weather cause issue with say sewage, which could cause a public health issues. There is a monthly meeting of Emergency Preparedness for ICHD, and the county wide teams meets 2-3 times a year.

Due to lack of time, the board would like to bring this item back on the agenda either March or April. As there were other areas that they would like to address, such as how does vital information get out to vulnerable populations, like isolated elderly, and individuals who have life support equipment when the power goes out.

BoH 2013 Activity Report Draft – Molly Polverento

Molly would like to send a letter of summary to BOC, the priority areas and a copy of the smoking resolution passed by the board. She will prepare and send a draft for review to members. **Dr. Rodriguez moved that the board send an Activity Report for 2013 to the Board of Commissioners. Dr. Dokter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

BoH Webpage

Dr. Paneth is the webpage update lead for February, so send suggestions to his attention.

Public Health Update – Nancy Hayward

- **ICHD Health Officer** – It was announced in December that Dr. Canady had accepted another position, and as such was vacating the position as Health Officer effective in January 2014. Nancy Hayward has been appointed Acting Health Officer effective January 21, 2014 and will remain in that position until a permanent candidate is selected. Members of the board would like to be involved in the selection, and so the chair will contact the Board Chair and HSC Committee Chair to see what if any role BoH can play.
- **2105 Strategic Plan** – the plan is due to the County Controller February 28, and it will be shared with the board at either the March or April meeting.

- **ICHD Budget** – the department will be looking to close out fiscal year books with final numbers by end of this week. Once completed information will be shared with board.
- **Health Plan Management** – they do work to manage health plans for the various counties. A decision has been made to close that department, which manages 14 county health plans, on May 1, 2014. They in turn will be closing their doors as their members are now eligible for Medicaid through the Affordable Care Act. Three of the 14 counties (Ingham, Kalamazoo and Washtenaw) will remain operating for the time being. The closing of the department will cause layoff of about 10 county employees should there not be vacant positions that they can transition into.
- **ICHD Reorganization** – there are now two new positions as a result of the re-organization, there will be a senior community epidemiologist which was posted and filled by current Community epidemiologist Cassie Larriueux, which leaves her position vacant to be filled. The other position is that of a health analyst.
- **Accreditation** – ICHD is up for state reaccreditation which is due in March, and all departments are in preparation for the inspection. ICHD is also looking to apply for National Accreditation which has an application deadline of December 2014.
- **BOC recognition of Dr. Canady** – Dr. Canady received a resolution by BOC, and ICHD held an open house celebrating her work with ICHD. BOH will prepare its own recognition to send to her sometime in March.
- **Outbreaks** – ICHD is keeping eye on MSU students reported ill on same floor and FLU/H1N1 is being monitored where there are a few individuals who have been hospital admitted.

Denise Chrysler moved to adjourn the meeting. Denaë Friedheim seconded the motion. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Next Board of Health meeting – 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, 2014 in Conference Room C at the **Ingham County Health Department** located at 5303 S Cedar Street in Lansing