

BRANCH-HILLSDALE-ST. JOSEPH  
COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY  
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
OF 8-28-08 MEETING

The Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency Board of Health meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. by the Chairperson, Mike Dunlap, with the following members present:

David Pueschel, Robin Baker, Ken Lautzenheiser, Rod Olney and Al Ringenberg.

Absent: Dale Swift

Also present: Steve Todd, John Robertson, Donna Cowden, Rebecca Burns, Laura Sutter, Maureen Petzko, Dr. Phillips and Rob Stauffer.

Mr. Baker moved to approve the agenda as presented with support from Mr. Ringenberg. The motion carried.

Mr. Ringenberg moved to approve the minutes as prepared from the July meeting with support from Mr. Olney. The motion carried.

Under Public Comment – there was nothing at this time

Communication

Rob Stauffer was introduced at this time and he presented to the Board members a presentation on Food Training.

Dr. Phillips, Medical Director, gave an update on rabies and measles to those present.

Steve Todd, Health Officer, gave his report as well on the following items:

Proposed Community Sewers – this past month our agency has participated in two Public meetings in support of two different community sewer projects that are being proposed in the district 1) Reading, Hillsdale and Cambria townships are considering a joint sewer project that would sewer five lakes. 2) Colon Township in St. Joseph is continuing the sewer planning process that began in 2004. The community sewer project would encompass Palmer and Long Lake as well as three areas within the Colon Village limits. The majority of the area that would receive sewer in both of these projects are adjacent to lakes. The long term use of onsite septic systems for lake properties has a negative impact on the health of the lake and can result in a health hazard to the public when septic systems fail. The demand for water front property continues to increase. The demand to redevelop existing lake property has continued to escalate in recent years. One solution to help satisfy this demand and protect the health of the lakes and the health of the public is for the formation of sewer districts that would manage sewage disposal in the High Demand Problem Areas. We will continue to support the

efforts of townships as they evaluate the benefits of sewer. Our role will be to inform the public that their health and the health of their lake need more protection than what standard on site septic systems can provide.

Dental Programs and Clinics – Plans have been completed to begin a dental sealant project at Eastwood Elementary School in Sturgis. We have been awarded a \$13,000.00 grant from the Sturgis Area community foundation that will provide for dental screening, cleaning and applying dental sealants. We are also investigating the possibility of coordinating dental sealant programs in Hillsdale and Branch counties.

A meeting with the Hillsdale County Board of Commissioners was held to continue the planning of developing a clinic in Hillsdale County. Later today, Steve will be meeting with a local dentist from Hillsdale regarding his ideas of starting a small dental clinic in the basement of a church. The need for dental service is great in all of three counties. We continue to receive requests from service agencies and organizations for dental services. It is our goal to help provide access to health care for the citizens of our jurisdiction.

Mr. Olney moved to accept and place on file the Health Officer's report with support from Mr. Lautzenheiser. The motion carried.

Financial Reports – Donna Cowden reviewed the monthly financial reports with the members present. Mr. Pueschel moved to accept and place on file the reports as presented supported by Mr. Olney. The motion carried.

Area Agency on Aging – Laura Sutter gave her Coordinator Report to the members present.

Prevention Services – Jennie Sholly was on vacation, but her monthly service statistics report was reviewed.

Community Health Promotion – John Robertson reviewed the monthly service statistics with the members present.

Environmental Health – Rebecca Burns- reviewed the monthly reports with the members present.

Committee Reports –

Finance:

Mr. Olney moved to approve the expenditures submitted for review and payment in the amount of \$216,430.69 with support from Mr. Lauztenheiser. The motion carried.

Program, Policy and Appeals:

Nothing at this time

#### Old Business

Closed Session for Health Officer's Evaluation – this was moved to the end of the agenda.

Health Care Savings Plan – Discussion once again took place and it was decided that this would be tabled until such time as a MERS Representation could present this to the members present.

#### New Business

Body Art Inspection Fees – discussion followed and it was moved by Mr. Lautzenhesier that this proposal be approved with one change and that being that the fees proposed be rounded up to the even number (179.00 to 180.00 and 89.00 to 90.00) supported by Mr. Baker. The motion carried.

Other – at this time a motion to go into closed session for the purposes of the Health Officer's Evaluation by Mr. Lautzenhesier supported by Mr. Pueschel. The motion carried.

Open session resumed and it was reported that the Board members reviewed the job performance of the Health Officer and the evaluation showed that the members were satisfied with the performance and voted to give a \$3,000.00 merit increase to the Health Officer as outlined within the contract. The Health Officer declined to accept the merit increase stating because of the economic times and also that this merit increase would come from the Agency's budget. The members present commented that Steve Todd should be given a pat on his back for this action.

With nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be on September 25, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Maureen Petzko, BA  
Secretary to the Board