

BRANCH-HILLSDALE-ST. JOSEPH  
COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF 8-26-10  
MEETING

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

Mike Dunlap, Robin Baker, David Pueschel, Brad Benzing, Ken Lautzenheiser

Absent: Dale Swift

Also present: Steve Todd, Donna Cowden, Joann Wilczynski, Maureen Petzko, Laura Sutter, Rebecca Burns and Dr. Phillips

Mr. Dunlap moved to approve the Agenda as presented with one addition under Area Agency on Aging and with that addition Mr. Pueschel moved to approve. The motion carried.

Mr. Lautzenheiser moved to approve the minutes as presented with support from Mr. Baker. The motion carried.

Under Public Comment – Several individuals attending the meeting spoke regarding Family Planning Services (Title X).

**Communication-**

Medical Director's Comments – Dr. Phillips updated the Board members regarding HIV testing Laws, Plans to create a State wide Trauma system and EEE.

**Health Officer's Report**

Steve Todd reported on the following:

1. Eastern Equine Encephalitis

Eastern equine encephalitis virus is transmitted to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito.

EEE virus is one of a group of mosquito-transmitted viruses that can cause inflammation of the brain (encephalitis). Disease transmission does not occur directly from person to person or from animal to human. EEE is a rare disease with approximately 5-10 cases reported annually in the United States. It takes 4 to 10 days after the bite of an infected mosquito for symptoms to develop. Severe cases of EEE infection begin with the sudden onset of headache, high fever, chills, and vomiting. The illness may then progress into disorientation, seizures, and coma. Approximately a third of patients who develop EEE die, and many of those who survive have mild to severe brain damage. Diagnosis is based on tests

of blood or spinal fluid. There is no specific treatment for EEE. This year there have been 3 reported human cases in Michigan. The cases have been located in Kalamazoo & Barry Counties. Horses are very susceptible to EEE and need to be vaccinated against the disease. There is no vaccine for humans. In our 3 counties there have been one laboratory confirmed case of EEE in a horse in St. Joseph County and a total of 3 probable horse cases, 2 in St. Joseph & 1 in Branch Counties. Mosquitoes and the danger from the diseases that they can transmit will be a concern until late fall when we have a series of hard frosts that will end our exposure to mosquito bites.

## 2. Salmonella

Salmonella is the most common form of food poisoning from bacteria, and the strain involved in the egg recall is the most common kind, accounting for about 20 percent of all such food poisonings. The most common symptoms of salmonella poisoning are diarrhea, abdominal cramps and fever eight to 72 hours after eating a contaminated product. Both the egg yolk and the egg white can contain the salmonella bacteria. You can not see, smell or taste the bacteria. You should consider that all raw eggs could be contaminated and be sure to thoroughly cook all raw egg products. An interesting fact that I read recently stated that the 550 million eggs being recalled amounts to only 1% of the total eggs produced in the country each year.

## 3. Vaccinations

Our Agency is shoulder deep in back-to-school vaccinations. Please check our website for the schedule of clinics. Over the past week our Three Rivers office has administered over 800 vaccinations. The clinics in Branch and Hillsdale have had similar vaccination numbers. We are also currently preparing to administer seasonal flu vaccine. As I had mentioned earlier we will be using VaxCare to supply us with seasonal flu vaccine for the majority of our clinics. VaxCare will allow us to order flu vaccine as we need it so that we will not have to store our entire supply or pay for vaccine that we do not need. We should be able to offer seasonal flu vaccinations at our September Board of Health meeting. The cost of this year's flu vaccination from VaxCare will be \$25 which is less than the \$30 we charged last year.

We are utilizing the planning and operation of this year's seasonal flu vaccination clinics as part of our required emergency preparedness drills. This past evening we executed an emergency calling drill where all of our employees were contacted in the evening. This morning prior to our normal work hours, selected staff were required to report to their assigned offices where they participated in a district-wide planning meeting using our video conferencing equipment.

#### 4. Agency News

Last week on August 18<sup>th</sup> we held a ground breaking ceremony for our Public Health Dental Clinic in Hillsdale. During the ceremony we were presented with a special Congressional Recognition Certificate from Congressman Mark Schauer. The Dental Clinic will operate like our clinic in Three Rivers and will serve those with Medicaid, Mi-Child, Delta Healthy Kids or low income individuals & families with an income less than 200% of the federal poverty level. We are planning on the clinic being open for business in January 2011.

I would like to announce that Theresa Christner has been selected to be the Health Education & Promotion Coordinator. Theresa worked for this Agency as a Health Educator from 1993 to 1998. She has currently been working for the Michigan Department of Community Health. She will start on September 7<sup>th</sup>. I believe that the skills and experience that Theresa will bring to this Agency will be an excellent addition to our team.

Mr. Lautzenheiser moved to accept and place on file the Health Officer's Report as presented with support from Mr. Pueschel. The motion carried.

#### **Financial Reports**

Donna Cowden, Director, reviewed the reports with the members present. Mr. Dunlap moved to accept and place on file with support from Mr. Lautzenheiser. The motion carried.

#### **Area Agency on Aging**

Laura Sutter, Coordinator, presented her Coordinator's Report to the members present. Discussion took place regarding the elder abuse training for law enforcement officers in St. Joseph County and community partners.

#### **Prevention Services**

Joann Wilczynski, Director, reviewed the monthly statistics with the members present.

#### **Environmental Health Services**

Rebecca Burns, Director, reviewed the monthly statistics with the members present together with the Food Service Report. Rebecca Burns updated the members on the following: food safety management classes, BP pipeline spill, St. Joseph County notified of a contaminated well (salt).

#### **Committee Reports –**

**Finance** Committee – the expenditures in the amount of \$225,769.80 were reviewed and Mr. Lautzenheiser moved to approve for payment supported by Mr. Dunlap. The motion carried.

**Program, Policy and Appeals** Committee – nothing at this time.

**New Business**

The proposed 2011 Salary Scale was presented and reviewed. Discussion took place and Mr. Dunlap moved to not accept the proposed 2011 Salary Schedule as presented supported by Mr. Pueschel. Roll call vote was taken and all members present voted not to approve the proposed schedule.

**Old Business**

Mr. Lautzenheiser moved to go into Closed Session per the request of the Health Officer to discuss and review the Health Officer's Evaluation supported by Mr. Dunlap. Roll Call Vote was taken: all members voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Olney, Chairperson, reconvened the meeting with all members voting in favor and it was moved by Mr. Baker to renew the contract of Steve Todd, Health Officer for two years as discussed supported by Mr. Dunlap. The motion carried. With no further business to take place the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Maureen Petzko, BA  
Secretary to the Board of Health