

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Polk County Board of Health met in the conference room of the Health Department in the Polk County Government Center at 10:05AM on November 11, 2008.

Present: Neil Johnson Wanda Johnson Rick Scoglio
Jim Edgell Bob Dueholm Dr. Arne
Lagus

Absent: Gary Bergstrom

Also: Gretchen Sampson Carolyn Griffin Leslie Larsen

Chairman Neil Johnson called the meeting to order.

Sampson stated she would like to add discussion of leased cars to the agenda under new business.

Motion by Scoglio/Dueholm to approve the agenda as amended. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Scoglio/W. Johnson to approve the minutes from the October 14th meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Monthly Bills Review

Sampson reviewed the list of bills and answered any questions.

Motion by Scoglio/Dueholm to approve the bills in the amount of \$42,555.44. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sampson handed out the bill list from the October meeting that was amended due to a spreadsheet error.

Statistical Reports

Sampson reviewed the budget overview report for October for the Public Health programs. Budgets are on track; lagging grant payments and outstanding billed revenue are expected so budgets will be balanced at end of year.

The Prenatal Care Coordination and WIC programs continue to be very busy. The Home Care Program served 159 patients in September compared with 118 patients a year ago.

Motion by Dueholm/Edgell to approve the statistical reports. All in favor. Motion carried.

Out of County Meetings

Sampson reviewed the list of out of county meetings for November. The majority of the travel is for the Preparedness staff. All expenses for this staff, including travel and salary, are paid from the Preparedness grant. There are no county funds associated with these employees.

Sampson added that the staff has been working with the IT Department exploring web cam technology to hook up with the preparedness consortia counties. There was also discussion about the video conferencing service available at the Justice Center. Sampson stated the Health Dept has not used this service as it hasn't worked in the past. Sampson will follow up on this with the IT Department.

Motion by Edgell/Scoglio to approve the out of county travel. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business

County Board Resolution to Reinstate Home Care to Budget

Sampson thanked those Board members signing this resolution.

Dr. Arne Lagus read his letter supporting the Home Care Program given to the Board of Supervisors at the October meeting.

Supervisor Edgell handed out some information on Home Care prepared by Herschel Brown. Discussion followed.

Leslie Larsen, Home Care Supervisor, addressed some of the points outlined in the handout. Larsen is concerned about other home care agencies assuming care for Polk County's patients because of limited staff and/or partial service to only a small geographic area of Polk County. The mission of Polk County's program has been to be a safety net for patients regardless of their ability to pay.

Discussion about the ADRC (Adult Disability & Resource Center) that is scheduled to be operating early in 2009. This organization is essentially for assessment of individuals for many types of services, which would include Home Care. Services are not provided by the ADRC but referred to a managed care organization (MCO) with the official name of Northern Bridges that would encompass eleven counties. At this point there are many questions on how this new system will work.

Report from APHA Meeting

Sampson handed out the program from the American Public Health Association meeting she attended in San Diego. Sampson explained her two presentations on career building in the field of Public Health and policy development in Public Health which included a panel on school health services in Wisconsin.

October Legislative Breakfast

Sampson reported on the Legislative Breakfast meeting on October 20, 2008. The State budget is at a 3 billion dollar deficit. All state agencies have been asked to reduce their budget by 10%. The legislators welcome feedback on local impact of decisions made in Madison. The Governor will continue to move forward on some tobacco initiatives.

New Business

Wisconsin Quality Improvement Project Update

Sampson passed out information on the WI Quality Improvement Project the Health Department workgroup has been participating in. This is a national accreditation preparation program for state and local health departments. Sampson distributed a self assessment tool that needs to be completed by the Health Department workgroup by the end of January 2009. This tool allows local health departments to identify areas of strength and areas for improvement.

Update on Development of New State Health Plan

Sampson handed out some information on work being done on the 2020 State Health Plan. The information covered a broad range of health priorities and feedback from surveys, community forums, etc.

Dr. Lagus asked how to provide input in this process. Sampson will find out detailed information. Dr. Lagus also asked how we are doing on the 2010 Health Plan. Sampson will provide information on that for a meeting in the near future.

Car Leasing

Sampson opened up discussion about car leases as present leases will be ending soon. Preparedness Consortium carryover funds must be spent down by the end of this year. Major companies such as GM and Chrysler/Ford have discontinued many lease programs so consequently Polk County dealerships are unable to offer lease programs.

Other dealerships in the Twin City area do offer reasonable lease programs. Sampson requested the Board's approval of pursuing vehicle lease arrangements with dealerships out of Polk County and sending out Request for Proposals for award at the December meeting.

Supervisor Dueholm would like written documentation from local dealerships if they no longer offer lease contracts. He also suggested looking at the Eau Claire area also.

Motion by W. Johnson/Edgell to pursue lease car contracts wherever possible. All in favor. Motion carried.

Director's Report – no report

Motion by Edgell/Dr. Lagus to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:25pm.

The next Board of Health meeting will be at 10:00AM on December 9, 2008.