

Ingham County Board of Health (BOH)
Ingham County Health Department (ICHD) – Conference Room C
Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Minutes

In attendance for meeting: Molly Polverento, Martha Adams, Dr. Christina Dokter, Dr. Maurice Reizen, Garry Rowe, Denae Friedheim, Dr. Nino Rodriguez, Dr. Nigel Paneth, Nancy Hayward, Dr. Sugandha Lowhim, Jim Wilson, Chris Klawuhn, Amy Moore, Rich Estill, Isaias Solis, Rona Harris. BOH Members absent with request to be excused: Mark Kieselbach and Denise Chrysler, JD.

The meeting was called to order by Molly Polverento, Chairperson. She called for review of the March 2014 minutes and a motion to approve. Dr. Nino Rodriguez moved to accept the minutes. Dr. Maurice Reizen seconded the motion. The March 2014 minutes were approved. She also welcomed Rona Harris as new support staff to the Board of Health.

Additions to Agenda: Length of Guest Presentations and times added to agenda items.

Limited Public Comment: None.

Announcements: Molly Polverento introduced her new baby daughter to members during the meeting.

Length of Guest Presentations - Board

Martha Adams passed a motion to limit guest presentations to no longer than 15 minutes with 5 minutes for discussion. Dr. Maurice Reizen seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Members agreed that they could vote for an extension of the length of a presentation, if needed, excluding Sanitary Code Board of Appeals. Molly Polverento also suggested adding times to the agenda items.

Power of We Consortium Update – Isaias Solis

Isaias Solis distributed the Power of We's (POW) first Community Report released in 2014. He said ICHD's great support of POW has helped it succeed.

Highlights of the Report included:

- Page 6 – Explanation of POW's structure as a multi-purpose state-endorsed collaborative body similar to over 50 others statewide. They formed in response to Gov. Engler's call in 1996 for more collaborative efforts among community organizations, especially concerning the allocation of monies to local non-profits and faith-based communities. POW conducted a community assessment to see what groups were meeting and who else needed to be a part of POW. They are divided into three sections: Community Data Committee, Community Assessts Alignment Committee, and Leadership and Practice Committee. They meet every third Friday of the month at ICHD. They are assisting other counties to become multi-purpose collaborative bodies: Eaton, Clinton, Calhoun, Genesee, Wayne and Lucas County, OH. Ingham County's POW is reported as having the best capacity, collaborative body in the state. They hold many workshops and host Americorp VISTA workers to help build capacity to improve the health of the community.
- Page 9 – Community Impact Outcomes – With four capacity-building workshops they reached 111 community organizations and 158 community members. He distributed a POW handout. They were awarded a \$200,000 per year grant for three years to focus on building the capacity of organizations around education and economic opportunity with the help of VISTA workers. Many more examples were provided.
- Page 11, 12 and 13 – Composed of 12 Issue Specific Coalitions (each Coalition has 30-40 organizational partners).

- Page 17 – Financial Report – POW has been able to double their budget in the last 16 months from the great commitment from ICHD and partners, and building POW’s capacity to apply for and get grants.
- Last Page – Master Schedule of meetings.

Isaias distributed a press release announcing their April 2 National Mayors Day of Recognition for Service press conference at ICHD with Lansing Mayor Bernero, East Lansing Mayor Triplett, Ingham County Commissioner Sarah Anthony, Deputy Health Officer Nancy Hayward, and Americorp members. It will focus on the community impact of the Americorp/Vista members and a project fair.

Continued Discussion of the Role of ICHD during Winter Weather Emergencies – Jim Wilson & Nancy Hayward

Jim Wilson said lessons were learned during the community’s power outage. ICHD used their CODE RED automated phone calling system to alert Department staff of the emergency issue: closure of County due to an imminent weather event (snowstorm). It failed the first time due to some technical issues, but the Department immediately switched to a manual contact system to alert staff. They were pleased with the results. Molly Polverento asked if there were any plan at the County-level to review lessons learned. Jim said the role of the County Emergency Operations Center would be to help disabled or health-compromised residents in their homes with no power. He said this is being discussed among community emergency partners. There are some tools out there. Nancy Hayward said ICHD did hold an emergency preparedness briefing (which occurs every month to discuss emerging public health issues and emergencies) to review the January emergency situation. All the emergency responders were invited to discuss their roles and jurisdiction. The partners addressed the community’s needs, and felt it was met by the many heating shelters available. Some at the briefing felt that the length of time that people were without power in their homes was not acceptable. Jim added that Ingham County didn’t declare a state of emergency. The County Emergency manager would have the authority to do this. Some agencies had questions as to why this didn’t take place. Jim said the chairperson of the Board of Commissioners is the County Emergency Operations Officer.

Dr. Nigel Paneth asked if we knew of any harm that happened to the population (e.g. excess emergency room visits or deaths of older people)? Nancy Hayward said at the last epidemiology conference at MSU, a group of UM SPH students had a poster session on the excess regional carbon monoxide ER visits that occurred during the power outages around the state. There was a 400% increase of ER visits with two deaths reported. Molly and Nancy said they will follow up on the details of the poster session at the conference. Members would like the students to do a presentation at a future BOH meeting. Nancy said she will talk to ICHD’s epidemiologist to inquire about any possible data. Dr. Nino Rodriguez said that a group appointed by Mayor Bernero is going to give recommendations to the Board of Water of Light about how people were affected. Dr. Paneth recommended that advice on health outcomes could be given to that group before they make their recommendations. The Board thought it would be a good idea to also pass along this health outcome/impact information and recommendations to the Emergency Managers.

Public Health Update – Nancy Hayward

Life O’Riley Closure - Dr. Maurice Reizen asked for follow-up on Life O’Riley situation. Jim Wilson reminded the Board that they had a meeting with state and local officials. Nancy Hayward said the partners came together on what their authorities and powers were as they worked to help Life O’Riley residents. The City of Lansing has tagged dwellings that are uninhabitable. The County has the condemnation for the entire property in place. The Board of Water and Light has cut off water service. Each order or action has its own set of requirements for the owner to make corrective action to meet approval. This required corrective action goes beyond the owner’s current work of cleaning up the site. The toughest part of the Life O’Riley situation was to help residents relocate to safe, affordable housing. However, there are many success stories of residents moving to affordable, more stable housing. Jim Wilson said it was great to see the many community resources coming together to help. It was also a good example of local and state authorities working together to show cause (bringing legal action on the property owner). Rep. Andy Schor is working on a bill that will re-exam the legal language that mobile home parks are allowed to operate under. The Board congratulated ICHD for their work on the situation. Nancy said ICHD can continue to give some quick updates about the situation.

Accreditation – Nancy Hayward said ICHD had their formal accreditation. Hopefully the formal report can be shared at the next BOH meeting. The exit interview was outstanding with great accolades from MDCH.

Health Plan Management Systems (HPMS) – HPMS that manages IHP and county health plans will close operations April 30. Most of the health plan members are now eligible for the Health Michigan Plan. Along with IHP, Kalamazoo and Washtenaw will have some members left to manage.

New Health Center Building – Community Health Center Board and some Board of Commissioners toured the new building that is under construction. Nancy asked BOH to think of new names that could be suggested for the new building.

Health Officer Update – New ICHD Health Officer Linda Vail will start April 7. BOH and ICHD staff thanked Nancy Hayward for her leadership and hard work during the interim period.

East Lansing Water Treatment Plant Mercury Spill – The incident occurred on November 2013, and wasn't reported until last March 2014 through an anonymous call from an employee. EH Bureau staff went to the plant, and tested the mercury levels which were very low. The shop vac that employees used to clean up the spill had mercury levels detected. The exposure level to employees was very low. EH has made several trips to retest and the levels have decreased to the low-safe range. Plant officials are investigating why the incident wasn't reported right away. Dr. Sugandha Lowhim has worked with healthcare providers to let them know she is available for consultation. Jim Wilson said it is the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) who has the authority to investigate the risk to the employees. MIOSHA can request a third party to help assist them. Molly Polverento thanked ICHD staff for their work.

Other Discussion

NALBOH Update – Dr. Christina Dokter

Dr. Christina Dokter will become the new Director at Large for the National Association of Local Board of Health (NALBOH). NALBOH is currently experiencing financial difficulties, and is in the process of a major reorganization. Nancy Hayward expressed her appreciation of the County's financial support of Dr. Dokter's trip to NALBOH as a BOH board member. Molly Polverento said she would like to communicate the Board of Health's appreciation of the County's financial support. She will also connect Dr. Dokter with Meghan Swain of the Michigan Association of Local Public Health for guidance on NALBOH before she leaves for her trip. Dr. Rodriguez suggested after her trip, that she give the Board of Health a report that can be passed to the County as an update on her travels.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Board of Health meeting – 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 6, 2014 in Conference Room C at the **Ingham County Health Department** located at 5303 S Cedar Street in Lansing