

**Ingham County Board of Health (BoH) meeting
Ingham County Health Department – Conference Room C
Tuesday, September 6, 2011**

Minutes

In attendance for meeting: Dr. Maurice Reizen, Martha Adams, Molly Polverento, Dr. Christina Dokter, Mark Kieselbach, Dr. Nino Rodriguez, Dr. Renee Canady, Amy Moore, Debbie Edokpolo and Wendy Duke-Littlejohn

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Reizen. The minutes from the last meeting were accepted as printed.

Additions to agenda – None

Public comment – None

Medical Marijuana Update – Dr. Reizen and Amy Moore

There was an appeal in Isabella County, Mt. Pleasant by an apothecary who was selling marijuana. It was determined that was not within the statute and therefore they must cease. The Attorney General will be sending letter stating that such dispensaries are to be shut down. Most are closed at this time, not sure if it will go further for additional appeal.

Amy Moore gave a synopsis of a meeting she attended the Medical Marijuana task force. There were 19 categories that were compiled. The Department of Justice would pursue racketeering charges for those who make money on the sale of marijuana. There was a long list of community concerns that they will be addressing.

Dr. Reizen interjected that it boils down to the POME acronym, what's the problem, what's the objective, what's the method and what's the evaluation. He also stated he is not against the use of marijuana medicinally, it is the crafting of the law and how it has been loosely and vaguely been monitored. The medical profession was, it appears, purposely left out of the discussion.

Now that the program has been up and running for a while, the community is actually seeing the effect of the law. This is bringing up much dialogue, concerns and questions.

Planning for BoH Community Meeting in October – Dr. Reizen

The meeting will be held at the Foster Community Center on October 4th. Dr. Reizen is asking advertisement be sent to the Lansing State Journal and the City Pulse a week prior to the meeting. It was suggested that a flyer be created for posting in the area announcing the meeting.

A community health assessment is in the works and Dr. Canady will communicate back specific topics that could be addressed to the community that attend the meeting.

Dr. Reizen is requesting members to make special effort to attend.

Local Health Governance Survey – Dr. Reizen and Molly Polverento

Molly took the survey and she felt it was looking to see how closely the board and health department are inline in regards to topics and priorities. The survey did ask about the responsibilities and duties of the board which allude to whether the boards are advisory or regulatory.

It appears that NALBOH is working to increase their coverage/membership as they only cover about 20 or so states. The national meeting is being held in September however, no board member is available to attend.

Public Health Update – Dr. Renée Canady

Dr. Sienko Retirement – Dr. Sienko's last day with ICHD is October 31, 2011. The Board of Commissioners will be hosting a cake and punch reception that day. It is hoped that a decision will be made as to who his replacement will be by the end of September. The candidate search is a national one and Dr. Canady did submit herself as a candidate.

Budget Hearing – ICHD accepted recommended budget from the County Controller's office, which is the acceptance of additional revenue to be generated from the Health Centers on visits. Dr. Sienko went on record objecting to the addition. Commissioners go to vote on final budget for 2011-12 this week.

Community Health Assessment – A very comprehensive assessment is planned which will include substantial hospital involvement from Sparrow Hospital, Eaton Rapids, Hayes Green Beach and also Ingham County and MSU. The assessment kick off is today with a steering committee convening. They will be doing some focus groups and also utilizing hospital discharge data.

New Behavioral Risk Factor Survey – The BRFSS is a tri year publication that has just been updated and is at the printer. Copies will be shared with the board when they come back.

DHS Cuts on Welfare – ICHD will be monitoring client numbers to determine if the cut in cash benefits and possibly food stamps could cause a rise in clients being seen. The cutoff is for those receiving benefits for 4 years.

Other Topics for Discussion

Other tobacco products – there was discussion in regards to an upcoming tobacco tax dialogue meeting on September 23rd. They are looking at the question of making the tax on other tobacco products the same as cigarettes on the state level. There was some discussion and question on cigar vs. cigarettes and the health risks and the reason of the higher/equal taxation. A major point brought up was that the CO intake is 6 times greater.

BoH Honoring Dr. Sienko – Dr. Reizen shared with members, for their approval, the commemorative gift and read the certificate that is to be presented to Dr. Sienko.

Announcements:

An Obesity Summit is to be convened on September 21st by MPHI.

Free Breakfast and Lunch – Dr. Rodriguez announced that ALL students in the Lansing School District will receive free breakfast and lunch for the entire 2011-12 school year. The district was selected from the federal program to participate in a pilot program.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Reizen and seconded by Dr. Rodriguez.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Board of Health meeting – 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 4 at the Foster Community Center located at 200 N Foster Ave in Lansing. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m. for board members.