

Ingham County Board of Health
Ingham County Health Department (ICHD) – Conference Room C
Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Minutes

ACTION ITEMS FOR AUGUST: Molly Polverento will send out a letter to Dr. Dean Sienko congratulating him on his new position at the Carter Center.

In attendance for meeting: Martha Adams, Commissioner Teri Banas, Carol Callaghan, Denise Chrysler, Paulette Dobynes, Christina Dokter, Debbie Edokpolo, Sugandha Lowhim, Joel Murr, Molly Polverento, Nino Rodriguez, Garry Rowe, Lynne Stauff, Steph Strickling

The meeting was called to order at 12:16 by Chairperson Molly Polverento. Molly called for a review of the May 2016 minutes; the word “county” will be adjusted to the word “country” in Agenda Item 2, Paragraph 1. The May 2016 minutes were moved for approval by Nino Rodriguez and supported by Carol Callaghan; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Additions to Agenda: A discussion about the July meeting was added to the agenda as Item #2.

Limited Public Comment: None.

Announcements: Molly Polverento noted that Dr. Dean Sienko has left MSU to become the Vice President for Health Programs at The Carter Center in Atlanta, GA. His role at MSU has not been filled yet; Molly will update the BOH when this happens. In the interim, Molly is taking the lead on the academic health department initiative. Debbie Edokpolo informed members of the group that Dr. Maurice Reizen’s wife Leonor passed away recently; a card will be sent on behalf of the BOH. Nino Rodriguez noted that he’d recently attended a conference at Sparrow Hospital which included a presentation about the cost of healthcare in America versus in other countries, and the quality of care delivered in other countries versus America. He has requested a copy of the presentation and will send it on to the BOH if he receives it.

1. Strategic Plan Workgroup Formation - Molly Polverento

Molly Polverento passed out a draft of the BOH’s 2016 Prioritized Goals. This document listed the top three goals and assigned board members to workgroups for each of those goals. Suggested activities for each goal were also listed, but workgroups are not limited to only what it listed. These assignments can be adjusted; members should let Molly know if they would like to work on a different goal. Each of the goals has been assigned a PHS manager to assist with it; Regina will work with “advocate for policies and programs to reduce preventable perinatal deaths”, Ruby will work with “support ICHD efforts to improve maternal and infant immunization rates”, and Sarah will work with “promote ICHD health literacy events to community connections”. Steph Strickling will set up workgroup meetings before the next BOH meeting; workgroups can also begin meeting again in the hour prior to official BOH meetings.

2. July Meeting - Molly Polverento

Molly Polverento notified the group that the July BOH meeting was scheduled for 7/5. In light of the 4th of July holiday, she asked if members would like to cancel or reschedule the meeting. Cancellation of the July meeting was moved for approval by Denise Chrysler and supported by Nino Rodriguez; the motion carried and the July BOH meeting was cancelled.

3. Public Health Update - Debbie Edokpolo

Debbie Edokpolo provided the group with a brief update on ICHD operations. Currently, ICHD is in the middle of its annual budget process. The first meeting to develop the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

was recently held. Any interested BOH members are welcome to participate in the development process by contacting Molly Polverento or Janine Sinno; the next meeting will be held on 7/13. Joel Murr noted that ICHD would soon be putting a public information campaign in place for Zika virus. The campaign will include newspaper ads, movie previews, and billboards.

4. Infant Mortality Reduction Plan - Paulette Dobyne (MDHHS)

Paulette Dobyne from MDHHS gave a presentation to the group on the efforts to reduce infant mortality overall and eliminate racial disparity in the infant mortality rates. She distributed and reviewed a handout with the nine goals of the 2016-2019 Michigan Infant Mortality Reduction Plan. The first and main goal of the plan is to “achieve health equity and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities by addressing social determinants of health in all infant mortality goals and strategies”. The remaining goals support the main goal in a variety of ways. Paulette noted that not all efforts made are focused directly on the infant; there are also many actions directed at the mother before, during, and after pregnancy because of the major impact she will have on the health and well-being of her children. Paulette noted that ICHD has been a strong partner for MDHHS in addressing this issue.

Commissioner Teri Banas asked about the difference in infant mortality rates between planned and unplanned pregnancies. Paulette stated that unfortunately the infant mortality rate for unplanned pregnancies was higher; she did note that nationwide and in Michigan, we are seeing the lowest teenage pregnancy rate since we began tracking which is helping to lead to a decrease in unplanned pregnancies. Molly Polverento asked if there were any specific actions and/or initiatives that the BOH could advocate for and Denise Chrysler noted that many of the actions needed to accomplish the goals were related to behavior changes. Paulette stated that while the right programs are in place to accomplish these goals, making sure everyone in the community is aware they exist can always be helpful. She also noted the importance of addressing other underlying social factors that contribute to infant mortality, such as housing and transportation. Lynne Stauff asked if the program works with the Michigan Department of Education; Paulette stated that they are very involved with the home visiting programs and with the adolescent health centers. Commissioner Banas asked if the program was receiving adequate funding; Paulette stated that there were adequate resources directed to the program but that they were always pursuing additional funding opportunities.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20.

Next Board of Health Meeting: 12:00 pm on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 in Conference Room C at the Ingham County Health Department, located at 5303 S Cedar Street in Lansing.