

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

**Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, October 28, 2008, 6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order & Roll Call

The Board of Health held its monthly meeting on October 28, 2008 in Meeting Room 2 at the Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington, Urbana. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Julian Rappaport. Brenda Anderson, Stan James, John Peterson, Cheryl Ramirez, Julian Rappaport, and Betty Segal were present at the time of roll call. Absent from the meeting were Board members Prashanth Gowda, Nezar Ahmed Kassem, and Bobbi Scholze. The staff members present were Kat Bork (Board of Health Secretary) and Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney). Others present were Carol Elliott (CUPHD Board Member), Darlene Kloeppel (Regional Planning Commission), Jim Roberts (CUPHD Environmental Health Director), Patricia Robinson (CUPHD Director of Human Resources) and Sureland Trice (Crisis Nursery).

Approval of Agenda/Addendum

MOTION by James to approve the agenda and addendum; seconded by Ramirez.

Rappaport moved agenda item K to directly after the discussion on the quarterly report from Crisis Nursery.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by James to approve the Budget Subcommittee July 29, 2008 minutes and the Board of Health September 30, 2008 minutes; seconded by Peterson.

James recommended changing the word "uses" to "issues" on line 141 in the Budget Subcommittee minutes.

Motion carried as amended.

Public Participation on Agenda Items Only

Elliott urged any discussion on the merger of public health entities to include conversations with the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD) staff. She noted as a practical matter that research would have to be done concerning the handling of CUPHD's assets in the event of a merger.

Senior Wellness Program

Quarterly Report from the Regional Planning Commission

MOTION by Peterson to receive and place on file the Senior Wellness Program Quarterly Report from the Regional Planning Commission; seconded by James.

Kloeppel reported that Bobbi Scholze will visit RPC's Senior Services Office on Thursday to learn more about the Senior Wellness Program's progress. Senior Services has collected 96 surveys from specific individuals throughout Champaign County. Ramirez asked if the report would be distributed widely. Kloeppel stated it would not and that the Senior Services staff has begun following up the Department on Aging survey with local forums. Each community is slightly different and they are trying to get to know the local resources better. The actual survey results are being compiled as part of a larger picture. Rappaport inquired who the 96 surveys represented. Kloeppel stated the interviews were done with persons on the Senior Services Advisory Board, who are either seniors or people identified as working with seniors in communities, such as ministers. RPC's next step is holding community forums where staff will work with communities to discuss the findings and potential solutions for the issues that were raised. Right now, the Senior Services staff is trying to make connections and build bridges of trust. They learned that seniors and the identified workers with seniors were not aware of services that are currently available for seniors. James indicated there should be a way to track how many people in the small communities are looking for assistance and how many are helped by the Senior Wellness Program. He wanted the Board of Health to see the actual numbers of seniors who are helped so the Board can determine the effectiveness of the program. Kloeppel said the actual numbers are being collected. RPC learns about clients' needs when clients come to the office and provide information about their situations. RPC can then refer a client to other available services, such as developmental disabilities services for other family members. She stated RPC will not be able to track what happens to the clients served. James said that the program's objective is to focus on seniors and RPC should be able to keep track of the help given to seniors through the program. He wanted to see some hard numbers on the people actually being assisted by the program the Board of Health is funding. Through his work, he is aware that a lot of seniors are not aware of available services and wondered who they should be directed to contact in order to learn what is available. Kloeppel said her staff is trying to collect information on the number of people getting referrals, some of who are from the County areas. James asked if he should direct individuals who could serve as community gatekeepers to contact Kloeppel and Kloeppel agreed that would be fine. Kloeppel acknowledged that the Board has funded the Senior Wellness Program through RPC for a year and the only results they have been given are about the number of surveys collected. She promised the Board would begin to see numbers about actual clients being served in the next quarterly report. Rappaport wanted to see documentation of how the Board's funding is increasing services to seniors or how seniors are otherwise benefiting as a result of this funding. The Board is looking to see what the additional value is being provided to seniors by RPC's Senior Services office with the funding. Kloeppel explained the Senior Services Office already provided outreach activity prior to receiving money from the Board of Health.

Segal asked if anything was being done about Foosland. Kloeppel stated Senior Services did not specifically cover Foosland in its survey. Since the Senior Services Office will provide services for any Champaign County resident, it is possible someone from Foosland has visited the office and received services. Segal wondered how someone in a small community like Foosland would be aware of any services if they did not know they should contact the Senior Services Office. Rappaport said the Board also needs to find out if CUPHD has provided any services in Foosland. Kloeppel offered to check her database to determine if any clients came from Foosland. Ramirez and Rappaport requested Kloeppel provide a breakout of services provided to specific communities so the Board could confirm that rural clients were being served.

Motion carried.

Issues Regarding RPC Senior Wellness Program

Discussion regarding the Senior Wellness Program is documented under the previous agenda item.

Perinatal Depression Program

Quarterly Report from Crisis Nursery

Trice reviewed the Perinatal Depression Program Quarterly Report. The Crisis Nursery has participated in 20 community service events and made numerous contacts with other agencies. The quarterly report includes statistics about the non-treatment plan clients (these are the other family members besides the mother and baby) as well as the treatment plan clients. The second quarter numbers are higher than the first quarter. A testimonial from a client documented the client's excitement in having a Crisis Nursery employee come visit the home. Trice reported Crisis Nursery is on target and pushing forward with the program. They are now serving 10 families. Crisis Nursery continues to do a lot of collaboration with other agencies, including Dr. Osler from the University of Illinois's School of Social Work who will assist with parent-child interaction and providing the clinical aspects. The program has been holding office hours at CUPHD and will move to the Rantoul office in an effort to branch out to the rural areas.

Segal inquired about the length of time a family could remain a program client in the original agreement. Trice stated Crisis Nursery's goal is to serve 25 clients for extended periods throughout an entire year. There is not a set amount of time that a client can only receive services; instead Crisis Nursery will provide services as long as the client needs. James suggested Crisis Nursery become involved in outreach with ministers and community centers in the Rantoul and Ludlow areas. Trice confirmed they are trying to reach out to churches in the rural communities. She recently made a presentation at the Methodist church in Villa Grove as part of this effort.

Segal asked if the police department knew about this program as a resource when they respond to domestic calls. Trice stated that Crisis Nursery is already one of the first resources the police call on in domestic situations because the nursery will take care of children even in the early morning hours. James suggested Trice contact Sheriff Walsh to ensure the County deputies are also aware of Crisis Nursery as a resource. Rappaport inquired how much time Crisis Nursery expects to spend with a client. Trice explained they want to view each family individually, as each has different needs. The program is trying to serve families with a child under one year old, so at some point the children will age out of the program. Crisis Nursery collaborates with other agencies to ensure the older children continue to receive services.

MOTION by James to receive and place on file the Perinatal Depression Program Quarterly Report from Crisis Nursery; seconded by Anderson. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence and Communications

Rappaport spoke about the resolution honoring Thomas O'Rourke's service on the Board of Health that was approved at the September meeting and a version suitable for framing was signed at this meeting. He liked the framing mat that Bork acquired at James's suggestion so all Board members could sign it. Rappaport would include a note to O'Rourke when the resolution and mat are mailed to him.

Exploration of Merger Possibilities Amongst Champaign County Public Health Entities

Rappaport asked McGrath about the legalities involved in merging health boards or entities. McGrath reported that she has collected some information, but is still working on it. She will have a report for the County Board's Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee and the Board of Health at their January meetings. Mergers of health entities have been done differently depending on how the entities were first created. There is typically a merger agreement describing what will happen to property and how the merger will occur, including who will be on the new governing board and what will happen to employees and existing contracts. Springfield had a transition board for a year working through those issues before becoming a new entity with members from both former governing boards on the new board. McGrath and Carrie Storrs continue to collect information on this topic.

The Board of Health discussed how the various entities were created and what could be involved in a merger. James supported talking to CUPHD staff for their insights. His concern is about the grant amounts being cut when two entities become one. For example, both CUPHD and the County Board of Health receive Local Health Protection Grants. Moving to one entity might result in only being eligible to receive a single grant. Rappaport wanted to be clear that raising the question of a merger does not mean the Board desires to act. He recommended systematically collecting information for a study session with all of the stakeholders at some future point, but first the Board needs to understand the core legal and bureaucratic issues involved in a merger. He wants the Board to know what is involved before they consider whether they are for or against the issue. Rappaport felt one of Board's obligations is to consider such long-term issues for the public health department. He asked McGrath to explain the varying tax rate possibilities in her report, which she agreed to do. Rappaport asked for the Board to be kept informed regarding what the Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee does about the merger issue. James noted that different lawyers often have different opinions and the Board should focus on the best way to serve the people. He expressed his weariness with money being spent on administrative staff without more services reaching the people. Segal commended Carrie Storrs for the report she delivered at the September meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Local Health Protection Grant Decrease Discussion

Peterson asked about the budget amendment that was requested at the September meeting after the Board learned the amount of the Local Health Protection Grant was reduced by the State of Illinois. Bork explained Deb Busey, County Administrator of Finance & HR Management, indicated a budget amendment was not necessary because the full expenditure was budgeted from

the Public Health Fund, the Board will just not receive as much revenue as it anticipated to offset the expense. Bork noted no invoice had been submitted by CUPHD for payment since the last meeting.

Issues Regarding CUPHD
Approval of CUPHD Contract

McGrath distributed clean copies of the revised contract between the Board of Health and CUPHD. She reviewed the general types of changes that were made. Some of the Board's concerns with previous CUPHD administrations no longer exist with the current administration, as Julie Pryde and staff have made efforts to improve communication between the two entities. Both McGrath and Fred Grosser, CUPHD's legal counsel, reviewed and revised this contract. McGrath confirmed the contract is ready to be considered for the Board's approval. Once it is approved by the Board of Health, the contract will be submitted to the County Board for its approval.

MOTION by Peterson to approve the CUPHD contract; seconded by James.

Segal asked about the contract being numbered differently. McGrath explained it was done to make it plainer so the contract does not have to be changed whenever the statutes change. Segal inquired about the use of the title "Public Health Department" when referring to the County Public Health Department throughout the contract although the signature page employs the title "Board of Health." Segal was concerned the use of the two titles was inconsistent. McGrath confirmed the use of the titles in the contract and on the signature page was consistent and appropriate in a legal document because the Board of Health is the governing body for the County Public Health Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

James asked if the contract could be amended during its term with the agreement of both parties. McGrath explained the ability to amend or end the contract during the term is included in the contract provisions.

Report from Acting CUPHD Administrator

MOTION by James to receive and place on file the report from the Acting CUPHD Administrator; seconded by Peterson.

James was very happy to receive the report in the mail. He spoke with the mobile unit driver and some of his constituents. He was pleased the mobile unit is more visible and the word is getting out about the services being offered. James and Segal wish the mobile unit would operate during night and weekend hours for the benefit of people who work during the day. The Board discussed the CDC grant and what it will mean for establishing some continuity of services in emergency situations. McGrath said the ultimate goal is to develop a coordinated county-wide emergency preparedness process. Rappaport wanted to know who in the County was participating in this planning. Roberts would check with Julie Pryde about inviting John Dwyer to the next meeting to talk about emergency preparedness.

Motion carried.

Division Monthly Reports – September 2008
Maternal & Child Health (Gowda)

Gowda was not present at the meeting.

Infectious Disease, Mobile Unit (James)

James spoke about the mobile unit earlier in the meeting.

Environmental Health (Peterson)

Peterson noted there has been discussion about developing fines for non-compliance with environmental health regulations to pay for the costs involved in re-inspections. Roberts noted the sewage and well water permits are the biggest areas of enforcement and McGrath reiterated the funding for enforcement has not been present. The Board continued to discuss various environmental health issues.

Wellness & Health Promotion (Ramirez)

Ramirez shared her experiences at the Illinois Drug & Alcohol Addiction Conference and the fears of everyone who works in human services about the state's budget position. The closing of treatment centers means more addicts will end up in emergency rooms and the corrections system, which will impact other services. Peterson noted the funding cuts at the Prairie Center affected the local emergency rooms. Ramirez reported that legislation passed requiring insurance companies to recognize mental illness as being fully reimbursable. She also spoke about a chronic disease health management program with grants through Extension Services and Family Services. She noted the leaders need honorariums for gas money to drive out in the County and suggested this as a funding possibility.

Issues Regarding Mental Health Board

There were no new issues.

Issues Regarding Smile Healthy

MOTION by Peterson to receive and place on file the Smile Healthy September 2008 monthly report; seconded by Ramirez. **Motion carried.**

Network of Care Discussion

Ramirez explained the Network of Care is a web-based program listing what is going on in the community regarding services. A couple of webinars were attended by CUPHD staff and Peter Tracy, among others. Rappaport said the Board would be hard-pressed to consider the Network of Care without CUPHD's involvement. James did not think an online service would be very useful

for low income people seeking services. He reiterated the need for more coordination of existing services to prevent duplication and waste.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items Only

There was no public participation on non-agenda items.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Board of Health Secretary

Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.