



# Kanawha-Charleston Board of Health

## Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2012

### Members – Present

Ms. Brenda Isaac  
Mr. Robert Reishman  
Ms. Shannon Snodgrass  
Mr. James Strawn  
Mr. Stephen Weber

### Presenting Guests

Dr. Rahul Gupta  
Ms. Lolita Kirk  
Ms. Janet Briscoe  
Ms. Krista Farley  
Ms. Susan Jordan  
Ms. Anita Ray

### Members – Absent/Excused

Dr. Arthur Rubin

#### 1. Call to Order – President

Ms. Isaac called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

#### 2. Report of the President – Ms. Isaac

##### a. Approval of the minutes from the September 29, 2011 and November 30, 2011 Board of Health Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Strawn and seconded by Mr. Weber to accept the minutes as presented from the September 29, 2011 and November 30, 2011, Board of Health meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. Report of the Health Officer – Dr. Gupta

##### a. Report on Legislative Wellness Project

Dr. Gupta reported that he had met with Kanawha County Delegate Meshea Poore over summer who wanted to discuss her concerns about the health issues and cardiac deaths that had occurred within the Legislature. Delegate Poore discussed with Dr. Gupta the possibility of developing a program that would monitor risk factors and make legislators more aware of potential health problems and ways to help prevent illness as well as help make a positive impact in their communities. As a result of the discussions, a pilot project was developed over past several months to provide health screenings for legislators at the Capitol. The dates for these screenings were January 18, 2012 and January 19, 2012. Several employees from the Health Department set up stations for various screenings: blood pressure; BMI; blood sugar; and cholesterol at the State Capitol. Using an I Pad app, Health Department staff was able to enter the patient's risk factors and provide a cardiac risk assessment to the legislator(s). Educational

information was also provided to the legislators, with the hopes that these political figures would be encouraged to go back to their communities and to help make the changes that must be made for these untimely and unnecessary deaths for citizens across West Virginia. This health screening was well accepted and it appears that approximately 25% of those individuals participated in the first year of this project. Plans are in the making for another such project in the near future. Dr. Gupta added the Capitol Nurse (Ms. Holly Smith) assisted the Health Department during the screenings.

Dr. Gupta went on to say that next month is Heart Month and that this was a good start to make individuals aware of the problems that cause heart attacks. He stated he feels if we can make the leaders aware, then that is where we need to start so that it can be passed on and that hopefully it will impact their thoughts on our overall health. It is hoped that this will be an annual event at the Capitol.

**b. Discussion of Health Department partnership with Highland Hospital**

Dr. Gupta stated he was pleased to inform the Board of the Department's recent partnership with Highland Hospital. Dr. Gupta added that he had been working with Mr. Strawn and Mr. David McWatters, CEO of Highland Hospital over the past several months and as result of their efforts a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been developed. The MOU will enable the Health Department to provide services to Highland's patients and staff at their newly constructed hospital. Ms. Snodgrass requested that the Board be allowed to review the MOU.

**4. Report of Board Sub-Committee on Finance**

Ms. Snodgrass informed the Board that the Sub-Committee had nothing to report

**5. Report of the Board Sub-Committee on the Food Establishment Public Notification System Review**

Mr. Reishman stated that the first meeting has been held and things are just getting started. He added the next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. and that he will have more information to share at the next Board meeting.

**6. Report of the Administrative Services Director – Ms. Lolita Kirk**

**a. Update on the Health Department's annual audit.**

Ms. Kirk informed the Board that the annual audit was conducted last month. She added the final report should be prepared by spring.

**7. Report of the Clinic Nurse Supervisor – Ms. Susan Jordan**

**a. Report on the flu shot clinic activity.**

Ms. Jordan informed the Board that as of December 31, 2011, KCHD had provided 14,624 flu shots as a result of 246 clinics. This includes daily clinics since September 1<sup>st</sup> at Lee Street, 90 community and business clinics, and 76 school located vaccination clinics. Ms. Jordan went on to say that flu season peaks between February and March, and we may see an increase in those wanting their flu shots. Ms. Jordan also informed the Board that number of flu shots provided in the each of the past two years has brought the annual number to match flu shots given 5 years ago.

This season has generated revenue of approximately \$71,000. This is an increase from last year's revenue of \$40,000. Dr. Gupta added that this in part due to cost control measures initiated by Clinic and Administrative Services.

Ms. Isaac stated that she feels the school vaccination clinics have had a positive impact on not only the attendance of the students, but the staff as well.

**b. Discussion of the new immunization requirements for 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students**

Ms. Jordan stated that along with some new immunization requirements for Pre –K, there are some additional state requirements this year for children entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. These rules are to go into effect the fall of 2012. The immunizations that are being required are TDaP and meningococcal.

Ms. Isaac stated that even though West Virginia has some of the strongest school immunization requirements in the country, we also have the lowest vaccination rate. She stated that she fears that this information is not getting out to the public like it needs to be and that many of the children that need the vaccinations won't get to start school due to not knowing. She added that the dropout rate is so high that she fears this new requirement may add to the rate. Ms. Isaac stated that increased publicity on the requirements is needed and requested that Health Department work on developing methods to increase public awareness.

Ms. Isaac requested that Dr. Gupta try to speak with someone on the State level as to if there might be some funding out there for the local health departments. She feels it is better on local level since we know how our areas operate.

**8. Report of the Director of Environmental Health – Anita Ray**

Nothing to report at this time.

**9. Report of the Director of Epidemiology & Threat Preparedness – Janet Briscoe**

Ms. Briscoe informed the Board that the bi-monthly and a 2011 end of the year report on outbreaks and communicable disease investigations were in their packets. Ms. Briscoe reported a summary of the comparison of KCHD outbreak numbers to total numbers reported in West Virginia in 2011.

Ms. Briscoe discussed with the Board the communicable disease laws and the reporting process.

**10. Report of the Director of Health Promotions – Ms. Krista Farley**

**a. Community Transformation Grant**

The West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health has been awarded \$1.8 million to support community-level efforts to reduce chronic disease by promoting healthy lifestyles. The initiative will provide funding to four local health departments (Kanawha, Cabell, Mid-Ohio and Berkley). Funding will be used to develop regional programs to reduce obesity risk factors, prevent or delay chronic disease and promote wellness through coordinated policy, systems, environmental

change and clinically proven interventions. Ms. Farley stated that she traveled to Atlanta in December for the Action Institute with nine other representatives from West Virginia, to learn how to effectively implement our plan and monitor progress and success. KCHD will need to hire five additional staff to implement the programs including the Chronic Disease Management and Diabetes Prevention Program. Ms. Farley stated that the initial grant will be for the next 9 months, with a possibility of funding continuing an additional 4 years. The amount awarded to KCHD for the initial phase is approximately \$305,734.00.

Ms. Isaac stated that the Board of Health would need to approve hiring the five (5) additional staff to conduct the programs for the Community Transformation Grant and request approval for the State Personnel Board to make the positions exempt. On a motion made by Mr. Weber and seconded by Mr. Strawn, the Board of Health voted unanimously to approve the hiring of the additional staff and request approval from the State Personnel Board to have the positions classified as exempt.

**b. Innovation Grant**

Ms. Farley informed the Board of the Health Department is partnering with community groups to apply to The Center for Medicare and Medicaid's Health Care Innovation Challenge funding opportunity. The purpose of the funding is to introduce compelling new models of service delivery and payment improvements which will provide better health, better health care and lower costs, through improved quality for Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP enrollees. The program will also introduce new models for workforce development and deployment. Ms. Farley stated KCHD's initiative will consist of teams which will focus on the health of citizens through chronic disease prevention and management programs, coordinated community resources and educational programs, identification and engagement of community health champions to serve as health coaches, worksite wellness, workforce development and community health screenings. The application, stated Ms. Farley, is due January 27<sup>th</sup>.

**c. Keys 4 Healthy Kids**

Ms. Farley informed the Board the Keys 4 HealthyKids project is beginning its third year with some exciting opportunities. The project is continuing to meet with physical activity providers to develop a system of scholarships for disadvantaged youth to participate in classes and other opportunities. The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation is actively involved as well as KRT and C&O Taxi to assist with the transportation barriers. Ms. Farley added a HealthyKids Toolkit is being developed. The Toolkit will be distributed throughout Kanawha County to assist with policy, system and environmental change, to impact the health of our citizens. In July, we will be identifying other communities in Kanawha County to provide technical assistance and support.

**11. Old Business**

None

**12. New Business**

**13. Public comment period**

None.

**14. Executive Session – personnel issue**

- a. At 5:35 p.m. Mr. Reishman made a motion to go into Executive Session, Mr. Weber seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made at 5:55 p.m. by Mr. Reishman and seconded by Mr. Weber, to return to regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

**15. Adjournment – 5:56 pm**

A motion was made by Mr. Reishman to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Weber. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, FACP  
Health Officer/Executive Director