

**MINUTES**  
**Goodhue County Public Health Service**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**Tuesday, September 19, 2006**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**County Board Room-Government Center**  
**Red Wing, MN 55066**

**Members Present:** Commissioners Dan Rehtzigel, Richard Samuelson, Jim Bryant, Ron Allen & Ted Seifert

**Others Present:** Karen Main, Sue Morgan, Jason Petersen, Kristine Holst.

**I. Call to Order**

Chair, Ted Seifert called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, Red Wing, Minnesota.

II. C/Seifert asked if there were any disclosures of interest. There were none.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

*Ms. Main added under New Business, a report on Immunizations from Nancy Wille.*

*Motion by C/Bryant, seconded by C/Samuelson, carried to approve the amended agenda for September 19, 2006.*

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

*Motion by C/Rehtzigel, seconded by C/Bryant, carried to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2006 Public Health Board meeting as presented.*

**V. Consent Agenda**

*Motion by C/Bryant, seconded by C/Samuelson, carried to approve the consent agenda for September 19, 2006.*

**VI. Review of Financial Reports**

Year to date positive revenue variance	\$75,079
Year to date positive expense variance	\$61,181
Year to date net positive variance	\$143,260

Ms. Holst reviewed the August 2006 finances for Public Health, a majority of it from South Country Health Alliance Revenues that were not budgeted for and the other major item is a positive employment variance due to home health aides and homemakers not working as much as budgeted.

**VII. Administrative Reports**

**A) Director of Public Health**

Major activities have been planning the implementation of the SCHA Care Coordination project including budget projections, estimating the impact of the SCHA project on the PHS 2007 budget, establishing work spaces, orienting new staff and planning for the development of Ability Care.

At the request of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation a complete formal proposal was submitted for the conduct of an evaluation of SCHA in terms of client outcomes, access, patient satisfaction and costs. This proposal was presented to the September meeting of Public Health and Social Service directors.

Staff has been evaluating the current status of the KIDS program in light of decreased future funding and the development of consistent county wide health and social priorities by the KIDS funding sources.

At a meeting of the KIDS Advisory Board, it was agreed that the program needs to increase participation partly by making it available at the locations where parents at risk gather such as WIC, the Women's Shelter etc. It was also agreed that prevention services should be expanded and that the KIDS program should start offering parent education in how to talk with children and youth about drugs, alcohol and smoking.

Considerable time has been spent working with Southeast Public Health Directors to define new responses to the current initiative of MDH with regard to tobacco use and youth. The current pattern of distributing funds to all counties and developing regional coalitions will be replaced by a more focused approach. The Southeast region has been considering a centralized approach led by Olmsted County or a more rural approach with more authority at the local level. This year they have limited the amount of money severely and have divided it half to greater MN and half to the 7 metro counties and within those they have divided it into policy initiative and the second being youth prevention activities. There was some discussion on the issue. Olmsted County came in with a proposal to use \$300,000 in each so they were going for \$600,000, which is a large chunk of the entire pot of money, the counties within the region could go with them or not and submit there's separately, one requirement is that there is a single person full time working on it and that the others would all do the project the same way.

Ms. Main made the decision to move with three other counties, Rice, Steele, Dodge, and Goodhue Counties will be writing their own proposal, will be working on youth prevention activities. We will be competing with Olmsted County and sorts of others around the State. The plan is if they do not get the grant money, then they will also submit it to the Blue Cross, we want to continue to be active in the youth prevention of tobacco. C/Bryant asked who would be the county to oversee the project. Ms. Main stated that was one issue that they would be looking at and will need to be decided.

Work has begun to develop a 180 hour practicum for a master's degree candidate in public health. Carmen Bertelson will be assisting with a number of projects having to do with various PHS departments. Karen Main and Susan Brace Adkins will serve as mentors.

## **B) Director for Nursing Report**

### **New Positions:**

Ms. Morgan introduced new nursing staff, Cindy Craig, PHN and Kim Flueger, RN. They started employment with us on 9/11/06. Public Health has also been working in tandem with Social Services to hire case aides and social workers under the merit system. Currently, they have two staff working in the case aide positions, Lisa Woodford and Denise Smith. Another case aide would be starting soon. Staff is anxious to make job offers for the social workers, and they also have new pods set up in the basement. Ms. Morgan invited the board to stop in and see how things have changed in Public Health.

C/Seifert welcomed the new staff.

Ms. Morgan stated that there remained an RN position open.

### **Care Coordination:**

Due to the new hires staff was able to proceed as directed by South County Health Alliance to start the new program of Care Coordination. Much of September would be spent planning, training and preparing. October will present them with the opportunity begin serving the clients of Goodhue County.

### **Policy Change:**

For years staff has struggled with the issue of how to deal with exposure to tobacco smoke in clients' homes. The home is the work environment for many staff: nurses, aides and therapists. It is well documented that being exposed to secondhand smoke poses health risks that are dangerous. The 2006 Surgeon General's report has even more substantial information about how secondhand smoke harms your health. As a public health agency, they feel they can no longer expect staff to work in an

environment that poses a health risk to them. Therefore, staff drafted a no smoking policy that would apply to the clients they work with. This action is consistent with the third Goodhue County priority of smoke-free workplaces. Included in the board packet was the draft policy along with a draft letter that would be sent out to all PHS clients, if the policy change was approved.

Staff will also mail an informational brochure along with the letter, to inform our client's of the health risks of secondhand smoke. The hope is to create awareness to encourage them to make their home environment smoke-free for themselves and their families.

*C/Bryant move, C/Allen second, motion carried to adopt the proposed no smoking policy effective 10/1/06.*

C/Allen asked how long the visits are and what the longest would be. Ms. Morgan thought an average visit is probably an hour, but some could last up to three hours.

C/Bryant noted the affects of second hand smoke are apparent. The County is not telling people that they could not smoke, but rather, the County would not provide a service because it is a health risk.

Ms. Morgan added that they would be sending out information regarding smoking to their clients as well.

## C) **Healthy Communities Report**

### **Disease Prevention, Control and Immunizations**

- The mumps suspected cases have been decreasing since June in Minnesota and in Iowa. Pertussis cases are down from the past 2 years as well in Minnesota.
- There are new measles outbreaks all over Europe, Africa and India and 40 west Nile virus cases so far and 3 deaths – only 1 bird reported for Goodhue County at this time.

### **KIDS: Handle with Care**

- The KIDS program coordinated a local walk at Bay Point Park held in conjunction with the Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota walk at Como Park on Saturday, September 9, 2006. Funds raised will be used for the local Abused Children's Program.
- The KIDS program will be sponsoring the author – Ada Alden - to come to Red Wing for all day training for professionals during the day and an evening for parents on November 30, 2006.

### **Health Priorities**

- The prescription drug/health insurance working group is putting together information for a speaker's bureau on a variety of issues dealing with RX, Insurance, care choices, sandwich generation stuff, etc. Staff will be putting together packets that will be housed out of the Faith in Action – Goodhue County office that will be available for community members to have if they have questions about these issues.
- The Prescription Drug Discount Program through NACO continues to grow. Over 1,107,000 Prescriptions Filled
  - Over 450 Counties Participating
  - \$12,519,000 saved by county residents
  - 21.3% overall average savings (continuing a trend of increased savings each month that the program has been available)
- Goodhue County has received August report for the RX drug discount card program. Ninety-three residents filled 172 prescriptions with the cards at discounts averaging 19.5% or \$8.00 per prescription. Over 85% of the time, the discount card provided a better price than the pharmacy could provide and this resulted in a savings of \$1,615.48 for 93 county residents in the month of August 2006.

- The County Fair was very busy. Public Health reached approximately 750 folks – with the interactive displays.
- Public health was represented with a new display board about obesity and healthy weight at the Cannon Valley Trail Anniversary on August 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Plans are underway to collaborate with Goodhue FCCLA members to initiate a “Do” campaign for the city of Goodhue from October 1 through November 1, 2006.

Ms. B.A. stated that one idea that came out of the PH advisory board committee was that if the county spent more time promoting the drug savings program; eventually it would mean more money for the residents of the county.

Ms. Wille stated that the report that is being shared is one that is done by the MN Department of Health; she reviewed how to interpret the report.

C/Bryant questioned if Public Health deals with home schooled children. Ms. Wille stated that it was up to the parents. Home school does not need to follow the law. C/Bryant asked if they receive the information on what is required. Ms. Wille stated that they do get the information from the school district even if they are home schooled.

Ms. Wille stated that she has ordered flu vaccine from three different vendors. Some of the vaccine will be here by the middle of October. 2800 doses were ordered. There is not a tiered system for priority groups this year as in the past; the vaccine is to be offered as soon as it arrives. One new group that they added to the high risk category is children under five years, from 6 months to 59 months.

Ms. Main thought that it was commendable that Minnesota is one of the highest vaccinated and Goodhue County was one of the highest in the state.

#### **D) Environmental Health Report**

##### **Nitrate testing at the County Fair**

Public Health, along with SWCD and Solid Waste, has offered free nitrate testing at the Goodhue County Fair for several years. Residents can bring a sample of their water to the Fair and Environmental Health can provide nitrate results within a few minutes.

There were 113 water samples brought in to be tested. That is almost double the number in previous years. The safe drinking water standard for nitrate is 10 parts per million (ppm) or less. 21 of the samples brought to the fair exceeded the 10ppm standard.

The map included in the board packet was provided to show the number of people that have brought water samples to the fair over the last ten years and the general locations. The yellow dots are for nitrate levels of 0-5ppm, green 5-10ppm, red 10-20ppm and blue is above 20ppm.

The public is provided with information and handouts addressing water quality, health effects and other topics.

##### **Variance Request for Loving Residence**

###### ***Issue:***

Loving Residence LLC, is a lodging with supportive services business, located at 1760 Perlich Ave. Red Wing. The business holds a current Food Establishment license and a Lodging license from Public Health.

Loving Residence was originally licensed for ten residents and was exempted from the commercial equipment standard. Loving Residence currently has eleven residents and is no longer eligible for the exemption.

MN Rules Chapter 4626.0505 J states “When food service or a food operation in a child care center, residential care home, supervised living facility, apartment building with congregate dining, boarding establishment, bed and breakfast, or similar establishment is limited to serving ten or fewer individuals, domestic equipment may be substituted for the commercial equipment required under this part.”

Sandra Macdonald has applied for a variance to the commercial equipment standard required by MN Rule 4626.0505 B. “ Food equipment installed or placed in service after June 6, 1989, shall meet the applicable NSF International food service equipment standards specified in this item...”

***Findings:***

Goodhue County as the regulatory authority may grant the variance if:

- A. the variance was requested in the manner prescribed in part 4626.1690; *The required information has been submitted/provided.*
- B. the variance will have no potential adverse effect on public health, safety, or the environment; *The establishment has been maintained according to the rules. The additional resident will have no foreseeable negative impact on the operation.*
- C. the alternative measures to be taken, if any, are equivalent to or superior to those prescribed; *Maintenance of the existing equipment shall provide an equivalent standard for the intended use.*
- D. strict compliance with the rule will impose an undue burden on the applicant; *Converting to a commercial kitchen will cause a disruption to the residents and a significant expense to the business.*
- E. the variance does not vary a statutory standard or preempt federal law or rule; and *The variance is not contrary to any known statute, federal law or rule.*
- F. the variance has only future effect. *The request does not apply to any past violations.*

Staff recommended approving the variance with the following conditions:

- 1.) The current equipment must be maintain in good operating condition,
- 2.) The current equipment must be maintained in a sanitary condition,
- 3.) The variance is not transferable and expires on December 31, 2009,
- 4.) The maximum number of residents is eleven,
- 5.) Violation of any condition automatically terminates the variance.

*Motion by C/Rechtzigel, second by C/Bryant, motion carried to approve the variance request, along with the recommendations listed and that food code is followed for Loving Residence.*

**VII. Old Business**

**VIII. New Business**

**IX. Committee Reports**

**X. Other**

**A) Approval of Disbursements**

August 11, 2006 – September 8, 2006, \$38,090.75

*Motion by C/Allen, second by C/Bryant, motion carried to approve the above listed disbursements.*

**XI. Adjournment**

*Motion by C/Bryant, second by C/Allen, motion carried to adjourn the Public Health Board meeting.*

Respectfully Submitted:

Ronald Allen  
Secretary

Karen Main  
Director of Public Health