

Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
October 24, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health was called to order in the Council Chambers located at 200 East Berry Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana, at 5:45 p.m., pursuant to the notice sent to all Directors in accordance with the bylaws.

The following Directors were present: Dr. William Pond, Patricia Hays, Deb Lambert, Dr. Todd Rumsey and Ted Sobol. Mary Hess and Tim Pape were absent.

Dr. William Pond, President, presided over the meeting. Jennifer Miller recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Dr. Pond called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Motion was made and approved to accept the April 16, 2016 minutes.

Summary of Motions Passed at this Meeting:

- Motion was made by Dr. Rumsey to approve the April 16, 2016 minutes. Patti Hays seconded the motion. (MPU)
- Motion was made by Dr. Rumsey to make a formal request of the Inspect Pharmacy Board to include more variables, identified by the board, in patients' records. (MPU)

Board Appointment Reports:

Sewer Board Update – Gary Chapple, Director of Pollution Control (the Board's representative and ex-officio member on the Allen County Regional Water and Sewer District):

- Construction is completed on the current round of projects. Homeowners in all but one area have received a notice to connect from the District, and the final area (Tonkel Rd. & Hursh Rd.) should be approved by the Board of Works on Wednesday, October 26 and the connect notices sent Thursday, October 27, 2016. The Department of Health is working with homeowners on the septic abandonment process as they connect to sewer in those areas. In addition, the District did approve funding for 6 septic replacement systems in areas where sewer is not an option. Two of those have begun construction. Design is moving forward on the next round of sewer construction projects for the District, with funding to close sometime after the first of the year. The Department of Health has recently received the list of people who have requested an exemption from connecting to the sewers in those projects. Twenty homeowners requested exemptions and eleven are eligible under the statute and we will contact those owners to work with them through the inspection process.

Health Commissioner's Report – Deborah A. McMahan, MD

- **Opiate Crisis** – Dr. McMahan said there are a lot of community initiatives taking place. Dr. McMahan mentioned that she had read about some libraries in bigger cities that are seeing a lot of overdoses at their facilities. Earlier in the day, Dr. McMahan and a group of community partners met with Greta Southard the Director at the Allen County downtown library. Dr. McMahan said that Ms. Southard is very willing to provide opportunities for screening at their location and is also interested

in having their staff trained on Narcan administration. Mindy Waldron added that the Director is very willing to help share information that will help the community.

- **SSP Protocol**- The department received final approval and declaration for the SSP. Dr. McMahan said she hopes to have the opening soon. The department could not apply for grant funded supplies until the letter of approval was received. The opening is now dependent on when supplies are received. Dr. McMahan said she plans on having two events at the SSP location. One for the media – so they can walk through the center and experience what it is like. The other opening will be for the board and some of the other individuals who have been on the Opiate Task Force so they can see what this SSP facility looks like. Dr. McMahan said, “We want to take the mystery out of what this will be like.” She said the events are planned for December.
- **Live PBS Show** - On, November 17th the department is partnering with the local PBS station for the viewing of a documentary created by the Bloomington PBS station that tells the story of how the opioid crisis started in Indiana. After the documentary – there will be a one hour live show that will feature experts in the area of addiction and treatment. Attorney General Zoeller, Dr. Joan Duwve and Susie Cisney are just a few of the experts that will be sharing their expertise. A phone bank will be available for viewers to call in with basic questions about mental health issues. Health Care students will be gathering to watch the show and then a discussion will be facilitated by a medical professional to help them explore these topics. Dr. McMahan said she is very grateful to PBS to allow our community be a part of this.
- **Opioid Series** - Dr. McMahan thanked the Journal Gazette for their series of articles on Opioid and Heroin Abuse. “It helps so much to put a face to these problems. This series has done a lot in terms of community education,” she said.
- **Media Event** - Dr. McMahan asked Mindy Waldron to share information about the media event planned for later in the week at the downtown library. Mindy explained that the event will have stations for the media to visit. Each station will be staffed by a local expert and be interactive to let the media learn more about community efforts to combat the opioid crisis.
- **NAS Group** - Dr. McMahan said the Neonatal Abstinence (NAS) group has been actively meeting. The group has developed strategies for treating infants born with NAS. The Department of Children Services (DCS) has emerged as a great partner in this collaborative effort to establish standards of care for these infants in terms of addressing the medical needs of these babies. The other group strategy was to ask the regional patient safety coalition to come up with some standards for care for those born with NAS and some of the other issues that accompany this problem.
- **State Wide Curriculum** - Dr. McMahan asked Dr. Pond to explain what is occurring as far as a state wide curriculum on opioid abuse. Dr. Pond said Representative Zent from northern Indiana has asked to reintroduce his legislation this year. Dr. Pond said that the curriculum would try and change attitudes and educate children from elementary up to secondary schools. Rep. Zent also asked for a resolution of support and that came unanimously from the Indiana State Medical Association. Dr. Pond said with that support, Rep. Zent will hopefully be able to get all stake holders together to gather input. Dr. McMahan added that there has not been a consistent effort to establish an evidence based curriculum. She hopes to see an emphasis on the medical aspect of addiction as well

as a focus on mental health. She said there is a commitment from the Fairbanks School of Public Health and the Indiana Attorney General's office to help lead the effort.

- **Overdose Study** - Dr. McMahan asked Jana Sanders, Informatics Director, to share the recent expanded results of the Overdose Deaths in Allen County. Jana shared information that the 2016 Research team revealed. Some of the conclusions that Jana shared in her presentation included: 1) Overdose deaths in Allen County increased 93% from 2008-2015 2) The presence of opioids increased to 90% in 2015. 3) Heroin-related deaths have increased steadily since 2011. 4) Overdose deaths due to fentanyl have tripled since 2013.
- Board discussion on the role of Inspect in overdose reporting continued after Jana Sanders' presentation. Dr. McMahan asked the board if they would be willing to send a request to Inspect to include more information in a patient's records. Dr. McMahan asked the board to send her ideas on what variables should be requested. Dr. Rumsey made a motion to make a formal request of the Inspect Pharmacy Board to include the variables identified by the board in their program. (MPU)
- **Children's Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)** – Dr. McMahan said the Education and Physical Health Committees had identified increasing early screening for developmental delays as a primary goal. This summer, Fort Wayne Community Schools asked for help with their Kindergarten Countdown program in screening children. Dr. McMahan said that in one school system 7 of the 19 kids who participated from the school system were identified as delayed – although concerning, she said there is a group of community partners who are willing to get together and figure out how to help these children. This small effort was the beginning of a pilot study funded by AWS and spearheaded through St. Francis that will screen young children in schools and daycares and start a concentrated effort to turn things around for these children. Patti Hays said, "This is model for collaboration in the community. I think it is a wonderful model and I hope we will be able to address some of these issues of being two times higher than the national average on diagnosing developmental delays." She added, "It is much easier to address these issues with children at an earlier age."
- SEE ACTUAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES.

Communicable Disease Report – Deborah A. McMahan, MD

- **Kathy Thornson, STD/HIV Director**, said the CDC just released figures showing that syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia are at an all-time high nationally. She reported that cases of chlamydia continue to climb in Allen County. Gonorrhea cases are slightly lower than last year's cases at 489 (2015 cases totaled 510). However, Kathy pointed out that there is a 13% increase in the 19 and under age group with this diagnosis. One of the 2016 goals was to target this population. Kathy indicated that there is more focus on testing younger population. Dr. McMahan mentioned that there were quite a few pregnant women who were infected and would not seek treatment. Dr. McMahan would like to ask the Indiana State Department of Health for a health directive to send something in writing to emphasize how important treatment is for them and their baby.
- **Susie Cisney, Clinical Director**, shared information about a new outreach clinic started at a community partner's location in an effort to reach more young adults and adolescents. The

location in the zip code area where more STI's cases are reported for this age group. Although just recently started, the effort has been very effective. Testing takes place one afternoon a week, after school. There has been a steady increase in testing numbers.

- **Erika Pitcher, Director of Community Health and Case Management**, shared information about this year's TB and Hepatitis C cases. Erika said this year, as about three weeks ago, the area is officially in a TB outbreak. For 2016 there are 18 cases. The age range of patients is 11-months-old to 68-years-old. Ten cases are confirmed pulmonary cases, 8 are clinical cases. Because some patients had a lot of contacts, the department had conducted many case contact investigations. The total number of active contacts tested this year for TB is 1,164. Dr. McMahan said the Mayo clinic was consulted on all of the efforts made by the department. She also thanked the many community partners were very helpful in efforts in testing and treating patients. She said this has been a very large effort to undertake and the staff has been very busy.
- Board discussion took place on the requirements for testing medical students for TB before they work in a health care facility.
- Erika reported that so far for 2016, there are 222 Hepatitis C Cases. Last year's total was 234. She said 62 reported current or past history of IV drug use.
- SEE ACTUAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT FOR ALL OTHER ISSUES

Administrator's Report – Mindy Waldron

- Mindy discussed the costs for treating the TB patients. The Indiana State Department of Health helped cover costs. The grant came within 30 days of the request. This helped offset the costs for all the screening and additional items needed. Mindy estimated the costs to the department would have been approximately \$16,000. Mindy said she would like to thank the state for all the help they provided. Dr. Pond suggested drafting a letter of appreciation to the state.

SEE ACTUAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT FOR ALL INFORMATION SHARED (but not discussed).

Personnel Report – Mindy Waldron

- Ryan Sievers was hired as a part-time Environmental Technician for Pollution Control.
- Sarah Winling was hired as a part-time Administrative Assistant for Vector Control.
- Brenda Carter was hired as a full-time Administrative Assistant for the Medical Annex.
- Holly Kelly-Curry was hired as a full-time Medical Assistant for the Medical Annex.
- There are currently openings for a part-time nurse and Vital Records clerk.

Old Business

None

New Business

Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Rumsey. (MPU)

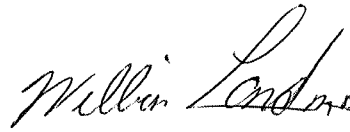
Adjournment: 7:11 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: January, 23 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Health Commissioner



William Pond, MD
Board President