

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
OCTOBER 11, 2012

Attendees: Scott Garrison, Lynn Jones, George Kellner, Dr. Kevin Ketring, Rita Hart, Jean Hicks, Cammie Mitrione, Dr. Barry Webb

Absent: Mayor Doyle Webster

The minutes of September 13, 2012 were approved unanimously. (Correction: Lynn Jones was absent.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2013 Food License Fee Proposal

Mrs. Mitrione stated because of Public Health Futures, Mayor Webster had suggested keeping the fees the same as 2012 which are similar to Hamilton County's fees. Mrs. Mitrione had Butler County's fees and their fees for 2012 were almost identical to Springdale's proposed fees.

Mrs. Mitrione explained the reason the mobile food license fee was so high was because the year before there were two mobiles. This year there is only one and the overhead costs are also figured in.

Dr. Ketring was concerned that if we don't raise the fees at all, then when we do there may be a dramatic jump. He would rather see them go up a little at a time. Scott Garrison agreed.

The Health Commissioner will bring in legislation at the next meeting with three fee schedules: one the same as last year; one the new proposed fees; and one with an average of the two. The board will make a decision at that time.

Public Health Futures

Mrs. Mitrione said there have been a few more meetings and one is scheduled next week on the Public Health Futures. She said there is a list of nine recommendations. One is to allow for permissive multi-county levy authority for public health services and one is to make it easier for city/county health departments to merge, consolidate or contract together. Mrs. Mitrione said most of the smaller jurisdictions are not for the proposal. She said the Ohio Board of Health offers training and education to local boards and perhaps our board should have someone come in and do some training at one of our meetings. She said there are three pieces of legislation referred to in the recommendations and she will voice her opinion when she feels it is necessary to do that for Springdale. She also said the Mayor wants to know if she sees any legislation coming.

Mrs. Mitrione stated that it appears that Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) has been in the process of positioning themselves to attempt to become the County provider of some key public health services. One prime example is when recently HCPH was awarded the STD program by ODH which had been managed by the City of Cincinnati for many years. The City of Cincinnati actually has the majority of the STD's that occur within the county. The transfer of the program from City to County was neither necessary nor supported by other health jurisdictions in HC. It appears that the STD grant was pulled out from under the City of Cincinnati and awarded to HCPH in the manner that appears to be more about politics and the politics of consolidation

than it is about public health efficiencies or service quality. She also said that without any discussion between the parties involved that being HCPH (grantor) and SHD (subgrantee) that HCPH has decided to withhold about 1/3 of Springdale's PHEP grant dollars in 2011-12 for Epi services. HCPH had been providing Epi services over the past approximately six years for no charge. SHD is not opposed to paying for the Epi services, but should have a choice as to whom they contract with as well as participate in a conversation relating to charges.

Ohio Health Community Award

Mrs. Mitrione reported that Springdale had won the Gold Health Ohio-Healthy Community award for the third year in a row. The City will be receiving a plaque.

Bedbug Complaints

Mrs. Mitrione said the Health Department received a complaint from someone who said they got bedbugs at Showcase Cinema. The Health Department and a bedbug sniffing dog inspected the theater. The dog showed an interest only in one area but that seat was taken apart and there was no bedbug activity seen in the area. Someone had reported on Facebook that Chili's had bedbugs. There was a problem and Chili's had the restaurant heat treated to solve the problem. A complainant at The Willows had a problem with bedbugs and it appears that a caregiver from Amen Health Care brought the bugs in. Another complaint came from a tenant in a house and the tenant's mother who lives there also, has a caregiver from Amen.

NURSE'S REPORT

Meningitis Outbreak

Mrs. Hicks stated there is a fungal meningitis outbreak that was caused by contaminated epidural pain relief injection medication from New England Compounding Pharmacy are being investigated. So far, there are no active cases here in Springdale. One hundred seventy people in the US have been diagnosed with it and fourteen have died. Three of those people diagnosed are from Ohio of which one is from Hamilton County. No one in Ohio has died. Mrs. Hicks stated people who contaminated epidural pain relief injection medication from New England Compounding Pharmacy are being investigated. So far, there are no active cases here in Springdale.

In response to a question from Dr. Ketring, Mrs. Hicks stated they don't know what fungus it is. There is speculation that the drugs were contaminated at a compounding pharmacy. There are no preservatives in the drug.

Mrs. Hicks said the number of cases of flu being reported is low. Ohio and Indiana have the highest numbers because of the outbreak of pig flu at fairs.

Mrs. Hicks said West Nile Virus is still around. Even though we had a dry summer, there was an abundance of mosquitoes.

Health Fair

Mrs. Hicks reported the number of flu shots given at the Health Fair on October 9 was low. She said there were 86 Medicare recipients and 66 others, including Springdale City employees. Mrs. Hicks said the numbers are down by 100 because a lot of people got the shots from their doctors and pharmacies that have it readily available.

Mrs. Hicks stated the Health Department will continue to give flu shots by appointment. She said the Health Department is taking appointments for the immunization clinic also.

At the Health Fair, persons had their blood glucose checked thanks to the Lions Club. Blood pressure checks, Hct/Wt/BMI screenings were also offered.

Diabetes Disease Management Healthy U Workshop

Mrs. Hicks said she had been actively campaigning at the Health Fair and Council on Aging Expo for the Diabetes Disease Management Healthy U Workshop but only has four people interested so far. She said they really need ten people for the group.

Hispanic Coalition –

Mrs. Hicks reported they are planning a Latino Expo on Nov 18th at the Sharonville Convention Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Cammie Mitrione, RS
Health Commissioner