

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
ROCK ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

TIME: 5:30 p.m., Thursday, April 6, 2017
PLACE: Education Room, Rock Island County Health Department
2112 25th Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois 61201

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Mr. Leon Gibson, Secretary
Mr. Ed Langdon, County Board Representative
Dr. Patricia Barron
Mr. Randy Jacobs
Ms. Sommer Livengood, ARNP
Dr. Prem Viridi

MEMBERS

ABSENT: Mr. John Neary, President
Ms. Kate Varlas Teel, Vice President
Dr. Mark Bollaert
Mr. Doug Vroman
Mr. Rick Ryckeghem

STAFF

PRESENT: Ms. Nita Ludwig, Public Health Administrator
Mr. Gary Bryant, Chief Financial and Information Officer
Ms. Janet Hill, Chief Operating Officer
Ms. Linda Livengood, Chief Nursing Officer
Ms. Jyla Vipond, Administrative Office Assistant

Board Secretary, Leon Gibson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION The minutes of the March 2017 meeting were approved with a motion by Ms. Livengood, second by Mr. Jacobs. Motion carried.

MOTION The following resolutions to accept and appropriate funds were approved with a motion by Mr. Jacobs, second by Mr. Langdon. Motion carried.

- Medical Reserve Corp fund for the upcoming grant year (\$13,000)
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness project specific carry over funds (\$15,000)
 - Hardware and software for system servers and network
 - Repair or replace LED sign in front of building

Mr. Bryant reviewed the financial reports for the period ending March 31, 2017, with revenues of \$208,765 and expenditures of \$393,350 for a total net loss of (\$184,584). Mr. Bryant pointed out the (\$612,039) Net Loss for the YTD actual amount is mostly due to delayed payment of grant funds from State which now total \$563,435.

The Health Department's balance sheet shows a cash balance of \$34,813.06 and investments of \$308,000.00. The department's cash balance projected for April 2017 is \$66,905. The grants receivable totals for FY17 is \$563,435.

Based on the Long Range Projected Weekly Cash Flow report, computed out to the first tax distribution at the end of June, it appears applying for the Tax Anticipation Warrant will probably not be necessary.

MOTION The financial report was approved with a motion by Mr. Jacobs, second by Ms. Livengood. Motion carried.

A timeline of events, composed and read aloud by Ms. Ludwig, opened the discussion on the future of the Family Planning and Women's Care Clinic programs. As recommended at the last Board of Health meeting, several board members and staff spoke with Henry County Health Department and Tom Bowman of Community Health Care. It was determined the both places could provide the services for the Rock Island County clients.

Several members of the audience voiced concerns and opinions about the plan to discontinue the programs.

Mr. Miguel Morga, Union Representative for the Health Department employees, wanted to ensure that every possible solution has been considered and no opportunities overlooked to keep the programs going. He suggested requesting an increase in the tax levy received from the county.

Mr. Scott Terry, a Rock Island County board member, confirmed that even if an increase in the tax levy was approved, it would be two years before it was received. He expressed concerns that every avenue to sustain the programs has not been explored as he had not been approached for help. He stated that there are other options at the County Board's disposal that are not available to the Health Department board members such as educating the public and networking with the folks at the State level.

Mr. Jacobs commented that to continue sustaining programs that are losing money impacts the other services provided by the health department.

Mr. Bryant once again reviewed what it would take financially for the programs to break even which would mean cutting staff to 24 hours per week thus eliminating paying benefits. From a staffing and service stand point this would hardly be feasible.

The board ask Ms. Ludwig to explain the plan if the programs were discontinued. She first explained that we cannot delegate or subcontract the grant out. It is up to the State of Illinois decide who gets the FY18 grant. Next she covered the options available for clients needing services. For teenagers, the Rock Island or Silvis Link offices could provide services, along with Planned Parenthood, Edgerton or CHC and for those covered by insurance, private medical practices.

Another possible option is working with the Henry County Health Department's Family Planning Program. If they were to apply for and receive the Rock Island County grant, it is possible their nurse practitioner could work 2-3 days a week and still serve Rock Island County women here in this building. Rock Island County women could also go to their Colona office. Ms. Ludwig noted that if the grant went to a local health department and the State starts backing these programs with funding, it would be possible to get the grant back in the future. However, if the grant goes to CHC, it would not be likely that we would ever get it back.

Also, RICHD would still have STD Clinics here for men and women provided through the Infectious Disease Program.

Finally, the staff of the affected programs have seniority rights and currently there are two full-time and one part-time nursing position open. The nurse midwife would be laid off; however, CHC expressed an interest in talking with her.

MOTION: A motion in the long term interest of the Health Department as a whole to discontinue the Women's Care Clinic and the Title X Family Planning Program, as neither program is able to generate the revenue required to break even due to sizable reductions in grants, the number of unfunded and underfunded patients served along with the increase in operating expenses was made by Mr. Jacobs, second by Ms. Livengood.

Another motion to table this motion for a month was made Mr. Langdon, second by Mr. Gibson. A roll call vote was taken.

TOTAL YES - 4 Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Langdon, Dr. Barron

TOTAL NO - 2 Ms. Livengood, Dr. Viridi

Motion carried.

MOTION A motion to approve the Service Delivery Report made by Ms. Livengood, second by Dr. Barron. Motion carried.

MOTION A motion to approve the Administrator's Report made by Dr. Barron, second by Mr. Jacobs. Motion carried.

MOTION A motion to approve the Human Resource Report made by Mr. Langdon, second by Mr. Jacobs. Motion carried.

MOTION The claims were approved with a motion by Dr. Barron, second by Dr. Viridi. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Gibson, Secretary, by
Jyla Vipond, Administrative Office Asst.

LG/jv