

TETON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2017

Present: Austin Moyer, Melissa Moyer, Tim Sinton, Barb Shaffer, Randy Morris, Ken Bassmann, Gayle Harris, Jim Hodgskiss, and Elaine Sedlack.

Guests: Lora Wier and Glenn Deuchler.

The meeting was called to order by Melissa at 5:35 pm in the county courthouse conference room.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the October 17, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Ken moved they be approved as written. Jim seconded the motion and they were approved unanimously.

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Old Business: Austin reported that the business in Power did get their kitchen hand washing sink operational soon after our last board meeting.

A discussion was held on the problem of non-compliance in facilities. Austin reported that he has given businesses until the end of this year to comply with the requirement that at least one food service worker pass the Safe Serv Food test. This is a problem for some, especially at the senior centers where the employees may not have taken any kind of tests for years. The test costs \$45 and is given 3 to 4 times a year and a test proctor is needed so local folks usually have to go to Great Falls for the test. His preferred way to deal with out of compliance businesses is to tell them if they are not compliant by the end of the year he will not renew their license. He said some counties will move to cancel a license after several visits or immediately if the violation is more serious. Austin said usually a problem is taken care of after one or two subsequent visits or sometimes immediately while he is there. It is usually just a matter of educating the owner. Elaine asked if he charged for the subsequent visits. He said he does not. He would rather work with the people and has had good cooperation so far. Jim said he has gotten good feedback from business owners on Austin's approach.

In the event of a serious problem that is not corrected and poses a risk to the public's health he would call an emergency meeting of the board which can be done with 48 hours' notice. Gayle said it would be important to have a good paper trail and be consistent in handling non-compliant businesses.

Austin reported that he met the 90% of inspections required by the state for payments to the board for 2016. The cooperative agreement was reviewed. Austin said he inspects tattoo parlors but does not feel qualified to review plans for establishing a tattoo parlor as he has no training in this and no longer has another sanitarian overseeing his work.

New Business:

Teton County Public Health Updates: Melissa reported Teton County is experiencing 4 to 6 cases of influenza per week and there have been 18 laboratory confirmed cases. By mid-December DPHHS was accepting rapid tests as confirmation of influenza due to the volume of cases. There have been 32 cases in Teton County with 30 being influenza A and 2 influenza B. Six county residents have been hospitalized. They were all over the age of 80. From December 26th to January 6th 12 residents of Skyline Lodge were diagnosed with influenza and 6 were hospitalized. Two staff people also had influenza. The Skyline staff handled the outbreak well by confining those who were ill to their rooms and the staff wore masks when entering those rooms. Of the individuals hospitalized 4 were not immunized and 2 were. Among the Skyline residents health department records indicated 2/3 were unimmunized although some may have been immunized by other health care providers. Only 2 staff members were immunized. Tim said the vaccine covered part of the influenza virus.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness: Lora reviewed the updated Health Alert Network (HAN) Plan. Elaine reported there is a new veterinarian at Double Arrow Vet Clinic who should be added to the list. She also asked why Erin Jones, RN wasn't on the sheriff's call down list and Lora replied only 3 people needed to be listed.

Specimen Transport Plan: Elaine asked about the possibility of Board of Health members transporting specimens in an emergency as she could foresee a problem occurring where all local emergency responders would be needed locally and not able to travel to Helena. She also suggested the role of the health department could be more clearly defined.

Lora said she took each plan to all the individuals having a role to play in the plans and explained their role to them. The board felt that was an excellent idea.

Lora provided a Public Health Legislation Priorities Update. She said the Montana Public Health Association sends out action alerts and she will send them to the board members who can act on them at their own discretion.

The primary seat belt law which would allow law enforcement to stop a vehicle if its occupants were not wearing seat belts did not make it out of the committee. There was considerable testimony in favor of the bill from individuals who were personally affected by friends or family members who died in accidents while not wearing seat belts and only one person who spoke against the bill saying it should be personal choice and not a government mandate.

She also reported on a bill that would ban local communities from setting anti cell phone and text ordinances for drivers.

Diabetes Prevention Program Update: Glen reviewed the results of the 2016 program. There were 28 participants at the beginning with only 16 participating at the end and only 12 at the final weigh-in. Twenty seven were self-referred and one referred from outside but none were health care provider referred. They achieved a 4.4% total weight

loss, 1.28% body fat loss, and a total of 27mg/dl reduction in fasting glucose rates. The 2 for 1 local program has been successful with couples joining. A problem is the incidence of weight gain after the conclusion of the program is over 50%. Repeaters bring the overall stats down and are not successful.

The CDC has updated the curriculum for 2017. There are currently 25 enrolled of which 16 were enrolled in 2016. Only 8 of those 16 were active throughout the year. Problems are reducing attrition and minimizing weight gain after the program is completed. There are weekly class sessions with guest speakers and exercise classes twice a week. In addition enrollees are encouraged to exercise on their own.

Gayle said she has found it very helpful to meet weekly to set goals. Glen agreed that goals should be short term rather than 1 long term goal as the program dictates. Most of the enrollees have been by word of mouth but he does do some advertising. He would like to do exercises and lab draws in Fairfield also. The class is large. He may try splitting the class.

The meeting was adjourned by Melissa at 7:00 pm.

Tim Sinton, PA, Chairman

Elaine Sedlack, Secretary