TETON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

June 18, 2018

Present: Lin Wright, Ken Bassmann, Melissa Moyer, Jim Hodgskiss, Tim Sinton, Austin Moyer, and Elaine Sedlack.

Absent: Randy Morrisa and Barb Shaffer.

Guests: Lora Wier.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm in the Teton County Courthouse Conference Room by Melissa Moyer.

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 16, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Tim moved the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Ken and approved unanimously.

Old Business: Melissa read the letter she wrote to the Choteau City Council in support of the REACT group’s request for the city to establish a policy that all city parks be tobacco free. Tim moved that the letter be approved as written. Ken seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Local Egg Producers: Austin talked to Roy Hall of the Department of Livestock who said that as long as buyers are not mislead it is OK for small local stores to sell locally produced eggs that are ungraded. Grading is for size and color purposes only. Austin said if there was an outbreak of a foodborne illness related to eggs he would recall all the eggs and check with all the producers. He said there is a bakery in Power that may sell eggs from 3 local producers but may do grading.

PHEP:

Communicable Disease Plan: Lora reviewed the changes made to the plan based on our discussion at the April 16th board meeting.

Non-Pharmaceutical Intervention Plan: Lora reviewed the changes made to the plan based on our discussion at the April 16th board meeting.

New Business:

Teton County Public Health Program Updates:

Tobacco Free Schools of Excellence: Melissa reported the Fairfield Schools have received their certificate as being a Tobacco Free School of Excellence. Only the Dutton/Brady Schools remain and they will work on getting them certified next year.

Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion:
CONNECT Referral System: Melissa reported Teton County is the Hub site for Teton, Chouteau, Liberty, Toole, Pondera, and Glacier Counties. All prevention programs are now combined into one and some additional programs are being added particularly programs previously run by the Office of Public Assistance such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and Medicaid applications. The CONNECT Referral System is a web based referral system originally run by the Office of Public Assistance but lacking follow-up on referrals. Only 17% of referrals were followed up on previously. Currently Lewis and Clark County has a pilot program for the CONNECT Referral System and their follow-up rate has increased to 83%. The program relies on Memorandums of Understanding between agencies so one agency can make referrals to another in an organized manner. Unfortunately the system is not currently funded. It will be expanding slowly. Teton County will be the pilot for our 6 county region and will be unique because our region does not have a central large city. Melissa believes it is a great idea but will be very time intensive to get others trained and invested in the program. Although there is no money now hopefully there will be later so they can hire someone to contact program partners.

Addition of Diabetes Prevention Program: Melissa reported the Diabetes Prevention Program has now been added to the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Program.

FY 2017-2018 Cancer Screenings: Melissa reported the breast and cervical health program screening goal for the region was 250 screenings. They screened 212 with most (194) being Native American women. She feels the program may eventually vanish. She doesn’t know how changes to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act will affect the program.

Addictions Task Force- Montana Health Care Foundation Grant: Melissa reported that the Community Health Assessment survey found 70% of citizens were concerned with addiction and substance abuse issues. In response to that an Addictions Task Force was formed including law enforcement, schools, extension office, hospital, and community members. A “Partnership for Better Heath” 12 month grant was applied for last week and they will know in July if it is approved. The grant proposal is based on SAMSA which is an evidence based framework. A Gateway person from Great Falls will help them get started and they will probably start by working with the schools and parenting classes. They will search for intervention ideas that are the most effective and realistic for our area. Melissa said the state health department is working on a similar plan and she hopes we could be a pilot program. The task force meets monthly.

Substance abuse and addictions affect all socioeconomic groups. The question of a drop off point for unneeded drugs was discussed. Melissa said she has medication deactivation kits available. Elaine said maybe we should advertise
that the highway patrol office in Great Falls has a 24 hour drop box. Jim mentioned that Walgreens in Great Falls also has a drop box.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

Rabies Management Plan: Lora reported she and Austin wrote the plan. In the event of an animal bite Austin deals with the animal with the assistance of law enforcement if necessary and Melissa deals with the person bitten. Austin said he is getting good cooperation from local law enforcement. He said even vaccinated pets get quarantined for 10 days, usually at the home of the owner or a veterinarian office although veterinarians are reluctant to house an animal that may have rabies. The main reason post exposure prophylaxis is recommended is if the biting animal cannot be located. The vaccine is usually given at the hospital or doctor’s office. It is very expensive. The state health department recommendations and the protocol followed by the hospital are not always the same which can cause confusion. The state health department should be consulted. Elaine moved that the Rabies Management Plan be approved as written. Tim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Emergency Medical Countermeasures: Lora reviewed the plan. Elaine requested the POD Flow Sheet indicate that sick individuals arriving should be directed to a site other than Support Table 1 where the people needing assistance will be located, especially if the event involves a contagious disease.

Environmental Health and Sanitation Updates:

Pit Privy Variance: Austin reported that a landowner wants a variance to install an outdoor privy with a holding tank on a 12 acre parcel for use by seasonal workers. Elaine inquired about a hand washing sink. Austin said none will be included because that would also need a holding tank. Elaine inquired about what is being grown on the land – food for human consumption such as strawberries or animal feed. It is an irrigated crop such as hay. Tim moved that the variance for the pit privy with holding tank be approved. Ken seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm.

The next meeting will be September 24th at 5:30 pm at the Teton County Courthouse Conference Room.

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Tim Sinton, P.A., Chairman                                    Elaine Sedlack, Secretary