

TETON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2017

Present: Barb Shaffer, Jim Hodgskiss, Melissa Moyer, Ken Bassmann, Gayle Harris, and Elaine Sedlack.

Absent: Tim Sinton, Randy Morris, and Austin Moyer.

Guests: Lora Wier and student nurses Lindy Schroder and Danielle Crawford.

The meeting was called to order in the county courthouse conference room at 5:31 pm by Melissa Moyer.

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 17, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Barb moved the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Ken and approved unanimously.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business:

Board of Health member terms ending: The terms of Gayle Harris and Randy Morris are ending with the end of the fiscal year. Gayle indicated that after many years on the board she is ready to step down if a replacement in the Fairfield area can be found. Melissa will solicit a replacement from that area. She will contact Randy to find out if he wants to continue on the board.

Teton County Public Health Updates:

Maternal Child Health:

Breastfeeding in the Workplace: MSU nursing students Danielle and Lindy presented the results of their survey. They contacted working mothers with a child under 12 months and also talked to employers in the Choteau and Fairfield area. Mothers reported that although their employers provided a place to breastfeed or pump the biggest barrier to breastfeeding at work were their fellow employees. Those employers not familiar with the laws regarding breastfeeding requested additional information which was sent to them by Dawn the health department's lactation consultant. Many women stop breastfeeding at 3 months when they return to work. Very few women are still breastfeeding at 6 months. The students felt it would be helpful for employers to have written policies regarding breastfeeding they could share with their employees. And women need to be empowered to feel comfortable asking. They felt it would be helpful to discuss this with mothers before they leave the hospital.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

Pandemic Influenza Plan: Lora presented the updated plan for review. It has been previously approved by the board but needs to be reviewed yearly. Ken, who has experience writing plans, has been helping her with the plans.

Communicable Disease Response Plan: Lora presented the updated plan for review. It has been previously approved by the board but needs to be reviewed yearly. A couple of minor changes were suggested.

Collaborative Community Health Needs Assessment: Melissa presented the results of the assessment. The health department is required to do a community health needs assessment every 5 years and Benefis Teton Medical Center is required to do one every 3 years. Last year several focus groups around the county including youth, adults, and senior citizens were involved in the process. This year an online survey was sent to 300 professionals with 130 responding. Both TCHD and BTMC are working together and hired an analyst to analyze the data and prepare a report. They have formed a 22 member stakeholder advisory committee which has been meeting weekly for several weeks. They chose 3 top health care related problems in Teton County and established objectives:

1. Access to Health Care
 - a. Increase the recruitment of new graduates in health care fields
 - b. Increase access and knowledge of existing insurance navigation services
 - c. Explore home health opportunities and feasibility
2. Healthy Aging
 - a. Reduce stigma and increase resource awareness among senior citizens and those who serve them associated with seeking services and support
 - b. Establish a volunteer work program to assist senior citizens in Teton County with non-medical daily activities
3. Mental Health.
 - a. Decrease social stigma and increase awareness of mental health issues and available resources
 - b. Increase funding for mental health services through local, state, or federal lobbying and activism

They developed intervention strategies for each objective and are having a public meeting on July 31st at 6:30 pm at the Stage Stop Inn to present this information. Both TCHD and BTMC are developing strategic plans this summer and are encouraging the Teton County Mental Health Local Advisory Committee to do the same. Melissa noted that the Fairfield High School has an EMT class and also a job shadow program and Choteau High School now requires 20 hours of community service for graduation. She also noted that the Center for Mental Health now has only 1

counselor for 4 hours per week in this area. Some previous clients have to go to Great Falls but have no transportation. She also noted that in the statewide youth behavioral risk assessment 19% of youth reported misusing prescription drugs in their community.

eWIC roll-out in September: Melissa reported there are 113 enrollees in WIC. Instead of receiving paper checks WIC enrollees will be getting EBT cards which will be easier for both the clients and the businesses. For National Breast Feeding Week the health department received a box of nursing bras to give out. She also reported that Dawn is working on achieving another level of lactation consultant training. The breastfeeding peer counselor, who is located in Pondera County, has been reaching out to pregnant and nursing women in the area.

Environmental Health and Sanitation: There was no report as Austin is in Billings for training.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm. The next meeting will be October 16, 2017 in the courthouse conference room at 5:30 pm.

Tim Sinton, P.A., Chairman

Elaine Sedlack, Secretary