

MINUTES

September 23, 2019 Health Board Meeting

Grant County Complex ~ Council Chambers

Members Present

Dr. Ihrke
Dr. Renfroe
Dr. Miller
Dr. Pearson
Dr. Leighty
Chuck Poling

Members Absent

Charles Choate

Staff Present

Dr. Moore
Amber Turner
Tara Street

Meeting was called to order at 5:04pm.

New board member Dr. Denise Pearson was introduced and welcomed.

Approval of Minutes

August 19, 2019 minutes were approved as written.

Foods Division Report

Dr. Moore presented the Foods Division report due to Dale Carr and Dean Small attending IEHA Fall Conference. Dr. Moore explained the goal of routine inspections being conducted twice annually for all food establishments. Complaints are followed up with at least one visit and typically require follow-up inspections.

Nursing Division Report

Amber Turner presented the Nursing Division report. Amber stated influenza season has started early in Grant County with 40 cases being reported to date. Dr. Renfroe inquired about the STI clinic. Amber stated it is rather hit and miss with an average of one client per week. Amber feels the close proximity of the Sheriff Department is a deterrent to many potential clients.

Environmental Division Report

Dr. Moore presented the Environmental Division report. Dr. Moore shared information about two illegal septic installations that have occurred recently and the process the Health Department, working closely with the Indiana State Department of Health, is taking in order to assure the illegal systems are corrected.

Vital Records Report

Tara Street presented the report for the Vital Records Division. Some discussion was had about how the death statistics should be collected. Dr. Renfroe stated this data is important to the overall health of the county. Dr. Ihrke feels data from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation would be a good starting place.

Updates from Dr. Moore

Dr. Moore along with the Health Department would like to figure out what we can do, with our part-time director and limited staff, to make an impact on Grant County.

With a goal of gaining clarity about Preparedness Grant requirements and expectations Dr. Moore has met with a representative from District 6 Preparedness, HCC director Rick Brown and Bruce Bender, Grant County EMA Director. Mr. Bender will be helping the Health Department put together a table-top exercise.

Old Business

- On Site Septic Ordinance – The proposed Grant County On-Site Septic System Ordinance was presented. After some discussion the following amendments were recommended:
 - replace “certified” with “certified and registered” in all areas with the exception of Section 5. Definitions, sub-sections D & E
 - add wells to Section 8. Permits, sub-section B, part e
 - amend Section 6. Installer Requirements, sub-section D to require certification renewal every two years
 - effective date November 1, 2019 (pending Commissioner approval)

Dr. Renfro motioned to call for a vote. Ordinance passed (with amendments) by unanimous vote. Will be forwarded to the County Commissioners for approval.

Chuck Poling wanted to “give props” to Peggy Bradley and Jeff Couch for going above and beyond in assisting him with a client prior to their leaving for conference.

- Fee Ordinance – The proposed Grant County Health Department Fee Ordinance was discussed with the following amendments recommended:
 - remove the \$2,500 daily fine for installing an on-site septic system without a permit.
 - installation of an on-site septic system without a permit a flat \$15,000 fine.
 - effective date November 1, 2019 (pending Commissioner approval)

Dr. Miller motioned to call for a vote. Ordinance passed (with amendments) by unanimous vote. Will be forwarded to the County Commissioners for approval.

- Health Officer Evaluation – Dr. Renfro explained the mechanism being worked on. Dr. Leighty and Dr. Pearson will work with Dr. Renfro on creating a process for an annual Health Officer evaluation. The evaluation will be discussed in executive session after the December 16, 2019 regular Health Board meeting.

New Business

- Commissioner Ron Mowery would like to speak with the board in executive session to clear the air about some recent miscommunications. Commissioner Mowery also commended Dale Carr, Dean Small and Amber Turner for the work that they do.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm

Next meeting December 16, 2019. Will be followed by Executive Session

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tara Street