

**Cincinnati Board of Health
Board of Health Meeting
March 22, 2011**

Dr. Wael Safi, Chairperson, Board of Health called the March 22, 2011 meeting of the Cincinnati Board of Health to order at 6:20 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Ms. Joyce Kinley, Dr. Jeff Lange, Dr. Wael Safi, Dr. Richard Schwen, Dr. Donna Shambley-Ebron, Dr. Brad Wenstrup and Dr. Stephen Wilson

Board members absent: Dr. Mark Dato

Senior Staff Present: Dr. Noble Maseru, Dr. Camille Jones, Mr. Bob Schlantz, Dr. Larry Holditch, Dr. Marilyn Crumpton, Ms. Joyce Tate, Rocky Merz and Dr. Mohammad Alam

MINUTES

December 14, 2010 Board of Health meeting minutes

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the minutes of the December 14, 2010 Board of Health meeting.”

Second: Dr. Brad Wenstrup

Vote: (By Acclamation- Yea/Nay): Unanimously approved

January 25, 2011 Board of Health meeting minutes

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the minutes of the January 25, 2011 Board of Health meeting.”

Second: Joyce Kinley

Vote: (By Acclamation- Yea/Nay): Unanimously approved

February 22, 2011 Board of Health meeting minutes

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the minutes of the February 22, 2011 Board of Health meeting.”

Second: Dr. Jeff Lange

Vote: (By Acclamation- Yea/Nay): Unanimously approved

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bob Schlantz presented a financial report. He gave board members handouts of budgets for every health center, primary care and where the money comes from—grants, revenue or General Fund dollars. The handouts also explain administrative costs, lab and dental administration costs. To run the health centers it is about \$15.2 million—a large bulk is personnel costs. Nonpersonnel costs are \$3.3 million and personnel are almost \$12 million.

The dental budget was broken out specifically. Dental costs about \$3.2 million. Revenue for dental is \$970,000.

Information was provided about number of visits, payer mix, age and race.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATION 00053— GENERAL SANITATION

Dr. Alam presented information about General Sanitation Regulation. Changes have not been changed in at least 18 years even though programs have been added or ended in the time. Healthy Home federal regulations will be added. The Healthy Home program is ready to start.

Suspending the three readings rule

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health suspend the rule requiring three readings as it applies to the Resolution amending Board of Health Regulation 00053- General Sanitation, in accordance with Article V, Section 2 of the Board’s bylaws.”

Second: Dr. Lange

Discussion: No additional discussion

Vote/Action: Motion passes unanimously and approved

Vote on Regulation 00053

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the amendments to Board of Health Regulation 00053—General Sanitation.”

Second: Dr. Lange

Discussion: No further discussion

Vote/Action: Motion passes unanimously and approved

**BUDGET REVISION PROPOSAL FOR SCHOOL AND
ADOLESCENT HEALTH—PROPOSAL FOR REVIEW AND
CONSIDERATION**

Dr. Marilyn Crumpton presented an update about work being done for School Health Program by Health Foundation. So far, Health Foundation and School Health has had two meetings with Vice Mayor Qualls and Councilwoman Quinlivan.

School Health and Health Foundation came up with an alternative cost-saving proposal. The revised model takes 13 current public health nurses and replaces them with unlicensed school health assistant. Other districts in Ohio, as well as school district in Baton Rouge, are using this model. This proposal is being considered since it will be difficult to generate the funds needed to run program as is for the 2011-12 school year with the given time line.

These unlicensed people receive training from nurses and the nurses are responsible for the work the health assistants do—putting additional burden on nurses. A discussion occurred regarding administration of medicine—Cincinnati Public Schools employees may be delegated tasks.

The Board of Health expressed concern over having unlicensed health assistants, mainly losing the assessment ability that nurses have—a large portion of nurses' jobs.

The Health Department is looking into reimbursements in order to pay a major portion of nurses' salary. However, reimbursement rate is low and barriers to consent for services, delivering services, billing services and getting reimbursed are great. The Health Department is looking for this in the future; however, it may not be possible for this to occur for next year.

The Health Department wants to expand the School-Based Health Center model giving schools a nurse practitioner in the building where there is poverty and health need with funds. School-health based health centers are basically self-sustaining because of reimbursements.

Bob Schlantz, as well members of the Board, complimented Dr. Crumpton's work in working to run the program next year.

The Board expressed concerns about not having school health nurses in each school, especially if something happens to even one student. Furthermore, if the current model is changed, it may be difficult to go back to this model.

The Board asked what else it can do to help the School Health Program. Suggestions include talking to councilmembers, talking to foundations and corporate sector, considering creative funding models.

ROUTINE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Dr. Steven Zaret—Nancy Carter, Dental Director, spoke about Dr. Steven Zaret. Dr. Zaret retired and will return part-time. Dr. Zaret will work specifically with emergency patients, so dentists can see regular patients.

Allison Franklin—Dr. Jones, spoke about Allison Franklin who was Sanitarian-in-Training and now being promoted to Sanitarian in General Environmental West program. She was trained as lead-risk assessor and worked on grants.

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the personnel actions on the list identified as Attachment No. 8 dated March 21, 2011.”

Second: Dr. Shambley-Ebron

Discussion: No further discussion

Vote/Action: Motion passes unanimously and is approved.

CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

Medlab—Contract

\$500,000 March 5, 2011 – December 31, 2011 (Bob Schlanz)

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the agreement with Medlab in amount of up to provide lab services for the Health Department.”

Second:

Discussion:

Vote/Action:

Rose Webster, CHD Lab Director, spoke at the meeting. She distributed letters from agencies in support of the lab. Webster spoke in favor of keeping the lab instead of outsourcing the lab. She also thanked all the current lab staff.

Dr. Safi spoke and said that any decision made is not a reflection of quality of employees or service provided, but rather that the Health Department is currently facing difficult decisions.

Dr. Maseru provided background on possibly outsourcing lab. City Council made decision to cut funding for the lab. The City Manager's recommendations did not include cutting the lab. Health Department tried to keep the lab open through Medicaid maximization. The department was told it would receive an answer March 29 and through financing the lab stayed open past original shutdown date of March 5, in hopes the department would hear an answer from federal government about Medicaid maximization. The lab is closing April 4.

The proposed contract is with Medlab.

The board discussed passing a contract contingent upon not acquiring funds from the federal government by April 4. However, this would need to be changed in the contract, not passed by the board.

The Board wanted to see the termination provision before voting on the contract, so it moved onto voting on other contracts and will go back to Medlab contract.

Cincy Smiles Foundation—Contract

\$125,000 5/1/2011 – 12/31/2012 (Nancy Carter)

This is an amendment to a three year contract with Cincy Smiles. Currently, the Health Department hires a dental and dental assistant for McMicken Dental Center for Homeless and Cincy Smiles uses grant to pay half the salary. With amendment, the arrangement is flipped and Cincy Smiles hires the dentist and the Health Department pays half the salary and won't pay dental assistant (savings of \$50,000). The dentist at McMicken will take over a vacant position at the Health Department.

Furthermore, the Health Department will be turning over more administrative functions and billing over to Cincy Smiles—saving the Health Department time in areas where the Department has lost staff.

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the amendment of up to \$125,000 between the Cincinnati Health Department and Cincy Smiles Foundation to change the scope of services, dollar amount and term.”

Second: Dr. Jeff Lange

Discussion: No additional discussion

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved

Karen Evans, R.N. —Contract

\$66,000 April 4, 2011 – March 31, 2012 (Dr. Camille Jones)

Dr. Jones explained this contract is for Karen Evens who has retired from Communicable Disease and is coming back as contractor because it is specialized area of expertise, and there are certain requirements and certifications required. The purpose of contract is to continue to provide communicable disease services and provide training for new person to take over communicable disease unit and outbreak investigations for other health department employees.

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the agreement for up to \$66,000 with Karen Evans, who will provide individual training and orientation for communicable disease unit and administrative responsibility for Ohio Disease Reporting System.”

Second: Joyce Kinley

Discussion: No additional discussion

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved

Medlab

The Board went back to discussing the Medlab contract and discussed the termination without cause clause. The contract says that “After a period of one year, client may terminate agreement with a 90 day notice if they are able to restart their internal lab operations...” Contract is saying Health Department is locked into one year contract. There is no Medicaid maximization clause.

A decision needs to be made for logistical issues to be worked on to ensure lab services are not stopped.

Other concerns were raised if Medicaid maximization came in, there may be issues with enacting Medicaid maximization in time to not disrupt service.

Questions over money and Medicaid maximization remained so the contract was not voted upon at the meeting and a special meeting would be scheduled to vote on lab contract.

The Health Department will contact Medlab to consider changing contract to reflect the Medicaid maximization in the contract.

Dr. Elizabeth Kelly

The amendment to the contract was not on agenda. Dr. Kelly is currently vice-chair for OB-GYN at University Hospital and Medical Director for Maternal and Infant Health. This amendment will expand Dr. Kelly’s contract—and will be responsible for supervision and administration and direct report of employees in Maternal and Infant

Health section. City HR has approved and endorsed this expanded contract. Kelli Kohake has worked as interim director; however the Health Department has not required funds for this position. This will also enable greater clarity in department because employees will know who their direct supervisor is.

Proposed Motion: At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“To amend the specification of the contract with Dr. Elizabeth Kelly to expand the scope of services

Second: Dr. Jeff Lange

Discussion: No additional discussion

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved

HEALTH COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS/BOARD MEMBERS’
COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Maseru talked about strategic actions the Health Department is doing to increase financial solvency, including FQHC status, which will especially be important when health reform laws are enacted in 2014.

Dr. Jones announced neighborhood specific mortality data press conference for week of March 28.

Dr. Alam discussed Healthy Home program. The program will allow the Health Department to seek permission of resident to find other problems in home, not just inspect a specific complaint. This will help investigate asthma causes in children.

Dr. Jones discussed the \$4.5 million lead grant to make homes lead-safe for low-income families.

There is also a health impact assessment on layoff bumping, and the Health Department wants to continue health impact assessment.

Dr. Holditch said the syphilis outbreak may be improvement in numbers. The Health Department is targeting specific neighborhoods

On April 5, there is primary care retreat—doctors, nursing, dentists, pharmacists, clinic staff management and leadership team—to see where Health Department is, vision for future and issues regarding Electronic Health Records, call center, etc.

Joyce Tate discussed the separation of Elm Street from Neighborhood Health Care (voted on at February Board of Health Meeting). The documents were submitted to HRSA, and Health Department should be hearing something shortly.

Rocky Merz discussed the success of lead press conference and resulting media coverage. The Health Department also participated in press conference for launch of sleep safe campaign—effort of Health, Police, Fire departments, county entities, as well as corporate sponsors. Billboards will be released throughout Cincinnati. The campaign focuses on “Sleep in Peace, not Rest in it.”

Furthermore, Neighborhood Summit is happening April 2 with focus on comprehensive plan. Dr. Jones is doing a session on neighborhood mortality data and Health Department will have a booth.

Dr. Maseru, Dr. Safi and Rocky have been working on a letter to send to Tax Levy Review Committee regarding Indigent Care Levy. The Indigent Care Levy and Child Services Levy are both up to go on ballot in November. The Review Committee makes suggestions to Hamilton County Commissioners about levy. The letter will stress the need for services provided by Indigent Care levy.

Dr. Alam briefly discussed releasing a press release about flood activity.

Dr. Safi talked about the hard work to develop short term solutions and long term sustainability for the Department

NEXT MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2011 with contingency of special Board of Health meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Safi adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

March 22, 2011 Board of Health minutes

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes Approved by:

Kathryn Rosenbaum, Clerk to the Board
Cincinnati Board of Health

Wael Safi, Pharm.D.
Chairman, Board of Health