

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

March 11, 2014

The Vernon County Board of Health met Tuesday, March 11, 2014 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, Erlandson Office Building. Members present: JoAnn Nickelatti, Ruth McClurg, Frank Easterday, Glenda Sullivan, Shawn Redington, and David Banner.

Others present: Elizabeth A. Johnson, RN, BSN, Director/Health Officer & Dave Geske, Vector Control Manager, LaCrosse County Health Department

Excused:

Absent: Sherrie Seidel, Brian Turben

Meeting called to order by Chair JoAnn Nickelatti at 1:00 PM.

AFFIRMATION OF PROPER PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING

Public Notice of Meeting was properly advertised and posted.

REVIEW PROCEEDINGS OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the February 11, 2014 BOH meeting were presented and reviewed. Glenda Sullivan moved to accept 2/11/14 minutes as presented. Seconded by Ruth McClurg. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Francis Hynek, Vernon County Board Supervisor present at meeting to discuss referral he made to the Health Department regarding tires and other items on a property near St. John's Catholic Church, Hillboro. Chair, JoAnn Nickelatti and Elizabeth A. Johnson, RN, BSN, Director/Health Officer assured Mr. Hynek that the Department was working on the issue and the property owner is waiting for the weather conditions to change so they can begin the clean-up process.

DAVE GESKE, Vector Control Manager, La Crosse County Health Department - Report on vector control activities in Vernon County during 2013

Mr. Geske provided a written report on the vector control activities in Vernon County during 2013. The goal of the program is to set in place an ongoing regional effort for control of vector-borne disease that affects the health of the residents. Interruption of the vector host cycle, and therefore prevention of human and animal infection, is the ultimate goal. The partnership between La Crosse and Vernon Counties has been in place over thirty-five years.

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Mr. Geske discussed the ticks and vectors that cause Lyme Disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Ehrlichiosis, Babesiosis, West Nile, Powassan, Anaplasmosis and La Crosse Encephalitis and what his team is doing for surveillance, habitat control and public education. Those three items are the essence of the vector control program. The program monitored 517 mosquitoborne disease habitat sites in Vernon County during 2013. The total number of traps placed was 1120 in an effort to collect adult female mosquitoes in the process of laying eggs. The samples are collected for viral testing at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Prevention through vector population control is essential to limiting human contact with arboviral diseases. It is estimated by Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) that the expense of one clinical case of La Crosse Viral Encephalitis, not taking into consideration the pain and potential ongoing central nervous system problems for the person infected, could fund the multi-county vector control program for approximately 10 years.

Vernon County has not had a reported case of La Crosse Encephalitis in the past two – three years. The funds historically provided for this program has saved our residents not only a tremendous amount of pain and suffering but potentially, millions of dollars in medical costs associated with La Crosse Encephalitis and other vectorborne diseases over the course of the past 35 years.

Board of Health thanked Mr. Geske for all of his diligent work in the area of vectorborne diseases.

REVIEW AND VOTE ON VOUCHERS

Bills for February 2014 were presented and reviewed. Shawn Redington moved to allow payment of bills for February 2014. Seconded by Frank Easterday. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- Public Health

-Discussion of Public Health Preparedness and Response, SouthWest Consortium update and purchase of equipment/supplies.

- The date for the next Mass Fatality Management meeting is March 25, 2014 with community partners- Emergency Management, Coroner, Hospitals, Funeral Directors, Law Enforcement and Public Health. The plan is to be drafted by September 2014.
- Work continues with the Public Health Preparedness Consortium to work on Public Health Capabilities for 2013-14.

NEW BUSINESS

- WIC Program update/Equipment/Supplies

- The WIC participant count for February 2014 was distributed to the Board of Health. Discharged 17 participants from the program and added 29 new ones.
- WIC Staff provided outreach during February by doing a radio spot with Karen Dahl for WVRG, Viroqua and an interview for a newspaper article for the Vernon County Broadcaster, Viroqua.

-Public Health

● **Update on Environmental Health Activities**

- Tire site outside of Redmound – No new activity on this property. Waiting for snow to melt to see what is actually left.
- Mr. Moris has been working with Vernon County Human Services, Corporation Counsel and the Court on a case whereby an individual was found in her home with no heat and consequently the water pipes had broken. The court hearing was held and the individual will be going into treatment for 90 days.

- **Budget Reports - February 2014.** Budget reports for February 2014 presented and reviewed. David Banner moved to approve the February 2014 budgets as presented. Seconded by Shawn Redington. Motion carried.

- **Public Health Report.** Miss Johnson distributed the report for February 2014. Communicable Disease, Immunization and Referral Reports reviewed by BOH.

- **Approve updated Public Health Policies/Procedures.** The following Public Health Policies/Procedures were reviewed by the BOH:

- ▶ Record Retention Policy
- ▶ Professional Staff Licensure Policy
- ▶ Communicable Disease Policy/Procedures
- ▶ Food and Waterborne Disease Policy/Procedures
- ▶ Rabies Control Policy

David Banner moved to approve the Record Retention, Professional Staff Licensure, Communicable Disease, Food and Waterborne Disease and Rabies Control Policies/Procedures as presented and reviewed. Seconded by Ruth McClurg. Motion carried.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEXT MEETING DATE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION NOT REQUIRING A VOTE

- Next Meeting

- The April 2014 meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2014 @ 1:00 PM
- The May 2014 meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2014 @ 1:00 PM

ADJOURN

David Banner moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Shawn Redington. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth McClurg, Secretary

