

**BAYFIELD COUNTY
HEALTH BOARD MEETING
Friday, August 8, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.**

Present: Winefred Punjak, Dee Kittleson, Wayne Williams, Jim Beeksma, Jim Crandall, David Good
Absent: Elaine Kopp, Grace Heitsch
Employees: Millie Lindsey, Cathy Ekholm
Others: Barb Feltz, Health Department summer intern

1. **Call the Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Chairperson Kittleson.
2. **Approval of June 2, 2008 Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2008 meeting was made by Beeksma; motion seconded by Crandall. Motion carried.

Lindsey introduced Barb Feltz to the boards. Barb is a summer intern from UW-Stout. She went to school for a degree in health promotion and wellness. She needed to do an internship. She has been doing employee wellness strategic plan drafting, newsletters, working with Terri on employee wellness and marketing presentations for the Health Department.

3. **Review of 2008 Home Care Budget:** Home Care is almost \$18,000 over budget. This is a result of having to go into January with the program when all we budgeted for was close-out expenses. Now we are running into Medicare taking money back after they had paid us. It is typical for Medicare to pay an anticipated amount and then recoup what is overpaid. In the past they have just recouped that money from future reimbursements. Since we no longer billing Medicare for services, we are having to pay this back by check. About a month ago we got call from Medicare to review records for reimbursement purposes. They were told that all the records were contaminated with Mercury. It would be noted that the records could not be obtained.
4. **Review of 2008 Public Health Budget:** The Public Health expense budget is \$850,000; the revenue is \$533,000. To date our expenses are \$396,000 and the revenue is \$286,000.
5. **Direction of 2009 Health Department Budget:** We are just getting started with the department budget. We could not use the County budget system in New World until July 23. Also, we have not heard from the State about our grant funds. We are not getting any Pandemic Influenza money next year. Although the County is hoping to decrease fuel costs, i.e. heating, electric, by 10 percent. We will be able to raise mileage costs 10 percent in our budgets. This committee is not required to approve the budget but the Board should see it. The Board did not think a meeting needed to be held before the budget is submitted unless there were major changes.
6. **Staffing Update:**
 - a. **Public Health Nurse Vacancy:** Tina Hagstrom is our new public health nurse. She started mid-July. This position has been open since March.
 - b. **Registered Dietician Vacancy:** Our Registered Dietician, Charlie Wroblewski, retired August 1. We have one candidate that is very interested and feel she would do a good job. We have not heard from her in writing that she is accepting the position.
7. **Communicable Disease Report:** We are getting many more reports of Lyme Disease in Northern Bayfield County. It used to be the southern part of County, such as Barnes, Cable and Drummond. Now we are seeing more in the Bayfield and Washburn areas. We receive the reports from labs and physicians' offices. We received notice of one person reported to have TB. As we screened the person we questioned whether this person did indeed have TB. We recommended and paid for a blood test to be done; it is more precise than a skin test. The blood test came back negative. We also have a person coming in for TB medication.
8. **Public Health Report:**

- a. **Wellness Activities:** Work is being done on a strategic plan for employee wellness. We are working with eCare, our computer HRA company, to set up a point system for wellness activities. It will be piloted with a few people to start. Employees will get an incentive based on the number of points they accrue for working toward wellness objectives. We have trouble getting highway employees to participate. The plan is to go to them rather than have them come to us. They have an all staff meeting two times per year. We would be able to talk to them and promote at that time. We could also go to the highway garages around the county and do a presentation. Activities are being planned. A family picnic is set for September. This will kick off the wellness challenge. People will be encouraged to visit various sites around the county that have physical activities, i.e. the Great Lakes Visitor Center walking trail, the Jolly Trail by Bayfield. Brown bag lunches are being done quarterly. Information Services personnel been inviting people out at noontime for kick ball, etc. We will be coordinating with them.
- b. **School Nurse Grant:** Bayfield School District received the grant again this year. It is for \$36,000. They will be contracting with us for nursing services in Drummond School District and South Shore School District. We will also be supervising the Bayfield School District nurse because she does not have a BS degree. Washburn School District has there own nurse so they will not be contracting for services.
- c. **Oral Health Program:** We received the Seal-A-Smile Grant in the amount of \$7,500. We go into Bayfield, South Shore, and Washburn School Districts. We do not go to Drummond School District because CESA 1 has a similar grant and their service area is Drummond. We are writing for a Blue Cross/Blue Shield grant. It will be for \$450,000 over a three year period. Five counties are jointly writing for this grant. The target population will be pregnant women. We would offer preventive dental care to. Dr. Kvanbeck's office is closed on Mondays and he has offered it for use to use free of charge. We should be hearing in December if we are awarded the grant and we would start services in March. Fluoride varnishes and dental exams are being done in head starts. Because the health department has a Registered Dental Hygienist we can bill for oral exams. This year the Federal Regulations agreed that a Registered Dental Hygienist dental exam qualifies as the required headstart dental exam. We have been doing oral exams on 95 percent of the children in the headstarts already. The headstarts are very happy. It is hard to get dentists to do exams on children with Medical Assistance. The City of Ashland has put \$115,000 toward a dental clinic in Ashland to service Ashland and Bayfield County residents. They are looking for Ashland and Bayfield Counties to donate \$15,000 each. Showing community support helps Senator Jauch get funding for this. There is a dentist that wants to work in this clinic.
- d. **Preparedness Update:** A meeting was held with the Bayfield County Jail, Northern Lights Health Care Center, The Lakes Community Health Center and Red Cliff Health Center regarding the anti-viral distribution plan. Clinics and the jail need to decide by December 31, 2008 if they want to participate in the anti-viral distribution program. If they decide to participate they will receive anti-viral meds. Clinics need to meet certain criteria to participate. We need to get together with Ashland County Health Department to see how we interface. We received a directive that our small preparedness consortium needed to be disbanded. We must participate in the regional consortium which is much larger. The Director is going to propose the consortium hire a consultant for the northern counties.

9. Environmental Health

- a. **Inspections/Facilities:** There have been 252 annual inspections done to date. Bayfield County has 441 that require annual inspections. Forty reinspections have been done and 40 preinspections have been done. We now have an Environmental Technician that is focusing on inspections for tourist rooming houses. That is the area that has been the lowest on our priority list. The technician has been working with zoning and the chambers of commerce on getting unlicensed tourist rooming houses licensed.

10. **Next Meeting Date:** Governor Doyle will be at The Lakes Community Health Center on August 12, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. There will be a round table discussion. The Director has been invited to participate. Senator Jauch will be there as well.

A meeting in September will be scheduled if needed. The next Board of Health meeting will be scheduled for Friday, October 10, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. The Board of Health is considering the Health Board meetings being the second Friday of every other month.

11. **Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn was made by Beeksma; motion seconded by Good. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Cathy Ekholm, Recording Secretary