

**Minutes of the Board of Health
Health Department of Northwest Michigan
May 1, 2012**

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Board of Health was held in the Conference Room at the Health Department in Gaylord, Michigan on May 1, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. Chairperson, Jack Jones presiding and Linda Yaroch, Health Officer. Six members of the Board of Health were in attendance, establishing a quorum.

Members in attendance: David Howelman, Shirlene Tripp, Jack Jones, Les Atchison, Doug Johnson, Richard Sumerix

Member Absent/Excused: Karen Bargy, Robert Drebenstedt

Staff in attendance: Linda Yaroch, Dr. Joshua Meyerson, Tina Lamont, Patricia Fralick, Scott Kendzierski, Jane Sundmacher, Bert Notestine

Staff Absent/Excused: Christie Vogelheim, Carol Paxton

Guest in attendance: Jim Harrington, American Lung Association

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Doug Johnson and supported by Richard Sumerix to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2012 meeting. All yeas. Motion carried.

Public comment: None.

STAFF REPORTS

Written reports were distributed with agenda for review prior to the meeting from the following staff:

- Linda Yaroch, RN, MPH, Health Officer
- Joshua Meyerson, MD, MPH, Medical Director
- Tina Lamont, RN, Director of Home Care & Aging Services
- Patricia Fralick, RN, MBA. Director of Family & Community Health Services
- Carol Paxton, RN, MSN, Director of Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Scott Kendzierski, MS, REHS Director of Environmental Health Services – Scott reported on the Septic Tank Riser Lid Policy, letters were sent to all septic tank contractors, local engineers and all tank manufacturers. Policy will become effective on May 15, 2012.

Well First Policy was extended we notified well drillers and affected property owners, also notified CEO of Shanty Creek.

CMI Inland Beach Grant proposal deadline is May 11th; the last time we were funded for twelve inland beaches, there may be fewer Health Departments competing so larger awards may be granted.

Milton Township Point of Sale was approved by the township board and the effective date is 180 days from Inter-governmental agreement with our health department. We will provide Point of Sale inspections and the township will be responsible for enforcement. Communication plan is in place for the public and realtors. Other townships are interested, Torch Lake and Elk Rapids. Antrim County is exploring this concept.

RESOLUTION - BERT NOTESTINE

Motion: Motion was made by Doug Johnson supported by Richard Sumerix to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Bert Notestine has provided 37 years of service at the Health Department of Northwest Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Bert has worked diligently and faithfully during those years, providing a wide variety of public health services though out the 4 County Health District; and

WHEREAS, Bert treated clients with utmost consideration and respect, particularly clients seeking testing for sexually transmitted infections and HIV;

WHEREAS, Bert's interest in safety led to wide-ranging community partnerships to protect children from injuries in motor vehicle crashes, bicycle accidents, house fires, and firearm accidents;

WHEREAS, Bert's commitment to reducing tobacco use among young people was clearly evident from his work conducting tobacco retailer compliance checks;

WHEREAS, Bert lent his expertise as a firefighter to the Health Department's Emergency Preparedness activities, especially his knowledge of the Incident Command System and communication systems such as 800 MHz radios;

WHEREAS, Bert has taught sex education to thousands of students, CPR to hundreds of Health Department employees, and the risks of prescription drug abuse to dozens of older adults;

WHEREAS, Bert developed many long-lasting friendships with colleagues at the Health Department through his easy going manner and dry sense of humor;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Health commends Bert Notestine for his service and dedication on behalf of the Health Department, the people it serves, and its employees, indicates our appreciation and says THANK YOU; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Health extends its best wishes to Bert Notestine. Motion carried.

MICHIGAN CARES ABOUT CLEAN AIR CAMPAIGN - Jim Harrington, Field Organizer for the American Lung Association gave a presentation on the Goals for the Campaign which is to protect the Clean Air Act. The Healthy Air Campaign began in late 2010 and was launched by the American Lung Association. It is comprised of health and medical organizations and the purpose is to raise awareness about the serious health consequences of rolling back clean air policies. He submitted the following Resolution for consideration and approval of the Board. There was discussion.

RESOLUTION - SUPPORTING THE CLEAN AIR ACT

Motion: Motion was made by Les Atchison supported by Dave Howelman to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, outdoor air pollution is now recognized as a public health problem both nationally and at the state level;

WHEREAS, numerous studies are finding deleterious health effects from air pollution levels once deemed safe;

WHEREAS, air pollution causes exacerbation of chronic lung disease and asthma resulting in increased numbers of emergency visits and hospitalizations, and is also implicated in heart disease, strokes and premature deaths;

WHEREAS, Michigan's geographic location makes its citizens susceptible to air pollution generated in other states, in addition to that from within the state, resulting in half of its citizens living in counties with unhealthy air;

WHEREAS, the Clean Air Act is the best tool we have to protect ourselves from cross-state air pollution; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the Clean Air Act prevented premature deaths and instances of asthma exacerbation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Health Department of Northwest Michigan strongly supports the Clean Air Act and emphatically opposes all attempts to weaken, dismantle, overrule, or otherwise impede the Environmental Protection Agency from enforcing or implementing it. Motion carried. All yeas.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee

Motion: Motion was made by David Howelman to approve the April, 2012 bills in the amount of \$479,664.43 supported by Les Atchison and employees expenses of \$28,564.65 supported by Shirlene Tripp. All yeas. Motion passed.

Unfinished Business: None.

Other Business: The Program & Evaluation Committee will meet prior to the Board of Health meeting at 9:00A.M. in the small conference room to provide Board of Health input into the Strategic Planning process.

Adjournment:

Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 10:00 A.M. in the Conference Room of the Health Department, Charlevoix, Michigan was fixed as the time and place of the next regular meeting of the Board of Health and the May 1, 2012 meeting was adjourned at 11:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Linda Yaroch, Health Officer

Jack Jones, Chairperson