MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE CITY OF CUDAHY HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 5050 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE, CUDAHY, WI ON TUESDAY,
November 22, 2011

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM by Chairman Ponec with the following members present: Gerald Ponec, Dr. Sherman, Kimberly Whitmore, Ald. Mary Schissel, Lynn Damitz, Robert Grams, Carol Wantuch and Neal White. Absent and excused: Dr. Johnson.

OPENING STATEMENT

The proper opening statement was read.

APPROVE MINUTES

Moved by Ald. Schissel, seconded by Robert Grams to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2011 meeting. All voting in favor.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

1. **Health Officer's Position**

   There are four applicants for this position. All have Master's degrees and seem qualified. Civil Service will interview these applicants on Monday, November 28 with a second round of interviews scheduled for December 6th at 5:30. The second interview panel will consist of Ald. Schissel, Dr. Sherman, Jerry Ponec, Carol Wantuch and Darren Rausch, Greenfield Health Officer. Mayor Day also plans to be at these interviews.

   Carol will continue on the payroll until December 31, 2011 and will be available to Health Department staff via telephone and/or Blackberry. One of the Cudahy Public Health Nurses will supervise the nursing staff on day to day events. If a Health Officer is needed and Carol is unavailable, a Mutual Aid Agreement will be enacted with the South Milwaukee Health Department. Hopefully a new Cudahy Health Officer will be hired and in the Department by January or February.

2. **Pertussis (Whooping Cough)**

   There was a laboratory confirmed case of Pertussis in a 2nd grade student in one of our elementary schools. The child's family has now been placed on prophylactic medication. Letters were sent home to the parents of the child's classmates.

   From 9.30/11, there have been 122 cases of Pertussis in the State of Wisconsin. Of those cases, 67% of them had adequate DTaP doses.

3. **Flu**

   Influenza-like illness has not yet peaked in the Southeastern region of the State. This normally happens in January or February. According to a recent article in "The Lancet," adults over the age of 65 years are not as protected with the flu shot as first thought. However, flu vaccine is the only and best way that we have to protect people from the flu.

4. **Medicare Billing for Flu Vaccinations**

   Medicare billing program to be reimbursed for flu shots has changed. In addition to filing an application with Medicare, the Health Department would need to remit a check for $500. Since the Department bills Medicare for less than $500, it seems logical to not seek reimbursement and to refer people to their physicians or other sites for flu vaccine.

5. **Chicken Pox Lollipops**

   There is a site on the internet from which a parent could order lollipops supposedly contaminated by a child with chicken pox. This is advertised as a way to have a child develop chicken pox and not need the vaccine. This is a very dangerous practice.

6. **Immunization Compliance Law**
   For a variety of reasons, it has been difficult to obtain the necessary immunization information from Cudahy schools, especially the Cudahy Middle School and Cudahy High School. Unfortunately the Middle and High Schools each had a large number of students who were behind on their immunizations. As a consequence, the 2011-2012 Immunization Compliance for Cudahy Schools is 97.33%. School children will again need to be excluded next school year if they are behind in immunizations. The Health Department did have a discussion with Superintendent Heiden about this matter.

7. **School District Nurse**
   The Health Department Public Health Nurse who is shared with the School District has been spending more time in the schools than originally planned because of the vast number of students with medical conditions. Unfortunately, this PHN is not spending enough time at the Health Department and her work is being shifted to other PHN's. A meeting was held with Superintendent Heiden and Dennis Bannach to attempt to balance her work schedule more equitably.

8. **CRI (Cities Readiness Initiative) Grant**
   Early this summer the Health Department participated in an assessment of our preparedness activities and plans centering on anthrax and mass medication dispensing with the CDC (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention). We finally received our scores from this assessment – 38%. Our 2010 scores were 93%. The Health Department staff has been in contact with the State CRI personnel and has filed a rebuttal which requested a change in scores by the CDC. Other Health Departments who were assessed by the CDC also received very low scores. The State will be sending a letter of complaint to the CDC.

9. **Bluff Collapse in Oak Creek**
   The bluff collapse at the WE Energies power plant in Oak Creek did not affect the City of Cudahy's water or air quality. DNR and the EPA are continuing to monitor the situation.

10. **Tobacco Checks**
    As a result of a "mini-grant" from the Wisconsin Tobacco Program, the Cudahy Police Department has been checking on the sale of tobacco products to minors within the City. Recently, the Police Department did evaluate 22 businesses. 5 of those businesses did sell tobacco products to minors and were cited.

11. **Health Department Grants**
    All grants that were received from the State have now been negotiated and will be signed shortly. Because of a decrease in grant funding, Ed Wrench's position has been reduced to 32 hours/week.

Moved by Robert Grams, seconded by Dr. Sherman to accept the Health Officer's report.
All voting in favor.

Other Business
1. **Next Board of Health Meeting**
   The Board of Health does not normally meet in the month of December unless there is an emergency that would necessitate such a meeting.

Moved by Lynn Damitz, seconded by Kimberly Whitmore to accept the Other Business.
All voting in favor.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 6:15 PM.
ADJOURN
Moved by Ald. Schissel, seconded by Lynn Damitz to adjourn (7:02 PM).
All voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Neal White, Secretary