**Porter County Board of Health**

Tuesday February 7, 2023

Commissioners Chambers

**In Attendance:** Attorney Dave Hollenbeck, Dr. Maria Stamp, Terry Wuletich, Dr. Patrick Fleming, Dr. Linda Boxum, Kathy Lemmon, Dr. Ronald Michaels, Robyn Lane, Jessica Jepsen

Dave Hollenbeck called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Linda Boxum made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 3, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Terry Wuletich. All were in favor. Motion carries.

**Announcements:**

Our next meeting will be on March 7, 2023 in the Commissioners Chambers.

**New Business:**

Dave welcomed our three new board members and asked that all board members introduced themselves. Kathy stated how the board works as one unit and wants to do the best for citizens of Porter County and public health issues. Election of officers will be at the next meeting.

Dave has one matter to bring before the board regarding the new septic system regulations. We cannot be stricter than the state code. One thing the new code does not address is the Point of Sale inspection. Sellers are asked to secure an inspection of their septic system by a licensed inspector and provide a copy of the report to the buyer and the Health Department. Representative Mike Aylesworth is working on House bill 1218 to require an inspection on all home sales. Asking Board to support provisions of HB 1218 including a Point of Sale inspection. LaPorte County previously had this code in place and Porter County was looking into adopting it also. One of the most expensive home repairs is the septic system. Some new homebuyers are unaware of the requirements for septic systems. Home inspectors do not have the knowledge to thoroughly inspect septic systems. Indiana Onsite Wastewater Professionals Association (IOWPA) has an installer-training course and installers must register with us in order to install and repair systems. They also offer an inspector training course. IOWPA inspectors pump the tank and look for crack or roots that will affect the integrity of the tank. It is a thorough report of the system. Inspection would also take into consideration the size of the family that the system can handle. Jessica Jepsen made a motion to support HB 1218. Seconded by Dr. Linda Boxum. Six board members were in favor, one abstained from the vote. Motion carries. Dave with notify Representative Aylesworth and keep us informed of the status.

Kathy Lemmon made a motion to approve the claims for December. Seconded by Dr. Linda Boxum. All in favor. Motion carries.

We are ending our Antabuse program at the end of this month. The program has been in place for 30 years. At one time, there were over 100 participants. Right now, we have 15 participants. Antabuse is a deterrent for alcohol intake. It makes people sick when taken with alcohol. It has been used for felony offenses and was mandated by the court. We had clinics three days a week that they had to attend bother before and after business hours. The client pays the fee monthly. Judges are not using this as much as in the past. Other technologies are now more affordable such as scram bracelet and the interlock device on the vehicle. Dave will send an official letter to the judges.

**Administrator Report:**

Our Environmental division handles rabies submissions by sending samples to the state lab while our Nursing division handles the medical portion with the patients. Dan received a request today that did not follow the appropriate procedure. The state released guidelines in 2011. For domestic animal’s they want a ten-day quarantine. In 2015, we wrote an SOP with the Animal Shelter to handle this. Since then, there has been a lot of turn over at the Animal Shelter. We will be working with Animal Control and the Shelter to go over the SOP to see if any revisions are required.

Up and coming Outreach – on 3/11/23 we will be at the Valparaiso YMCA health fair. They are expecting approximately 300 attendees. This is open to the public.

We recently received our CPR training kit. John is offering CPR training to our schools at no charge. The only cost will be $17.00 for the Heart saver cards from the Heart Association.

We are hosting a blood drive with the Red Cross on March 6 at the Administration Building in 102A.

IDOH advised that the third payment for providing COVID vaccines will be coming and will be about $216,000.

We will be going to Council to request additional funding for staff to attend training. This will allow every staff member to attend a conference.

Foods division will be hosting workshops this year. The first will be for temporary event coordinator and vendor workshop. They will be in Valparaiso on 2/27 in 102A in the afternoon and in Portage on 2/28 in the community room in the morning.

Motion to adjourn made by Kathy Lemmon. Seconded by Terry Wuletich. All in favor. Motion carries.