

Wayne County Board of Health Meeting

March 12, 2020 12:00pm

Board Members Present: Dr. Paul Rider, Chairman
Jeff Butler, Vice-Chairman
John Lebo
Dr. Joh Ingelman
Robert Coddington
Peter Zaleski

Also Present: Dr. David Jetmore, Health Officer, Christine Stinson, Exex Director of Public Health, Attorney Ron Cross, Counsel, Tamra Webb Recording Secretary

Absent: Sabrina Pennington

Dr. Rider called the meeting to order and called for a motion to accept the minutes from the Jon Ingelman motioned approval of the meeting minutes, seconded by Peter Zaleski and the motion passed unanimously.

Health Officer Report

Dr. David Jetmore has been meeting with Reid and a joint task force. There is a meeting at noon today and Dan Burke will attend to represent public health. No CORONA-19 cases in Wayne County reported, but with no means of testing, the virus could be present. Twelve cases in Indiana to date, 62 people tested in Indiana. Dr Rider added the noon Reid meeting is for all Reid providers and they are announcing their plan that will go into effect tomorrow. Doctors Rider and Jetmore reviewed appropriate actions that should be taken by an individual who feels they have the virus, including discussion of lack of tests available, who does the test and how it effects the counts on the ISDH dashboard.

Executive Director Report:

Christine Stinson met today with superintendents of schools and they are present today. She will next meet with funeral directors and county elected officials later today. We are posting information on social media daily and directing citizens to the ISDH website as it is a great wealth of information and it is important that we all speak the same voice to our community. This is updated regularly.

Mrs. Stinson said school superintendents are here today, expecting to gather information about school closure, stating this is an issue for the health board to consider. Do they wait for a confirmed case in the school, or do a preemptive closure? The goal is to flatten the peak of number of cases and preemptive closure would help. Dr. Rider said based on evidence, it is better to be proactive than reactive and studied flu epidemics in schools and stated proactive will place us in a better position to flatten the curve. Dr. Jetmore agreed this action is appropriate. Mr. Zaleski asked about senior facilities and Mrs. Stinson said the health department is not directing them but they get direction from Medicare and Medicaid policies.

The superintendents presented today provided the dates of their spring break periods and Dr. Jetmore said we needed to extend spring break another week. Supt. Todd Terrill of RCS said some schools are closing for more than 10 days. Discussion followed, with recommendations from the superintendents and health board members, considering the incubation period of the virus. Dr. Jetmore summarized he is hearing the board could consider closing schools at the end of day March 20th and reopen April 13th.

The board and superintendents discussed numerous topics, including e-learning, state requirements, and cleaning during this time period. Peter Zaleski motioned to recommend school closure starting the end of the school day on March 20th and reopen the morning of April 13th. Dr. Igelman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The board discussed church closures and Dr. Jetmore said he is hesitant to cancel church services but could recommend proper precautions. They also discussed daycares and preschools and Dr. Jetmore also expressed reluctance to closing daycares. Mrs. Stinson said other counties are not closing daycares.

Mr. Zaleski suggested an open-door notice for the Health Board to meet every week and motioned same, seconded by Jon Ingelman and the motion passed unanimously. They agreed if there is no need for a meeting, they can always cancel.

Mrs. Stinson stressed the importance of referring to the ISDH COVID-19 website for information. Dr. Jetmore reported on data from China and South Korea, as well as other promising drugs that could be helpful.

Department Move

Mrs. Stinson said it is still scheduled for March 16th, and they will be closed Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, but hopes to be open for birth and death certificates on Tuesday. Press release and TV spots have informed the public. Phones will be working on Monday. Dr. Rider stated immunizations are

not moving so will continue to function and Mrs. Stinson confirmed that fact and said she has stressed that in her press release.

Mr. Zaleski updated on the website and reported he spoke with Rich Rankin of County IT and he is in the process of checking for ADA compliance and hopes to have ready by the end of the media in order to inform the public via the Wayne County Health Department Facebook page.

New Business-Birth and Death Issuance Policy

Mrs. Stinson said she is preparing written policies regarding what is needed to get a birth certificate and provided a draft for the boards review. She would also like to increase the fee for birth and death certificates and asked permission to work on a fee ordinance to increase birth certificates from \$10 to \$15, confirming this was last updated in 2014. Mr. Coddington and Mr. Zaleski thanked Mrs. Stinson and Dr. Jetmore for their unprecedented, open communications with the board and their extreme efforts during the last few months. Mrs. Stinson thanked the public health staff.

Mrs. Stinson expressed her need for written policies and said her staff helped craft these policies and they are working hard. The board needs to first approve the fee schedule and then the commissioners. Attorney Cross said the fees cannot exceed the cost of the service. Mrs. Stinson said she would like the board's approval to move forward in updating the fee schedule, as well as other policies.

Jeff Butler motioned to move forward to adjust the fee schedule, seconded by Jon Igelman and the motion passed unanimously. Mrs Stinson will give the health board the policy for their review and acceptance, and then forward to the commissioners. Dr. Rider asked for information on other policies and Mrs. Stinson said that will be forthcoming.

Mr. Coddington updated on the health board finance committee and said Josie and Kim Walton have a good working agreement. A meeting had been set-up with HRSA last Friday, but the meeting was cancelled. Mr. Coddington suggested if FQHC is interested in our requirements in order to release the \$2M, they need to contact Auditor Kimberly Walton.

Mrs. Stinson said she was clear as to the items she needed for public health and public health nursing. Dr. Rider said the board will discuss those needs. Mr. Zaleski said the finance group needs to meet with council regarding the health department budget and what is projected by Mrs. Stinson. Dr. Rider suggested the finance committee first meet with the health board, and then meet with council. The finance committee will meet Tuesday morning at 10:00 AM.

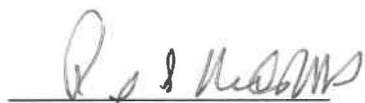
Regarding recommendation to close schools, Mr. Zaleski said this board made the decision, based on the best practice for the entire county, and every school corporation was represented today and supported the agreement. Attorney Cross said the ultimate decision to close a school system sits with their school board. The health officer may order the closing of schools, but today's motion was a recommendation to the schools.

Mr. Coddington asked for an update on staffing. Mrs. Stinson said we need a public health nurse, stating the salary has been increased to \$30.06/hr and said that is a competitive wage. We also have an LPN and medical assistant position, as well as one medical clerk.


The board agreed to open door notice a meeting for next four weeks.

Bob Coddington motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jon Igelman and the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting to take place at the new location 100 South 5th street on Thursday, March 19th 2020 at noon.



Paul Rider, Md.



Date