

HEALTH BOARD MEETING  
August 15, 2019  
Wayne County Health Department  
Multipurpose Room

PRESENT: John Lebo, M.A. Chairperson  
Jeff Butler, M.A. Vice-Chair  
Elizabeth Bennett, RN, B.S.  
Jon Igelman, M.D.  
Paul Rider, M.D.  
Peter Zaleski, RPH  
David Keller, M.D. Secretary  
Eric Coulter, MBA Ed.D, Executive Director  
Julie Floyd, B.S., Executive Secretary

GUESTS: Kim Flanigan – COO/Clinic Supervisor  
Richard Boston – Attorney  
Bob Coddington

ROLL CALL

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

John Lebo called the meeting to order, determined there was a Quorum, and asked for a motion to accept the minutes from July 25, 2019, which were mailed to the Board members. Dr. Rider made the motion and it was seconded by Dr. Igelman. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Each member received a copy of the Agenda.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Rider of the transition team reported the County is going to purchase the Prime building to relocate Public Health after the separation. This building is a good location and layout for the Health Department medical side and room for inspectors and vital records.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION**—The Health Board supports the Health Department when it become independent.

Dr. Rider made the motion and Dr. Igelman seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Dr. Rider mentioned the vital records and inspection may be moved before the end of the year. Public Health would need to remain here until there is independence between the two departments.

The clinic and health department are still one unit, the public health will continue to be done in this building until separation.

Dr. Keller confirmed the clinic will continue to do Public Health until the separation. This will include the STD clinics.

Dr. Rider mentioned the council is discussing who will go in building along with Public Health. Peter said the square footage is doubled, on the north hallway of the new building would probably use part of the building for something else, this is still in discussion.

Dr. Igelman asked if the Public Health people stake their claim on needed space. We need space for a Health Officer starting January 1, 2020.

Dr. Rider has spoken with Dave Jetmore on the Health Officer position, and he is very interested in position. A job description is needed, then approval of job, and select a person.

Rick Boston explain the process selecting a Health Officer. The Health Board selects the Health Officer and Commissioners certify to the state.

Jeff Butler asked if the position will be part time or contractual?

Dr. Rider explain the salary range is \$20,000 to \$25,000 and Dr. Jetmore understands this is a part time position, he has requested to start before he is the Health Officer, to learn the process.

The sub-committee had a list of five physicians: Dr. Gwen Halsted, Dr. Ken Wetig, Dr. Bob Bodey, Dr. Javin Shaker, and Dr. David Jetmore. The sub-committee had Dr. Jetmore as their first selection and instructed Dr. Rider to contact him to see if he would be interested.

## **MOTION**

Dr. Jon Igelman made the motion to interview Dr. Jetmore for the position as Health Officer. Dr. Rider seconded. The motion passed with one abstaining.

Dr. Rider discussed with the board the need of job descriptions for Public Health Nurse and Health Officer.

Members of the sub-committee have been visiting other Health Departments and gathering information. The first visit was Fayette County, a small department. Health Officer works one hour a week. The immunization grant helped hire a part time immunization nurse. The full time Public Health nurse is an LPN and very knowledgeable on immunizations, this derives income by billing private insurance which is similar to our process. Immunizations are given three days a week year round by appointment only. Fayette is understaffed and cannot investigate communicable diseases, they have a TB clinic. No SEP the nurse left and hospital closed. Meridian may pick up the SEP.

Anderson and Muncie site visits are up coming.

Peter spoke about meeting with the eight Public Health employees in the budget, giving them reassurance they will not lose jobs, not seeing any change in benefits, and they will not have to reapply for jobs. Public Health employees will visit the building along with Health Board to get input.

Rick Boston discussed the HRSA follow up call. The county has had two previous calls with HRSA and did not include the Health Department. The follow up call included representation from the county of Ken Paust, Bob Chamness, Jeff Plasterer, Kim Walton, Ron Cross and Special Counsel Jim Williams.

The Health Center had Eric Coulter, Kim Flanigan, Jeff Butler, Rick Boston, on the phone Marcie-HRSA council, and Ellen Smith. HRSA had five people on the phone. A lot of people involved and caused more questions and issues. HRSA doesn't understand county government and structure and what is happening in Wayne County.

Discussion on Eric's position with Public Health and Health Center being employed by both through project period. The Health Center understanding from HRSA is Eric had to be employed with Public Health and Health Center through the end of the project period. Marcie had said HRSA doesn't like lawyers and normally don't allow lawyers to be part of the conversation, if HRSA hears a lawyer is in the room the conversation stops and they lawyer up with the attorney general and will be back when they are ready to talk. HRSA consented to the lawyers and invited Rick and Ron, Jim Williams was not invited. HRSA was unaware Jim Williams was involved. Marcie said HRSA did not want to hear from lawyers only board members and people involved and don't speak unless asked by HRSA. Jim Williams spoke up for the county and HRSA said we need to take it up to OGC, US Attorney General Office, get involved and they will make decision on what can be done and this may be a long process.

Eric asked "If we keep everything the way it is, separate out Public Health and keep Public Health Center running as is until end of project period, would this all go away"?

The head of the HRSA group said "sure it would everything would be fine that would end it."

Jim Williams said they didn't want that, they wanted it to go to the lawyers. HRSA said okay we will go to OGC.

HRSA will need an organizational chart of how the system works. The OGC may have several options—pull the grant right now, send people in to work with both sides, and they may say this is so confusing and no one knows what they are doing just rebid the grant now.

Health Center next step is getting the new corporation together with an EIN number and apply for 501C3, be prepared to file new application like when we first started, this may need to be completed by September or October.

On a rebid this is open to Reid, Meridian, or whomever in January. This is a 3 year period starting January 2020.

Rick will send organizational chart for Health Department.

Jeff Butler commented HRSA having problems understanding county government. Mediation agreement is confusing on the relationship of county and role of all parties involved. HRSA is not interested in mediation.

They received a copy of governing board minutes which contained information about sub-receipt for Centerstone. HRSA misunderstood the minutes and thought the clinic was giving up primary care. The mediation agreement put co-applicant out of compliance. HRSA said mediation agreement to them amended the co-applicant agreement. We just updated and amended co-applicant which HRSA approved.

Eric said in one part the Director has to stay employed with grantee which is the county.

Dr. Rider commented the mediation is dead with the federal attorneys. We may be sitting here with nothing happening until end of the period. HRSA will communicate to the attorneys the urgency and time lines for the county and health center.

HRSA could send in teams of four or five to evaluate the program. One for finance and governance, this is the same as a site visit.

The site visit team who came this year suggested changing co-applicant agreement to spend the allotted money on salaries that the county would not allow to hire.

Peter Zaleski was concerned if the county would have to repay money to HRSA. Rick said, "If HRSA shut the clinic down the \$2 million would go to the successor of the rebid. Whatever was left in the account would go back to the government or rebid. HRSA is concerned with patient care -they would not close the clinic until end of May."

Rick Boston said we look bad doing a sub recipient with Centerstone for Connersville in Fayette County, the zip code had been approved by HRSA, now HRSA will not approve the sub-recipient.

On the first call with the county and HRSA, HRSA stated Indiana statute can go outside of jurisdiction to be involved in other counties. Statute says for Public Health stay within jurisdiction. Rick talked with Ron several times and county doesn't care and encourages to go to other counties the Community Health Center can do whatever they want to provide services. Only Public Health must stay in jurisdiction.

HRSA thinks we are violating the law because we went outside of county. Now HRSA is pulling the plug on Centerstone. Centerstone is already in place and open. HRSA misunderstood the Indiana statute.

HRSA said at Washington DC having Centerstone and Scott county would help our application. We went through the proper channels to have the sub-recipient put in place. We will be asking HRSA this question on sub-recipient.

Eric has spoken with our project officer from HRSA who had concerns on county policies and HRSA said to leave county out they are not HRSA's client and will not include them in any phone calls. Now there is confusion over who is in charge of the funds.

Rick spoke with Ron and was told Ron and Jim didn't feel the five HRSA people knew what they were talking about and each one was on a different page, they couldn't be educated in a short period of time, they thought going up to higher attorney they would know the rules better and what should be done.

It may be a couple of weeks before an answer from OGC.

Next meeting is August 29<sup>th</sup> for subcommittee/Health Board meeting.

Eric, Kim, and Dr. Keller will not be attending all meeting, only one a month.

The next board meeting will be September 5, 2019 at noon.

Dr. Rider made a motion to adjourn and Dr. Igelman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

  
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John Lebo, Chairperson

9-26-2019  
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Date