

HEALTH BOARD MEETING
July 25, 2019
Wayne County Health Department
Multipurpose Room

PRESENT: John Lebo, M.A. Chairperson
Elizabeth Bennett, RN, B.S.
Jon Igelman, M.D.
Paul Rider, M.D.
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
Kathy Jordon

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 June 20, which were mailed to the Board members. Dr. Igelman made the motion and it was seconded by Dr. Rider. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Each member received a copy of the Agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

John Lebo explained the Health Board will need a list of five names to submit to Commissioners by 8-1-19.

Rick Boston explained the Indiana statute: When there is a vacancy - the board will submit five names to the commissioners to make the appointment, the commissioners are not required to pick from the list of names, this is a recommendation of this board. The commissioners can choose from the list or their own person, as long as the person falls into certain areas and party affiliation.

We had thought at mediation the county would delay the appointment until January, wait until we were through with the separation and not have new personalities to deal with. The lengthy mediation and other issues this was not added to the agreement, the county claims this did not happen. We did not create this idea, we went into mediation trying to get a commitment from them, we would give a list of five and they would agree to pick

from that list. The County said they would not do that, Ricks' understanding they said in lieu of that list they would postpone until January 1, 2020, so nothing changes and this was not put in writing.

The Counties attorney said he didn't know anything about it. Information from the mediator said they were willing to agree to postpone until January.

Dr. Igelman asked if the commissioners have the authority to appoint whomever they wish? Rick agreed. According to commissioners last meeting minutes they have a person they want and that's who they are going to appoint, also a letter from Attorney Cross stating this is the person they would like to see in the job. Ken Paust really wants to push it and MaryAnn backed off, they gave us until 8-1-19 to get a list of five to them. It appears it's a done deal, we are going through the motions of presenting a list of five or is it worth doing? The selection has to be from the approved list from the State. Discussion followed.

Rick Boston stated a letter from the County was pretty derogatory of the Health Board saying basically they did not like what was being done and they need to appoint someone who can get control of things down here and run the Health Department the way they want it ran.

Eric Coulter read a segment from Ron Cross's letter, quote "While the commissioners would welcome the department provisions and a list of five possible persons to fill the vacancy as contemplated by code (sighted) we must be candid and tell you several members of county government have suggested Bob Coddington be that replacement and this was well received," his letter continues about Dr. Siebert.

Dr. Rider suggested collecting names, this will come up in January. If Bob Coddington is a done deal, we need to carry out our responsibilities and give a list of names.

Dr. Rider and Eric had talked and were told those on both boards would have to choose which board they want to stay on. There needs to be strong consideration for gender and minority and different considerations for health care.

Dr. Keller read a portion of the June 26 Commissioners minutes, Dr. Keller felt this was insulting. "Denny Burns suggests appointing Robert Coddington, the Health Department shall provide list of 5 candidates and they have not been received yet. Ron Cross discussed issues at a subcommittee that could create an open door, that is not the issue. Mr. Burns said he would like Coddington as part of the transition team. Attorney Cross said there are concerns regarding many decisions that could be made between now and end of year and may not be in the better interest of the Wayne County Public Health, the sooner we get a viable board member appointed that is sensitive to that issue".

Health Board members feel their views have been pushed aside, the Board has always had the best interest for the Health Department and community. Dr. Keller "We have never put the community at risk." Dr. Rider also commented the board has always put the community and county first.

Eric addressed a quote from the county attorney. "Eric has told staff to directly refer all related vaccinations and inoculations to the State Department of Health." We have done nothing of the sorts; we hope their immunization programs are successful. Dr. Keller reminded the board, Wayne County has gotten the highest award for immunization grants in the state because of the efforts of the Health Department. Rick Boston stated: This board and the Health Department have been considered by the State as one of the best Health Departments in the state. Commissioners always praised the Health Department, unsure of why the concern now. Dr. Rider commented this needs to stop and will communicate with Public Health Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Igelman and Dr. Rider reported on the Public Health Transition team. The team is trying to put together a plan for Public Health. The issues are location, billing. The county is looking at the building across the street known as The Nugget, and the Annex. The team reported the advantages of the Annex the county could keep a thumb on the Health Department and if in the Annex there wouldn't be the danger they had by pulling the Health Department over by itself, they county lost control, by having the department in the Annex they have more direct control.

Dr. Rider stated this board will have input on those discussions.

Billing is another issued discussed-Public Health portion of billing, contacting all the agencies and getting numbers they will need, etc.

Rick Boston and Eric discussion on billing—We need more time on the separation, getting an EIN number and the money released to handle the expenses that will incur before 1-1-20, getting an HR program and benefits ready.

Rick Boston said the SBOA feels the transfer or release of funds can be done, we need to determine the amount of money. Rick proposed to the county a committee of Health Center people consisting of Eric, Ellen Smith, Rick Boston, Kathy Jordon/Julie Floyd to answer financial questions.

The county would consist of Kim Walton, auditor, Jennie Bailey deputy auditor, Jeff Plasterer, Ken Paust, and Ron Cross.

The Health Department would like to hire a full time Public Health Nurse and Health Officer before the separation, work on a salary range for the two, and train the new positions to continue with the level of service we offer today.

Rick Boston and Ron Cross have been told to move the money from the county - use the voucher claim process to pay for HR services for the new clinic. " We don't need approval to spend the money for health center—this is what we think county will allow, it has not been approved. The HRSA and clinic accounts have been separated for four years with no tax dollars in the accounts. The debate is the county is afraid they will be stuck with a bill.

That has never been the intent of the Health Department. We will work to accommodate SBOA and HRSA.

MOTION

Begin the process to hire a Public Health Nurse if done by county HR, and the Health Center will help train. Dr. Rider made the motion, Elizabeth Bennett seconded, the Motion passed unanimously.
Also Eric pointed out the Health Officer by Indiana state statute hires. Dr. Keller confirmed he was comfortable with the county trying to hire a Public Health Nurse.

The next board meeting will be August 15, 2019 at noon.

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



John Lebo, Chairperson

8-15-2019

Date