



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Florence County**  
**Health Department**

# Florence County Health Department

501 Lake Avenue  
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Annette Seibold, RN/MS, Director

## **Florence County Board of Health Meeting Minutes October 9, 2013**

Present: Cindy Kmecheck, Susan Theer, Mary Gehlhoff, Holly Stratton, Sherry Johnson, and Yvonne VanPembrook. Excused: Gary Steber.

Stratton called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Motion by Theer, seconded by Johnson, the agenda was unanimously approved as posted.

Motion by VanPembrook, seconded by Gehlhoff to approve August 13, 2013 minutes and unanimously approved.

### **New Business: Discussion and/or action RE:**

**Introduction of Guests:** Chris Dobbe and Amanda Ostrowski from Marathon County attended to lead discussion about the Shared Services grant. Amanda Rudnick, a RN working towards BSN has been completing clinical at the health department. She mentioned her project will be a presentation & discussion about puberty for the Florence 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Also present was HD Administrative Assistant, Sarah Giddings.

**Shared Services Grant:** Presentation by Chris Dobbe to introduce board members to the grant and ask for input. The grant is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and runs from January 2013 through January 2015. There are 18 northern Wisconsin jurisdictions participating in the grant, which is approximately 25% of the state's land area but only about 10% of the population. The objective of the grant is to examine the benefits and drawbacks of sharing services across jurisdictions. Dobbe emphasized that there will be no mandates; this is strictly a research and learning opportunity. She reviewed Florence County's current sharing agreements, which include the Tobacco Coalition, Northwoods Dental Project, Northwoods Preparedness Coalition, and Emergency Preparedness Border Group.

Dobbe asked several questions of the Board:

1. What would be important for you in examining potential shared services?  
VanPembrook said she would look to the Health Officer to identify gaps.  
Stratton said she would look carefully at the financial aspect to be sure that our county's funds are being used to benefit our residents. She also expressed concerns about the cost of travel to

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physical meetings when partners are spread over large geographic areas. She suggested phone conferences and webinars as often as possible as a cost saving measure.

VanPembrook noted that sharing services and having partnerships increases everyone's knowledge base and resources. Kmecheck agreed that having a wide variety of people to communicate with is beneficial, especially in emergency situations.

2. If the health officer came to the board with an idea for shared services, what level of involvement would the board want?

Board members noted that they would want to discuss financial aspects, voting privileges, bylaws, how services will be affected on a local level, the length of the agreement and whether it is binding, who supervises/who's in charge and how dollars are allocated between administration and actual application.

3. When would you want to know?

Stratton suggested an annual report to the board

Dobbe concluded her presentation with an overview of future steps. Grant administrators will be doing site visits to discuss progress on May 29-30, 2014. There will be three regional meetings in different locations at breakfast, lunch and dinner times. In addition, Dobbe will be compiling her findings from talking with policymakers into a report. There is a travel requirement and the grant will provide for one person from each jurisdiction to attend a Learning Community meeting. One meeting was already held in Kansas City, a second is scheduled for San Diego and a final meeting has yet to be announced but will likely take place in the eastern part of the U.S. Seibold asked that a board member consider attending.

**NEWCAP:** Seibold shared that NEWCAP has terminated their lease with the Family Center as of October 31, 2013 and plans to partner with the Florence Medical Center. She noted that they made this move because they needed a more standard healthcare facility. VanPembrook read part of an email from Jennifer at the Eagle River NEWCAP site. The email expressed enthusiasm for outreach and suggested that partnering with the clinic will allow more people to access services, including Michigan residents. Stratton expressed concern that expanding the service area would skew reports and not give a clear picture of how the services are benefitting our county. Seibold noted that we have not gotten reports from NEWCAP in the past and the new arrangement probably will not change this.

**Consolidated Contracts:** Seibold told the board that she has gotten final numbers for most of the Consolidated Contracts grants and the only notable difference is a 40% decrease in the Prevention grant. She explained that this won't affect the 2014 budget very much because she had planned for a significant decrease in WWWP, which is a much larger grant, and that this only decreased by 2%. She said the

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prevention grant was used mostly for the Community Garden this year and any budget shortfall next year will be dealt with by simple reducing expenditures. Seibold also announced that the PHEP grant for fiscal year July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 has been awarded in the amount of \$23,078. She told the board that a PHEP infrastructure grant through the Northwoods Preparedness Collaborative will probably be available next year again in the amount of \$5,000 - \$10,000 to fund progress toward accreditation. No action was taken, but it will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**RN to BSN clinical:** Seibold introduced Amanda Rudnick again and also told the board about the other student, Nathan Thompson, who has been completing clinical at the department. He will be working on a rabies education project with the Sheriff's Department.

## **Old Business Discussion and/or action RE:**

**Inspections** – Seibold said there has been some progress. Chuck from the State has agreed to set up dialogue teams, which will hopefully lead to data exchange.

**EPC Interviews:** Interviews are scheduled for 10 am on Thursday, October 10 and Friday, October 11. There are four candidates. Ed Kelley will be filling in for Susan Theer.

**MAPC-** Seibold reported 7 clients on current caseload. We are now allowing personal care workers to be paid for travel time to and from a client's home. This is reimbursed by Medicaid.

**Tobacco Sales to Minors Ordinance:** Seibold presented an ordinance that would give the Health Department in addition to the Sheriff's Department the ability to issue citations to clerks for selling tobacco to minors. Motion by Johnson to give the ordinance to the District Attorney for review and then forward to the county board. Second by VanPembrook.

## **Director's Update:**

**Survive & Thrive-** Seibold reported on a recent training she attended in North Dakota. She participated in a large scale emergency preparedness exercise and got many ideas and resources that will be adapted for use by the Florence County Health Department. Discussion about call center updates will be put on the next Board of Health agenda.

**Zostavax** – Seibold got information from other health officers at the Survive & Thrive training about offering and billing for Zostavax, the shingles vaccine. She has begun investigating costs and billing options to see if this would be feasible for the HD to offer. The vaccine is not offered at the Medical Clinic or anywhere else in the county, so it would close a gap. More discussion at next meeting.

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Board Member Concerns: Discussion around Badgercare and Affordable Care Act.

Motion to adjourn by Theer, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved.

**Next Meeting Date- December 18, 2013 at 6pm**

## Acronyms:

CDC Center for Communicable Disease  
CHA Community Health Assessment  
CHIP Community Health Improvement Plan  
NRO Northern Region Office  
RWJ Robert Woods Johnson Foundation  
SNS Strategic National Stockpile  
TAR Technical Assistance Review  
WWWP Wisconsin Well Woman Program

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