

BOH08092022

A regularly schedule Hancock County Board of Health meeting was held on August 9, 2022, at 4:00PM at the Hancock County Commission office. Chair Plesa opened the meeting with roll call. Those members in attendance were Nicole Glass, Sam DeCapio, Sandy Haspel, and new member Ronnie Jones. Staff in attendance were Dr. Chris Rhody, Jackie Huff and Carolyne Baker. Commissioner Cowey was present.

The Chair moved to adjust the agenda and move the speaker, Patrick Arneault to the first item of business. All members agreed and Mr. Arneault was brought forward to speak.

Patrick gave an update on the new building being constructed. He informed the board and others that things are well underway on the 4010 square foot slab on grade building. The utilities have all been contacted and schedule to go. The footer should be completed the week of the 9<sup>th</sup> and block laid the week of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Anticipated date of move in should be December 1, 2022, if all goes well. HVAC and all on order. Site walk through for utilities and IT planned for next week. He also notified the board and attendees that the concrete slab construction initially planned had been changed to a traditional frame build. This adjustment was made do to the concrete slabs were back ordered until October of 2023. The timeframe of the grant money expenditures could not be met.

New member, Ronnie Jones was introduced and welcomed by Chair Plesa to all. Mr. Jones thanked the commissioners for his appointment to the Board of Health. He stated that he definitely felt that the new building was needed and wanted to be involved as much as possible. He told the attendees that the staff of the health department were doing a great job and all his dealing with them had been good. Looking forward to serving on the board.

The Chair then moved to the minutes and financials from the June meeting. He asked if any discussion on the minutes or objections, hearing none he moved to approve. Secondly, he asked if any discussion on the financials, hearing none moved to approve. Both the minutes and the financials were approved.

No Communications

No old Business

Jackie Huff provided the Board with staff reports. Environmental numbers were provided to the board. New fiscal year starting, and inspections are underway. Septic permits are up and the staff busy doing those inspections in addition to the food establish inspections.

Clinical reports were also provided to the Board with the number of services provided to the patients. Lab draws are seeing an increase and the department will continue to promote the services available to the community.

Outreach: Promotion of childhood immunizations to reach more in the community to be immunized. Additional social media and other promotion items are being funded through a small grant that was awarded to increase the immunizations. Off-site clinics will be available to children throughout the county.

September 21 and 22 is the WV Public Health Conference at Oglebay. Most staff will be attending it is a great opportunity to network with other counties and trainings provided for continuing education hours.

This year due to the addition of Threat Preparedness as a standard of performance they will be setting up a tent that the state provided all counties for use in future events. Jackie stated that she picked up the trailer that houses a very large tent, generator, weights for the tent and heater last Friday. It was noted that vans were available for the regions at the site for pick up. When Northern Panhandles is completed, it will be housed regionally in Wheeling.

Radon grant is being written to provide kits to the public for testing in their homes. It was clarified that the kits let you know if radon exist, however, does not provide the remediation needed to correct.

Another topic on the building was provided, Jackie had requested additional funds from the commission for the building. The commission then requested federal money (Capitos office) for the difference in bid and money already obtained. Commissioner Chek stated that notification was given that the grant will go before legislature in January 2023, hopefully for approval. Commissioner Cowey was in attendance and reiterated that statement.

Jackie and Dr Rhody then gave an update on Monkey Pox. Vaccine is available from the state when criteria is met, and approval is given. It will be limited to those at risk, exposures with symptoms and health professionals. Monkey Pox is in the Northern Panhandle and the cases are being contacted to identify any close contacts. Antivirals are not provided by the state at this time. This department has provided education to the health care providers on Monkeypox and the proper steps to dealing with a person suspected of having the virus. The state HAN alert has been given to these facilities.

Chair Plesa then asked if schools are being inspected. Carolyn Baker replied that schools are inspected on a two-year basis and that the southern schools were on her schedule for the next week. Chair was asking because of several years back there was mold in a few of the schools and was curious if all had been resolved.

On environmental report it stated a animal was sent for rabies testing. Chair asked if the animal was reported back positive or negative. Jackie explained that in a positive case the person that was bit is notified immediately and usually a public press release is done depending on the situation. This particular case was negative.

Chair Plesa then asked how the Breast Cancer Awareness walk preparation were coming. Jackie responded that the walk will be held on October 15, 2022, with registration beginning at 9:00AM. Letters have been sent out for donations and they are coming in slowly. Flyers were distributed to some business to notify public and Facebook post are ongoing.

With no further business to discuss the Chair stated next meeting will be on October 11 at 4:00PM and moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted for Dr Rhody