

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

March 10, 2016

The Vernon County Board of Health met Thursday, March 10, 2016 in the Second Floor Conference Room, Erlandson Office Building. Members present: JoAnn Nickelatti, Glenda Sullivan, Frank Easterday, Sherrie Seidel, David Banner, Rhonda Peterson, RN, BSN, Brian Turben and Shawn Redington.

Others present: Elizabeth A. Johnson, RN, BSN, Director/Health Officer

Excused:

Absent:

Meeting called to order by Chair JoAnn Nickelatti at 1:00 PM.

AFFIRMATION OF PROPER PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING

Public Notice of Meeting was properly advertised and posted.

REVIEW PROCEEDINGS OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the February 09, 2016 BOH meeting were presented and reviewed. Glenda Sullivan moved to accept 2/09/16 minutes as presented. Seconded by Shawn Redington. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

No visitors present today.

REVIEW AND VOTE ON VOUCHERS

Bills for February 2016 were presented and reviewed. David Banner moved to allow payment of bills for February 2016. Seconded by Frank Easterday. Motion carried.

DAVE GESKE, VECTOR CONTROL MANAGER, LACROSSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mr. Geske distributed his annual report and discussed the Vectorborne Disease Control Activities his staff performed in Vernon County during 2015. Human and animal infections involving Vectorborne Diseases continue to remain high in our region and across the United States. The great majority of cases involved Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Ehrlichiosis and Babesiosis all carried by the “deer tick”. *Borrelia mayonii* has been newly isolated in our region and is similar to Lyme Disease but with a diffuse rash and greater nausea and vomiting.

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The goal of the program is to set in place an ongoing regional effort for control of vector-borne disease that affects the health of the residents of this region. Interruption of the vector host cycle, and therefore prevention of human and animal infection, is the ultimate goal.

The vector-borne diseases targeted by this control program are LaCrosse Viral Encephalitis, West Nile Virus, Lyme Disease, Anaplasmosis, Powassan Virus and Babesiosis. The essence of the control program is surveillance, habitat control and public education. Habitat sites monitored include tires, buckets, boats, traps and other artificial container sites, storm water retention ponds, natural long-term ponded areas, ditches and general runoff areas. In all of the breeding sites, the goal is to control mosquitos in the aquatic states before they emerge as flying adults and to have the residents clean up or properly manage the artificial container sites. In some situations where there were large numbers of tires, spraying was indicated to temporarily abate the mosquito hatch.

It is important for individuals to take precautions when outside hiking or even in their yards as mice carry the deer tick and humans and animals, particularly dogs, can develop Lyme Disease or other tick borne diseases. If hiking in parks, stay on the paths and not in the vegetation area as that is where the ticks are waiting to attach themselves to humans.

Mr. Geske stated the importance of maintaining Vectorborne Disease Control Programs is increasing. The cost of one average clinical case of LaCrosse Viral Encephalitis can represent the cost of a decade of arboviral control programming. Vectorborne disease prevention not only saves money, it also saves a tremendous amount of human suffering, and in many cases, lifelong central nervous system affliction, and, rarely but unfortunately sometimes, it does become a matter of life and death.

The Board of Health thanked Mr. Geske for his many years of serving Vernon County with the Vector Control Program and continued to look forward to working with him again this year in an effort to keep Vernon County residents as healthy as possible as it relates to vector borne diseases.

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

-Discussion of Public Health Preparedness and Response, SouthWest Consortium update and purchase of equipment/supplies.

- Volunteer Reception Center Training was held in LaCrosse 2/29/16 and attended by 2 staff. Training centered on managing volunteers during an event and how to set up a VRC. Meeting attendees were from Public Health and Emergency Management as well volunteer agencies.

WIC Program Update

- Equipment/Supplies

- The WIC participant count for February 2016 was distributed to the Board of Health. Discussion followed on participation rates and how to increase the number of participants.

Public Health

● Update and possible vote on Environmental Health Activities and Programs

- Follow-up on a complaint in Town of Wheatland has resulted in an Order of Abatement being issued to the party. To date, the Department has not received notice that the parties involved have received the Order or Abatement. Mr. Moris will continue to work on this case.
 - Mr. Moris was involved in the assessment and issuance of Abatement Orders for a home in Viola that was involved in methamphetamine. He is working with property owners to get the home cleaned up.
 - Zika Virus – Continuing to receive information from CDC and the WI State Division of Public Health and to date, there have been no cases of Zika reported in WI.
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- **Budget Reports February 2016.** Budget reports for February 2016 presented and reviewed. Frank Easterday moved to approve the February 2016 budgets as presented. Seconded by Glenda Sullivan. Motion carried.
 - **Public Health Report.** Miss Johnson distributed the report for February 2016. Communicable Disease, Immunization and Referral Reports reviewed by BOH.
 - **Limited Agent – Agent Status.** The Health Department has a contract for Limited Agent for 2015-16 but have been informed by Department of Health Services that agencies must make an effort to move to full Agent Status after next year or have contracts cancelled therefore, not allowing the Health Department to do further inspections.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEXT MEETING DATE AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION NOT REQUIRING A VOTE

- Next Meeting

- The April 2016 meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2016 @ 1:00 PM
- The May 2016 meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2016 @ 1:00 PM

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ADJOURN

David Banner moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Shawn Redington. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenda Sullivan, Secretary