

**Kankakee County Health Department
Regular Meeting
December 9, 2010**

Members Present: Dr. O. Akintilo, Mr. W. Boudreau, Mr. J. Buono, Ms. B. Durell, Dr. J. Jurica,
Dr. L. O'Connor, Ms. J. Richmond

Members Absent: Dr. J.R. Tripp

Staff Present: Ms. B. Schaafsma, Mr. J. Bevis, Ms. K. Marcotte

Others Present: Mr. Allan Smessaert, Ms. Deb Terrill, Mr. Keith Perry, Ms. Chery Sackett, Mr. John Moore, and Mr. Michael Papandrea

Dr. Jurica called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Mr. Boudreau motioned to approve the agenda; Mr. Buono seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were made by the following six people: Allan Smessaert, Deb Terrill, Keith Perry, Chery Sackett, John Moore, and Michael Papandrea. Mr. Allan Smessaert, who had spoke at the last Board of Health meeting, commented that his feelings had not changed. In a brief review of the fee schedule that will be voted on tonight, Mr. Smessaert feels this is essentially a large increase which he opposes. The State is planning on reviewing Farmer's Market and Outdoor types of venues to standardize all the rules that would apply. He feels it would be premature to do something ahead of time. Kankakee County currently has four markets, compared to Will County who has many more yet charges our current fee. Mr. Smessaert commented that an increased rate will drive vendors away which will cause the market to die out due to less selection. He understands that some increase may be necessary but this dramatic jump is unwarranted and would appreciate if the Board would vote no to the increase.

Ms. Deb Terrill, who also spoke at last month's meeting, appreciates the privilege of presenting her comments. She has an overall concern for the industrial food supply becoming nutrient poor and buried under pesticides, fungicides, synthetic hormones, etc., even though it may be the safest in terms of disease pathogens. Thus, our nation's health is suffering from the inability to buy and consume nutrient dense foods produced by individuals and marketed locally. Ms. Terrill questioned how teaching food handling skills would be any higher if there was one or ten in a class, assuming we hold them. A comment was also made previously that the market needed to be checked every day, which she questioned as we don't check restaurants every day. Similarly, why do we need to check that there are new vendors without a license, as you should be able to count on the Market director to alert us? With these thoughts in mind, Ms. Terrill doesn't see the need for an increase in fees. Most of the vendors are not making much money, but do this for the love of healthy foods and feeding people. She asked for the Board to re-consider the fee increase.

Mr. Keith Perry, a resident of Kankakee who enjoys the Farmer's Market, works in Chicago for a security brokerage firm and feels that a fee of this nature would be burdensome and isn't all that warranted. Through his field of work monitoring the economy of China he sees a successful nation of entrepreneurs. Similarly he looks at all of the Farmer's Market vendors as entrepreneurs which shouldn't be burdened with bureaucracy. Mr. Perry asked the Board to reconsider the fee and come up with a system that protects the citizens of Kankakee but does not put an expensive burden on the vendors.

Ms. Chery Sackett, an original vendor at the Farmer's Market, has worked with the health department for thirteen years. Although there were initial disagreements the health department worked with her to come to

an equitable solution. She appreciated the ability to take the current fee structure of 14 consecutive days and allow 14 separate days which she felt was a reasonable compromise for both parties. She asked the Board to consider a reasonable fee, which she feels is not the case with the proposed change. While this change does not apply to her, as she now has a caterer's license, she knows many vendors that will be affected.

Mr. John Moore recently spoke with Delayne Reeves from the Illinois Department of Agriculture who works to promote Farmer's Markets in communities. Mr. Moore currently has a license from the State to grow mushrooms and is a vendor at the market. He is concerned with the increase in the fee and conferred that he is not making a lot of money and would probably pull out. Mr. Moore discussed with Ms. Reeves the joint resolution in the General Assembly to put together a task force for Farmer's Markets to have consistency throughout the State.

Ms. Terrill commented that in researching Food Borne Illnesses at Farmer's Markets she wasn't able to find an incidence across the country.

Mr. Papandrea is a bread baker from Frankfurt, Il who is a new vendor at the Farmer's Market and is trying to save his business. He notes that the success at Kankakee is based on all of the vendors being together and keeping the customers coming back. Mr. Papandrea asked the Board to keep the fees as they are so that all of the vendors will return.

Dr. Jurica appreciated the comments; the Board will take those under consideration later in the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Buono to accept the minutes of the October 28, 2010 Board of Health minutes. Dr. O'Connor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

Ms. Schaafsma announced the five year employee anniversary of Tamera Ponton, a nurse in the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP). In addition, another nurse in BCCP, Kathy Joubert will be retiring at the end of December.

Client Services

Ms. Schaafsma announced a new procedure that has been established with the Illinois Department of Public Health Vaccines for Children Program.

Environmental Health

Ms. Schaafsma took a few minutes to clear up a few misconceptions regarding the Farmer's Market. A farmer selling uncut, unprocessed fresh produce does not need an inspection or license from the health department. In May 2010 a technical bulletin from the Illinois Department of Public Health was sent to provide further clarification of the 1999 bulletin regarding Farmer's Market. It clearly states that if a vendor is selling something other than uncut, unprocessed produce a license is needed from the health department. This expansion of items being sold includes meats, poultry, eggs, processed food from baked goods to salsas, etc. Ms. Schaafsma noted the key that makes these types of events different, it that there are temporary. This definition, set up from the Illinois Department of Public Health, is an event that is no more than 14 consecutive days. Anything greater than that needs to meet all of the requirements of the food code, in regard to the equipment, plumbing, certified food handlers, etc. which is what our current food establishments comply with and pay the according fees. Ms. Schaafsma described the application process and clarified that an inspection is made on the first day, not every day of the event, with a follow-up during the season. The purpose is not to generate dollars. There are over 600 permanent food establishments that are inspected one to three times each year. The money received from the State does not come near covering the cost of that mandated function. The purpose is to make sure food is prepared safely and to prevent food

borne illnesses in the county. Education is provided prior to the events. Basic food handling classes have been provided at the health department in the past and could be started again. A summary of the fee comparison by the surrounding counties was reviewed and discussed. Ms. Schaafsma presented two new policies for seasonal temporary events at fixed locations. One license for \$65.00 would allow for 1-14 "dates" and the other, a license for \$120.00 would be no more than six months and limited to two a week. Dr. Jurica asked when the policy would take effect. Ms. Schaafsma provided three options: (1) effective date of January 1, 2011, (2) effective date of January 1, 2011 but to allow the current vendors a \$40.00 credit to finish the remainder of the Winter Market season, and (3) effective date of April 1, 2011. Mr. Buono made a motion to approve the new fee policies effective April 1, 2011. Seconded by Dr. O'Connor, the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Durell added that she feels the Winter Market at the Resource Center has been a wonderful thing that the community looks forward to and would hate to see anything jeopardize it. During these tough times it is difficult to add the increase, but because there hasn't been a raise for ten years, she felt it was necessary.

Health Promotion

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Financial Status

Ms. Schaafsma presented the October 2010 financial report for approval and a preliminary November 2010 report for review. At the end of October, 91.6% of the year, we have received 72.75% of the revenue and allocated 83.35% of the expenses. Ms. Schaafsma added that while not reflected on either of these reports, it does look like we are expecting to be paid for all services through June 30. Dr. O'Connor motioned to approve the financial reports as presented. Mr. Buono seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Mr. Boudreau recently read where some of the counties were banding together to put a lawsuit against the State. Ms. Schaafsma clarified that normally grants ending June 30 the State has until August 31 to pay us and similarly we have until August 31 to turn the bills in. This year Congress extended the payment deadline to December 31, but you did not put your claim in before the deadline, you have to go through Court of Claims in order to be reimbursed. Fortunately, we were able to look online to see and see that the checks have been cut. Thus, we will not have to file a lawsuit.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Schaafsma contacted Bennett-Brosseau in regards to the roof repair. They will be providing a quote.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Schaafsma presented a proposal from Smith, Koelling, Dykstra and Ohm to provide the yearly fiscal audit. The amount will be the same as last year. Dr. Akintilo motioned to approve the contract. Seconded by Mr. Buono, the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Schaafsma commented that the current Board of Health officers will continue for another year; a two year term has been the past practice.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Buono, seconded by Mr. Boudreau, and approved unanimously the Board moved into Executive Session at 7:36 p.m. to discuss legal issues. The Board returned to regular session at 7:44 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Buono moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. The motion, seconded by Ms. Richmond, passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Ms. Jean Richmond, Secretary

Minutes reviewed by, Ms. Bonnie Schaafsma, RN, BSN, MBA Public Health Administrator

Minutes prepared by, Ms. Kris Marcotte, Administrative Coordinator