

Board of Health  
Minutes  
April 19, 2016

Chairman Novotny called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with Commissioner Hicks, Commissioner Greenough, Dr. Schueler, MD, Dr. Christensen, DVM, Dr. Cotant, DDS, Trisha Thompson, RN, Public Health Nurse, County Clerk Vicki Edelman, Deputy Attorney Barry Crago and Sheila Newcomb, Commissioners Assistant.

Dr. Christensen moved to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2016 meeting. Trisha Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Reports were presented:

**Dr. Christiansen, DVM:**

This is the season for tics. Everyone that goes through the sagebrush needs to check themselves and their animals. Commissioner Hicks stated that the Predator Board reported that they are doing a good job of keeping skunks and raccoons that carry tics and rabies, away from the city limits.

**Trisha Thompson, RN:** The Zika virus is still around. Wyoming has tested false samples for the virus and they have all come back negative. The state has to give approval to run the test, because the CBC is actually testing this. Another development of the Zika virus is that it is transmitted from male to male sexual encounters. So this is a sexually transmitted disease.

Public Health have almost finished doing Tdap immunizations, they are doing a Tdap clinic at the school on April 20, 2016 for the kids getting ready to go into seventh grade.

Public Health still has water kits available for the lead testing. People can come and pick up their kits and then take them to Sheridan to be tested. Commissioner Novotny asked if there has been a change in the amount of kits being requested since an article was published in the Buffalo Bulletin about lead in the city water. Nurse Thompson stated that they have given 10 kits out and they have about 5 left.

They are still looking for a nurse at Johnson County Public Health.

Robin at Public Health runs the Safe Kids Coordinator of Johnson County. She has presented a Safety First program for 17 kids and 2 teachers. She has presented Car Seat Safety to 88 students and 1 teacher at Meadowlark School. She was able to give out information to 750 participants at the Health Fair.

**Dr. Schueler, MD:**

There have been two instances since January that Dr. Schueler has called the State Health Department. The first was when we had a second child to die in Johnson County which was unclear as to the cause. The first was a respiratory infection and in a matter of weeks a second. That is a concern for some kind of contagious illness that is causing pediatric mortality. As it turned out the second infant was not related to any infection and we have not had any further tragedies like that. The second time Dr. Schueler contacted the State Health Department was a few weeks later about a patient seen in the clinic with vomiting and diarrhea, which has been rampant in the community. This patient had lab work showing extremely high liver enzymes usually indicative of acute Hepatitis A infection. . By the time he had heard back from Health Department they had confirmation that this wasn't Hepatitis

A but an unusual reaction to your standard viral intestinal infection. There has not been any investigation and probably won't be.

Fluoride in the City Water: Dr. Schueler met with the City Council on April 5. After reviewing information on the safety of fluoride, the city council agreed to host 2 public forums meeting which will be held on May 2 and May 25 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. There is a significant amount of information that is on the internet that does not represent the medical literature in a fair and accurate manner. Dr. Schueler's role will be to explain what the current research shows and address questions about the safety of fluoride. Dr. Schueler says they continue to see a number of dental infections. He would like to address the legacy of kids with rotten teeth in Johnson County.

**Dr. Cotant, DDS:**

Updates on what he reported in January. The school screenings were done. Over all the general sense of screening is that the same patients are coming back with dental infections, abscesses, cavities. The consensus is that the parents are not taking responsibility to have their children seen at the dentist. The Nurse at Meadowlark is very good about giving out the information to the parents. The screenings are moving in the right direction but there is still more to be done. Dr. Cotant is in support of the fluoride in the water.

A question was asked: Compared to last year's kids with cavities how did it look this year? Dr. Cotant stated that was a specific study that had been done. This screening was different it was just for the kids and the parents.

Update on the Nursing Home – moving day is May 24 and still on track for that date.

The next meeting will be July 18, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. With no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Christenson moved and Dr. Cotant seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sheila Newcomb