

Board of Health
Minutes
January 16, 2018

Vice Chairman Greenough called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with Commissioner Perry, Dr. Schueler, MD, Dr. Cotant, DDS, Dr. Christiansen, DVM, County Clerk Vicki Edelman and Sheila Newcomb, Commissioners Assistant

Dr. Christiansen moved to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried.

Reports were presented:

Dr. Christiansen, DVM

In January 1 2017 a new law passed that controls the antibiotics that go into the animal feed. In the past you were able to go to the feed store and order 40 lbs. of feed with tetracycline. As of January 1 2017 all feed antibiotics have to have a prescription which is found in the Veterinary Feed Directory. They are trying to control how many animals they feed antibiotics too and what levels. A number of antibiotics have been taken completely off the list of drugs that can be added to feed. You have to have a prescription and a plan to put it in the water to feed the animals. The reason behind this is to cut down on the amount of antibiotics in the environment and the feed. This will hopefully cut down on the antibiotic resistance developing over the years.

Dr. Schueler, MD:

The flu is widespread in Wyoming and Johnson County. The strains of virus that have been cultured are covered by the vaccine. The county should have a successful vaccine campaign this year and the ones who have been vaccinated are less likely to get the flu. People at the hospital who have not been vaccinated are wearing masks when they are in a patient care environment. The flu season should end in 6 to 8 weeks.

Recently there were guidelines released that pertain to blood pressure management. It is a more common problem. The standard guidelines would state that adequate control would be 140/90. Groups that have risk factors for heart disease including diabetes, smoking or a strong family history the guidelines for them are now at 130/80. This means that many people who would have not been considered hypertensive now are. More people will be on medication and more will be on more medication to reach that goal. This is based on data from the American Heart Association and other health agencies that have determined this is important.

The newspaper reported staffing challenges with the Kaycee Ambulance. This is a consequence of an urban and paramedic oriented emergency management system. This means that we have been moving in the direction of more training, more certification and more responsibilities for ambulance personnel. In rural and frontier communities where these are being served by volunteers this is becoming less and less compatible with the schedules of people who have to do something else to make a living. We owe a lot of gratitude for the people who have been doing it all these years but they will come fewer in the future.

About 6-8 months Buffalo Ambulance has been able to evaluate heart attack victims in the field or transmit an EKG. They can triage them without bringing them to Buffalo. They can take them directly to Gillette, Sheridan or Casper to a Cath Lab. Kaycee is much closer to Casper than Buffalo is and they recently obtained, through a grant from the Helmsley

Foundation, the equipment to do the same thing. Dr. Schueler will go down within a month to teach a class and Kaycee Ambulance should be up and running to do the assessment.

Dr. Cotant, DDS

Dr. Cotant did the school screening at Meadowlark and Dr. Hein did the school screening at Cloud Peak Elementary. They are seeing fewer decay. The needs and urgent needs are continuing to dwindle.

The dental association is in June 2018 and Dr. Cotant anticipates hearing about what is happening with Medicaid.

The candy buy back was an overall success. Around 110-120 pounds of candy were bought.

Dr. Cotant was asked if the fewer cavities were attributed to fluoride or awareness. He answered that he thought it was more awareness. With the budget cuts the state does a good job with covering the children as far as Medicaid. He can still look at a child's face and tell if they have an abscess. Except for physically taking the child to the office and treating them they have all the resources from the state. The school nurse records what the dentists sees especially if there is a need or an urgent need. The school nurse is sending letters and making follow-up calls to make sure they are being seen.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Perry moved and Dr. Christiansen seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be July 16, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

(A recording of the meeting is available upon request)