

**Peoria County Board of Health
Health Protection Services Committee Meeting**

Date: January 29, 2014

Present: Kathy Simpson
Jennifer Groves-Allison
Dr. Na'Allah

Absent: Joyce Harant

Staff Present: Greg Chance, Public Health Administrator
Carey Panier, Assistant Director Environmental Health
Wil Hayes, Director of Environmental Health
Jason Marks, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Jean Bellisario, Director of Infectious Disease
Kristin Grubb, Administrative Assistant
Monica Hendrickson, Epidemiologist
Meredith Littell, Assistant Director of Infectious Disease
Randy McClallen, Health Protection Services Coordinator

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Ms. Simpson.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Ms. Groves-Allison to approve minutes of November 18, 2013. Motion was seconded by Dr. Na'Allah. Motion carried (3, 0).

In the first item of business, Mr. Hayes stated that the USEPA published requirements regarding coverage under the U.S. EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit for new or replacement systems, will go into effect on February 10, 2014. He stated that, as the local public health regulatory entity, it is important to educate people regarding this issue. Mr. Hayes stated that the EPA uses different sizing requirements for systems and also allows systems that the Illinois State Code does not allow. Currently there are seven permits which have already been issued that could fall under these requirements; those homeowners have been notified regarding changes that they may have to make if their system is not installed by February 10th. Mr. Chance stated that this is a regulatory policy change for Illinois and has been an issue for many years with the federal government telling Illinois it is out of compliance with the Clean Water Act. The USEPA is of the opinion that surface discharging systems should not be installed because of alternative technology being available. Permits will not be granted from the USEPA for lots platted after February 10th. Mr. Chance added that there is the potential that the Health Department will be caught in the middle between the USEPA and homeowners. Mr. Hayes stated that it will have to be determined how the process with the EPA works in the case of a failing system as there is a 30 day delay with the EPA; Environmental Health program staff will deal with issues on a case by case basis.

In the next item of business, Mr. Chance stated that the City of Peoria requested that the Board of Health review current policies for open air dining establishments. Mr. Hayes stated that there is nothing in the current Code that does not allow open air dining. However, in conducting research of what other counties are doing, very few places are putting anything regarding this issue in regulatory language. The Food Safety Workgroup discussed this issue and felt this isn't a big issue in Peoria County

and there is a narrow window of time for open air dining. It is recommended that a policy be developed regarding open air dining that would be adopted by the Board of Health. A draft policy will be shared with the Workgroup at its next meeting; once ready, the draft policy will come to the Board of Health for approval.

In the next item of business, a motion was made by Dr. Na'Allah to approve the recommendation regarding the Department's response to regulations requiring mandatory training for all food handlers. The recommendation is to not directly provide food handler training as outlined in the State Statute and to refer facilities to training opportunities. Motion was seconded by Ms. Groves-Allison. Information regarding this issue was provided at the December Board of Health meeting. There is now a statutory mandate that all food handlers in food service establishments have a certain level of training. The question is if the Health Department should be directly involved in the conduct of that training. Ms. Panier stated that the recommendation of Environmental Health Management Staff is for the Health Department not to provide the training due to resources and limitations regarding manpower and a need to focus on core programs. Research was conducted regarding neighboring counties of similar size and only one health department is conducting the training. A survey of local instructors was also conducted and they plan to conduct the training once IDPH has the training plan written and approved. There are also several online options available at an inexpensive rate and a variety of languages; the average is \$10.00. Mr. Chance stated that the assumption is that most of the corporate franchise facilities will have corporate trainings which will meet the requirements; however, independent locally owned facilities may find this requirement challenging. Mr. Hayes stated that the Food Safety Workgroup wanted the Health Department to be a facilitator for individuals to find the training opportunities. Information is available in a handout form as well as on the website. July 1, 2014 is the effective date for the new requirements with enforcement beginning January 1, 2015. Motion carried (3, 0).

In the next item of business, as a follow up to a question regarding the cost of HPV vaccine at a previous committee meeting, Ms. Bellisario reviewed the cost information provided on the agenda briefing. She stated that private pay clients can receive the vaccine at the Health Department. The completion rate for the HPV vaccine is 75% once the first dose is administered. This is a recommended/optional vaccine so parents tend to equate it as not being as important as the vaccines that are required. Infectious Disease staff uses recommended instead of optional and talks to clients/parents about where the recommendation comes from. When the vaccine is presented as anti-cancer, people are more receptive to it. In response to a question regarding if there has been any discussion regarding making the vaccine a requirement, Mr. Chance stated that the dilemma is infectious disease vs. cancer and most of the mandated vaccines for school are based on protecting the population. This is a different perspective than with preventing cancer and is tougher to make mandatory for school when not tied to a specific infectious disease.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.