

Agenda
Health & Human Services Committee
West Olive Administration Building – Board Room
12220 Fillmore Street, West Olive, Michigan 49460
Wednesday, April 11, 2012
8:30 a.m.

Consent Items:

1. Approval of the Agenda.
2. [Approval of the Minutes from the February 8, 2012 Health and Human Services Committee meeting.](#)

Action Items:

None

Discussion Items:

3. [Fluoride](#); Lois Havermans, Oral Health Team Supervisor, and Lisa Stefanovsky, Health Officer
4. "Snapshot" Overview of the recent Community Health Needs Assessment Data; Marcia Knol, Epidemiologist and Lisa Stefanovsky, Health Officer
5. Department Updates

Adjournment

Comments on the day's business are to be limited to three (3) minutes.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Proposed Minutes

DATE: February 8, 2012

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Fillmore Street Complex

PRESENT: James Holtrop, Stu Visser, Robert Karsten, Greg DeJong

ABSENT: James Holtvluwer

STAFF & GUESTS: Addie Hambley, Environmental Health Manager; Lisa Stefanovsky, Health Officer; Dr. Paul Heidel, Medical Director; Michelle Martin, Dept. of Human Services Director; Bill Raymond, MI Works!/CAA Director; Donna Cornwell, Human Services Coordinating Counsel; Sherri Sayles, Deputy Clerk; Keith VanBeek, Assistant Administrator; Greg Rappleye, Corporate Counsel; Lynne Doyle, CMH; Alan Vanderberg, Administrator; Kathryn Hamm, Dept. of Human Services

SUBJECT: CONSENT ITEMS

HHS 12-004 Motion: To approve the agenda of today as presented and to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2012, meeting as presented.
Moved by: Karsten UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: OTTAWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION 2012 LOCAL PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

HHS 12-005 Motion: To approve and forward to the Board of Commissioners the Ottawa County Health Department's Local Plan of Organization as part of the Ottawa County Health Departments Accreditation 2012 process.
Moved by: DeJong UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. "MI Bridges" – A power point presentation was presented by Kathryn Hamm, DHS Community Resource Coordinator. "MI Bridges" provides DHS clients the ability to interact with DHS via a self-service website. It gives clients the ability to apply for benefits and view their case on-line.

2. Non-Renewal of Food Inspection Contract with Holland City – Addie Hambley, Environmental Health Manager, gave a brief summary on the Food Service contract with the City of Holland. For a number of reasons it was determined not to extend another long-term contract with the City for the food program. The contract was extended through April 30, 2012. Beginning May 1, 2012, Ottawa County will be conducting the food service inspections in the City of Holland. Addie feels this is in the best interest of Ottawa County Public Health and fiscally responsible.

Addie briefly updated the Committee on unlicensed body art businesses in Ottawa County. She stated there are not a lot and Environmental Health works closely with the Sheriff's Dept. when they are notified of an unlicensed business.

3. Department Report –

Health Dept. – Lisa Stefanovsky reported on proposed Community Mental Health bills dealing with taking over substance abuse. Administration is in favor. She also reported there have been a high number of norovirus outbreaks.

The Health Dept. had the Pfizer birth control pills that were recalled. All have been returned. Lisa updated the Committee on Public Health unfunded mandates and cost discrepancies that the Counties are faced with.

Dr. Heidel reported on Lyme disease and the tick progression along the lakeshore.

Human Services – Michelle Martin reported Human Services is very busy embracing technology. iPhones will be given to all her employees because of the security features along with the GPS feature. Human Services is busy recruiting for more foster homes. In January 2011, 145 children were placed. In December, the number rose to 190.

MI Works!/CAA – Bill Raymond reported “Walk for Warmth” takes place this weekend in Zeeland. Three CAA employees will be laid off at the end of February. He is losing \$1.5 million out of his \$3 million budget.

MI Works! has been busy with the “Ready Now Event”. 200 people registered and 10 companies participated. Only 100 of those

registered showed up. Each applicant was guaranteed three interviews.

Bill has been working with Keith VanBeek on taking some services in-house instead of housing out. This would save money and be more efficient. He also reported working with Donna Cornwell on the Adult Lakeshore Learning Center.

Human Services Coordinating Council – Donna Cornwell gave an update on the “Non-Profit Next”, the future of non-profits going forward. Ottawa County has a huge number of non-profits and there are a lot of issues to consider and think about. A design team is being put together.

Mental Health – Lynne Doyle informed the Committee of the March 9th Community Forum dealing with dual eligible. Lynne also believes the merging of coordinating agencies (substance abuse) will happen. Karen Youngs-Hartley is no longer with Lakeshore Coordinating Council. The new Interim Executive Director is Kori White-Bissot.

Mr. Karsten visited the “Miles of Smiles” dental van and stated what a good job they are going. There are over 100 volunteers that participate with services. Mr. Karsten would like to see some kind of recognition for all county volunteers to show appreciation.

SUBJECT: ADJOURNMENT

HHS 12-006 Motion: To adjourn at 9:55 a.m.
Moved by: Karsten

UNANIMOUS

fluoride speech.

hello, my name is colton leese, i'm a student here at grand valley. the purpose of this speech is to inform you on the current scientific outlook on water fluoridation. as most people know water fluoridation is the process of artificially adding fluoride to the tap water supply, under the premise that it will increase dental health and reduce cavities, however; there is much debate as to the effectiveness as well as morality of this issue. first i would like to just touch on a few facts about fluoride and then i would like to cover alternatives to the current system. i'll be primarily referencing fluoridealert.org which is heavily backed in scientific literature, i've given you a list of my sources. what do we know about fluoride:

1. the health issues regarding water fluoridation. dental fluorosis is a defect in teeth enamel caused by damage to the teeth forming cells, which is caused by exposure to fluoride. Dr. Arvid Carlsson, a swedish pharmacologist and winner of the nobel prize in medicine/physiology, had this to say about dental fluorosis:

"Fluorine has a protecting action against caries, but this is a local effect... If you drink it, you are running the risk of all kinds of toxic actions. And, of course, there are such actions. We have the mottled teeth, which is not a small thing... There is no need, really, to go any further into all these other toxicity problems because I think the mottled teeth is enough. This is something you shouldn't expose citizens to. "

the correlation between this break down of enamel and fluoridation exposure is undeniable, the government run center for disease control website defines fluoride as:

"... a change in the appearance of the tooth's enamel. These changes can vary from barely noticeable white spots in mild forms to staining and pitting in the more severe forms. Dental fluorosis only occurs when younger children consume too much fluoride, from any source, over long periods when teeth are developing under the gums.."

the cdc also estimates fluorosis is prevalent in 32% of children.

Secondly, fluoridated water is particularly affecting vs infants. november 2006, the American dental association advised that parents should avoid giving babies fluoridated water.

quote from the article: research was cited that raised the possibility that infants could receive a greater than optimal amount of fluoride from reconstituted baby formula. Then, on Oct. 14, the FDA said bottlers could claim that fluoridated water can reduce the risk of dental cavities or tooth decay, but that this claim could not be used on water marketed to infants.

quote from the journal of the American college of nutrition: Our results suggest that the fluoride contribution of water used to reconstitute formulas increases risk of fluorosis and could be an area for intervention...

and lastly, there are other health risks purported to be related to exposure to fluoride.

a) Risk to the brain. According to the National Research Council (NRC), fluoride can damage the brain. human studies have found adverse effects on IQ at levels as low as 0.9 ppm among children with nutrient deficiencies, and 1.8 ppm among children with adequate nutrient intake. (7-10), which is easily obtainable amount simply by drinking water daily.

b) Risk to the thyroid gland. According to the NRC, fluoride is an "endocrine disrupter." Most notably, the NRC has warned that doses of fluoride achievable by drinking fluoridated water, may reduce the function of the thyroid among individuals with low-iodine intake.

there is also evidence to support there is risk to bones, joints, bone cancer, and kidney patients.

there is also significant evidence to suggest that fluoride is not effective systemically (aka swallowed/in the body) as opposed to topically.

quote from the clinical oral investigations: "it is now accepted that systemic fluoride plays a limited role in caries prevention."

SOURCE: Pizzo G, Piscopo MR, Pizzo I, Giuliana G. (2007). Community water fluoridation and caries prevention: a critical review. *Clinical Oral Investigations* 11(3):189-93.

quote from the nrc: "the major anticaries benefit of fluoride is topical and not systemic."

SOURCE: National Research Council. (2006). *Fluoride in Drinking Water: A Scientific Review of EPA's Standards*. National Academies Press, Washington D.C. p 13.

now that we can conclude there are health risks, and that it is not necessary to consume, then why are we still drinking it?

2. 97% of western Europe doesn't require mandated water fluoridation, neither does china, nearly all of japan, and russia, as well as others. most of these countries have previously implemented water fluoridation, but stopped them due to a better understanding of fluoride, as well as financial reasons. which brings me to my last point, alternatives

There are better ways of delivering fluoride than adding it to water. By adding fluoride to everyone's tap water, many infants and other at-risk populations will be put in harm's way. This is not only wrong, it is unnecessary. As western Europe has demonstrated, there are viable alternatives. A) Topical fluoride products such as toothpaste and mouthrinses are readily available at all grocery stores and pharmacies. Thus, for those individuals who wish to use fluoride, it is very easy to find and very inexpensive to buy.

B) If there is concern that some people in the community cannot afford to purchase fluoride toothpaste (which costs as little as \$2 to \$3), the money saved by not fluoridating the water can be spent subsidizing topical fluoride products (or non-fluoride alternatives) for those families in need.

in Missouri recently a local resident of Rolla township gave a 3 minute speech to a board of commissioners and managed to convince them to end water fluoridation in their county. reading about that inspired me to give my own speech, and i only hope that with activism and persistence, the people of Ottawa county will be able to, someday soon, end this pointless (and potentially very harmful) process of mandated water fluoridation.

SOURCES:

<http://www.fluoridealert.org/carlsson-interview.html>

<http://www.aapd.org/upload/articles/Mascarenhas-22-04.pdf>

http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/safety/dental_fluorosis.htm

<http://www.fluoridealert.org/ada.egram.pdf>

<http://www.fluoridealert.org/health/teeth/caries/topical-systemic.aspx>

<http://www.fluoridealert.org/fluoride-facts.htm>