District Health Department
Serving Harrison, Nicholas, & Scott Counties

MINUTES

WEDCO DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

WEDCO District Health Department
Conference Room

Cynthiana, Kentucky

12:00 P.M.

Tim Thompson, Chairman

Judge Steve Hamilton, Vice Chairman

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Members Present:

Members Absent:

Harrison County
Judge Jason Marshall
Brett Hines, OD
Dr. Derrick Clarke

Nicholas County
Judge Steve Hamilton
Becky Reid

Scott County
Jared Hollon, Judge Designee
Dr. Horace Hambrick
Sherrie Taylor, RN
Tim Thompson

Staff and Guests Present: Dr. Crystal Miller, Rachel Winkle, Jennifer Lemmings.

With a roll call showing a quorum present, Tim Thompson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Mr. Thompson asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the minutes.

MOTION #1
Dr. Clarke made a motion to approve the board minutes from Tuesday, February 28, 2023. Jared Hollon seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Jared Hollon – Yes
Dr. Horace Hambrick – Yes
Dr. Brett Hines – Yes
Sherry Taylor – RN Judge- Yes
Becky Reid – Yes
Tim Thompson - Yes
Dr. Derrick Clarke – Yes
Judge Steve Hamilton – Yes
Judge Jason Marshall – Yes

No further discussion. Motion passed without opposition.

Next, Dr. Crystal Miller welcomed Judge Marshall to the board and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Rachel Winkle, Administrative Services Manager, began with the Administrative and Financial report. Mrs. Winkle reported there is a lot of information about facilities to update. During the Christmas holiday, the Harrison County Health Center had a leak. There was an issue in the Environmental area with water rushing out of the building, during holiday closure, due to a burst pipe. We had to have a

water remediation company to come in and dry it up. This was an insurance claim, and not a district issue. We will be doing some things going forward to remedy that.

Regarding positions, we have made some really good hires and had good candidates. Dr. Stack has worked tirelessly for us. He has advocated for all local health departments to put some money in place for infrastructure. WEDCO is going to receive approximately $157,000 after the close of this year. He has driven more funding towards the health departments than we have ever seen before.

In 2021, the board awarded our security systems installation bid to Hi-Tech. Security systems were installed at all three sites. While the systems have worked for the most part, Hi-Tech has continued to not be responsive to our questions and needs in a timely manner. Moving forward, we will be terming our contract with Hi-Tech and switching our platform to Unified Technologies. There will be some upgrades to the system and WEDCO will utilize funding that Dr. Stack has asked us to earmark for infrastructure needs.

We are still working to move the generator at the district office to Nicholas County. We are having difficulty finding someone to do the electrical work. We have been in contact with Younger Electric and asked if they would put in a bid for Nicholas County since we had not gotten any bids to date when advertised. Gene Thomas will be meeting with them on Friday.

We are drafting a request for proposal for a new storage building. Our property lines were staked off to know where we could place a building for storage in order to sell our district office space. The new storage building will also have a larger conference space so that we could have enough space for our full WEDCO staff meetings. There will be storage space on one side of the building and a conference room on the other side. We will open this up for bids and are hopeful that the work could begin in May or June and be completed by fall to be able to move everything from the old office here and sell that building. During the last wind storm, we had a lot of damage to the roof of that building, so it's continuing to cost us money for maintenance and utilities.

Regarding financials through January 31st, our total assets are over $25M. Stockyards bank did raise our checking account to 1.09% after they had dropped us down to .43%. Our surplus at the end of January was $2.8M, so we are running very well for this time. We have received $5.7M of our revenue budgeted which is 73% and we are only in the 7th month and we have expended $2.8M, which is 46%. Included in your packet is a 7 month budget projection, which was required by the state. On the last page of the spreadsheets, at the bottom of the page shows where we are through January. In the far last column at the bottom shows a projection if we continue to trend the way we are, the amount we will close with. There are some anticipated expenses in the spring and summer, so we will be spending more money to get some of those services done. This projection shows $10.5M in revenue and $7.9M in expenses, giving us a $2.6M surplus. This concluded Mrs. Winkle's report to the board.

Dr. Miller gave her status report to the board and shared we are up for reaccreditation in the next year. Staff are working toward documentation and quality improvement to continue to meet these metrics. We have a wonderful accreditation coordinator, Debra Hendricks, who is leading this effort. We are getting back to what is important to us. The board will be hearing more about this as the process progresses. Part of the accreditation process includes the strategic plan. In coming meetings, Dr. Miller will be bringing the strategic plan before the board so the board can see where we are and provide input on what gaps we are missing and what may need to be added.

She also shared there will be a board of health training provided by the state coming up and Dr. Miller will send that out to all board members. It is usually recorded.

Dr. Miller shared that she is still working on a new logo. She has not yet had any designs that she feels represents WEDCO. She wants to have something that is timeless.

Another goal we are working on is staff training. Following Covid we are focusing on staff training and elevating our staff's thinking, helping them be better leaders, and helping them feel confident in decision making. We have a couple of our managers, Samantha Jones and Kayla Kiser, in a state leadership program. Kayla Kiser, Environmental Supervisor, received an award at the KYHA Conference. Dr. Miller says this is the best team we have had during her tenure.

Dr. Miller is working on getting a vaccine coalition that will be in each county, made up of physicians, community members, school administrators, and nurses working in the school systems that can push educating the importance of vaccinations. We are working with all of the nurse leads in every school district to increase record keeping, getting immunization records up to par, and educating the importance of getting children vaccinated. Dr. Hambrick mentioned that he is pleased with the work and emphasized the importance of the MMR vaccination rates. Vaccination rates in Kentucky have really fallen and are going to get worse. Negativity about on the Covid vaccine has damaged vaccination as a whole. Dr. Miller is proud of where we have come and there will be more on that as we go.

Dr. Miller gave an update on the syringe exchange program. The purpose for this program is to mitigate disease. There is still some stigma around why this program is offered. We have sent our nurse practicioner to a Hep-C treatment program to help with that program. She can now work with helping to manage our clients. The purpose for this program is the cost to the health care system. It costs roughly $100K to treat someone with Hepatitis-C. If it turns into Endocarditis then it becomes more than that. We have cleared two of our syringe program exchange members with Hepatits-C. They are now being treated for Hep-C which is a big win for us. Everyone that comes into our syringe exchange program gets education, and is asked if they want to be tested for HIV and Hep-C. We do have HIV still in our communities. We have been able to back people up with care that were out of care. We are doing a lot of work in this realm. This program was hard to get off the ground and Dr. Miller is pleased to see these results. They are also seeing that the treatment isn't as long, so what was an 8-week Hep-C treatment, are seeing results in 4-weeks. Patients that come through our program have a lot of barriers and can't keep up with treatments. Their number one priority is not to get to the doctor to treat their Hep-C, but trying to live. Shortening that treatment to 50%, we will have more compliance with the participants that are getting treatment. Dr. Miller is really proud of that program.

The beautiful minds program is a partnership with us, all of the school districts, and the University of Kentucky. They use their resident medical students to screen grades 6-9 to see if students are at risk for mental health issues, suicide, and the suicide prevention program. We are working with UK to see how can we do better with this program, and how can we tighten this up. We are screening kids. It is passive consent, so if the parents do not send in a letter stating they don't want their kids participating, then they are screened. That was a way to include more students. There has been a suicide in Scott County and one in Harrison County in the last 6 months, so we are looking at how we can do better in that program.

Lastly Dr. Miller wanted to add that WEDCO is doing good work and we have such good team members. We can carry out our mission because we have the financial resources to do so and we have the team to do it. We have a good presence in every one of our counties.

MOTION #2
Jared Hollon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Becky Reid seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Jared Hollon – Yes
Dr. Horace Hambrick – Yes
Dr. Brett Hines – Yes
Sherry Taylor – RN Judge- Yes
Becky Reid – Yes
Tim Thompson - Yes
Dr. Derrick Clarke – Yes
Judge Steve Hamilton – Yes
Judge Jason Marshall – Yes

No further discussion. Motion passed without opposition.

Meeting was adjourned.

Tim Thompson, Chairman — Date: 6-22-2023

Dr. Crystal Miller, Secretary — Date: 6/21/23