

Meeting Minutes

Board of Health for Madison and Dane County EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 9, 2008

2:30 p.m.

210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
CCB, Room 356, Conf. Rm.

I. Call to Order/Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 2:36 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Zahner, Alan Schwartzstein, Judy Wilcox

OTHERS PRESENT: Lauren Cnare, David Caes, Patricia Frazak, Tommye Schneider
Pamela Abel (recorder)

II. Public Comment (limit 3 minutes per speaker) - NONE

III. Review of City and County Ethics Code for Board Adoption – Possible ACTION Item

A review was done of how this issue came to the Executive Committee. At the last Board meeting, the Chair had discovered that the IGA is silent on which ethics code the Board and department should follow. The Board then referred the issue to the Executive Committee for a recommendation.

After discussion, Wilcox/Schwartzstein made the following motion – To request Dave Gault of Corporation Counsel provide a short side-by-side comparison of the city and county ethics code. The Executive Committee will take up for discussion at a future meeting and make a recommendation to the full Board. PASSED unanimously.

IV. Discuss How and When to Advocate for the Department in the Budget Process

Wilcox will be attending the county public hearing on the Public Health budget on 9-10-08. The following talking points were developed by the committee to be used by Board members, with the suggestion that Board members contact their Alders and County Board Supervisors to advocate for the department:

-Public health is a countywide human service issue.

The current budget proposal eliminates very important programs; doing so will harm public Health in the county. Funding for these programs should be reinstated: Animal services, dental funding and Well Child Clinics

-These are not luxuries but public safety issues.

-The city and county health departments were merged in a carefully planned effort to improve public health countywide. This cannot be done without adequate resources.

-The department is doing more countywide with fewer resources. Examples are lake testing and Animal Services.

-There are very positive things going on in the department. Public Health has gained national recognition and funding to study infant mortality. The well testing program in the county was very well received outside the city, and people are interested in continuing this program. High levels of contamination in wells in the county have been identified; there is a need to continue this testing and to remedy the situation.

Schwartzstein/Cnare moved to approve Wilcox attend at the county public hearing on September 10 to speak on behalf of the Board of Health. PASSED unanimously.

Cnare will attend the October 13 Board of Estimates review of the operating budget. She will ask for reinstatements of the three supplements and a portion or all of the transition costs. Schwartzstein/Wilcox moved to approve Cnare attend the City Board of Estimates meeting on October 13 and speak on behalf of the Board of Health, PASSED unanimously.

V. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.