

**Monthly Meeting  
Minutes  
April 13, 2010  
8:00 AM  
Library**

**Call to order at 8:15 AM**

Present: Board of Health – Matt Brovender, Esq., Kenneth Lalime, RPH, and Ed Tracey, MD

Staff – Tim Callahan, Director of Health, David Reed, MD, Medical Advisor Tom Closter, Director of Environmental Services Patricia DiPietro, Administrative Technician and Darleen Hoffler, RN, Clinical Services Supervisor

Public: Kelly Burke, Fairfield University student

**Minutes of March 9, 2010 Meeting** - Motion to approve by Mr. Lalime, seconded by Mr. Brovender, passed unanimously

**Weights and Measures Fees Collections Update**

**GAS STATIONS**

\$50 PER NOZZLE

24 STATIONS HAVE PAID \$10,350  
193 NOZZLES

8 DELINQUENT STATIONS (\$3,500)  
78 NOZZLES

**SCALES**

\$35 PER SCALE

70 ESTABLISHMENTS HAVE PAID \$19,005  
543 SCALES

50 ESTABLISHMENTS HAVE NOT PAID (\$3,695)  
105 SCALES

**TAXI'S**

\$35 PER METER

ONE DELINQUENT TAXI CAB COMPANY (630.00)  
18 METERS

**OIL TRUCKS**

\$75 PER OIL TRUCK METER

10 OIL TRUCK COMPANIES PAID \$5,100  
68 METERS

5 OIL TRUCK COMPANIES DELINQUENT  
6 METERS

(\$450)

TOTALS

\$34,455 (\$8,275)

A reminder letter will be sent this week to all outstanding accounts.  
Mr. Closter reported gas station owners have expressed appreciation for the Board's action, which adjusted the registration of nozzles from meters.

### **Review of Environmental, Clinic and Laboratory Fees**

#### **Environmental Fees**

The cost to provide the services associated with the license or permit issued have increased slightly. However the costs do not exceed the fees currently charged. After a thorough discussion the Board agreed, particularly in light of the difficult financial situation confronting many of the consumers, businesses and property owners, a fee increase at this time is not appropriate.

Motion: To maintain the current fee structure for the FY 10-11 fiscal year by Mr. Lalime, seconded by Mr. Brovender and passed unanimously.

#### **Clinic Fees**

The costs to purchase and administer the various vaccines have increased. Mr. Lalime asked if there is a standard such as Average Wholesale Price (AWP) used to set the price. After a spirited discussion the Board asked for additional information. This matter will be discussed at the May 11, 2010 meeting.

STD clinic charges – There is a \$10 charge for the STD clinic. While the fee charged is less than the cost of the service, it is believed a payment adds value. Patients without the means to pay the \$10 charge are treated. The Board discussed raising the fee to \$20. Darleen Hoffler and Dr. Reed expressed concerns that the increased charge might be a deterrent to seeking care, which might lead to the spread of the disease. The increased fee might also cause more patients to seek free care, thereby leading to a reduction in revenue from this activity. Another consideration was patient volume, between 800 and 900 people per year, and the minimum impact a fee increase would have on revenue. The Board and staff agreed that the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases is a true public health function and the bulk of the cost is appropriate for public funding.

Motion: To maintain the \$10 charge for STD clinic services by Mr. Lalime, seconded by Dr. Tracey and passed unanimously.

#### **Laboratory Fees**

The cost to test water for potability is \$25. Currently the fee is \$30 for the initial test and \$15 for a retest. The same process and cost for each test is the same. The Board agreed an appropriate charge for each test to be \$30.

Motion to set the water potability test charge at \$30 by Brovender, seconded by Dr. Tracey and passed unanimously.

### **Other Business**

#### Web Site Redesign

The City has engaged Civic Plus to redesign the web site. The Health Department will have a sub site. A draft of the home page was presented for comment. Ideas presented for consideration include; making a diligent effort to distinguish public health from acute health care, including a public registration option, keeping the public health brand intact, the shield and wording, and finding livelier color combinations.

#### Health Reform Act

The inclusion of prevention and wellness concepts in the bill were viewed as a major gain for public health. Mr. Lalime will forward a somewhat condensed version of the legislation to the Board. Mr. Callahan said the PHAB organization is anticipating the state and local health department accreditation project will be viewed favorably in the enactment of the legislation.

Adjourn at 9:20 AM

