

MINUTES

DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH SPECIAL MEETING

October 06, 2006

3:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Cathy Riggan
Dr. Peter Rogaski
Dr. Mark Davis
Commissioner Don Truell
Dr. Mark Hamrick
Rev. Lamar Moore
Mr. Keith Raulston
Mr. Corey Buggs

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Jackie Frank
Ms. Kim Frank

VISITORS PRESENT

Mr. Brian Shipwash

Brian Shipwash, Clerk of Court administered the Oath of Office to new Board member Dr. Cathy Riggan.

Dr. Davis opened the called meeting, established a quorum and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the new Board member.

ESTABLISHMENT OF FLU AND PNEUMONIA VACCINE FEES FOR THE 2006-2007 FLU SEASON

Kim Frank provided a survey of flu and pneumonia fees from other counties. She stated that the health department had pre-booked 4,300 doses of vaccine from two different pharmaceutical companies; 2000 from Sanofi Pasteur and 2,300 from Caligor (Glaxo and Sanofi).

Mr. Long stated that he was recommending to the Board that flu shot fees be set at last year's rates. Mr. Long also stated that flu vaccine for the previous two years had been provided free of charge since it was state supplied. This year we will be using private purchase vaccine and charging the fees which may be confusing to the public.

Ms. Frank stated that Medicaid and Medicare have a higher fee for reimbursement charges than the health department charges.

MOTION

Rev. Lamar Moore made the motion to set fees at \$20.00 for the Influenza vaccine and \$35.00 for the Pneumococcal vaccine. Mr. Truell seconded and the motion was approved.

ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICIES FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MEDICARE AS PAYMENT FOR FLU VACCINATIONS

Mr. Long stated that clients with Medicare part C present a problem since their insurance companies would not reimburse the health department for flu vaccinations but will typically reimburse the private physicians office for the same service. Mr. Long stated that it will be confusing for many clients that don't clearly understand the differences in the Medicare provisions and there are essentially two ways the health department can handle the situation. Mr. Long stated that we can accept the Medicare part C clients with the understanding that when we bill for the flu shot the health department will likely not be reimbursed or we can charge these clients at the full fee established by the Board even though they present a Medicare card.

Mr. Truell asked for an explanation of "Part C". Ms. Frank stated that "Part C" was your non traditional Medicare through providers such as Humana, Partners and United Health Care. Mr. Long said that since the health department does not have an agreement with these providers we would not get reimbursed.

Ms. Frank said that in past years we have always tried to question clients as to what their Medicare card looked like and advise them to bring the card they take to the doctor. Ms. Frank stated that despite these efforts we still have had clients give us their Medicare number only to find out after the claim has been denied that they did not have traditional Medicare.

Mr. Truell wanted to know what did the person that had standard Medicare pay and Mr. Long replied by saying, nothing, the cost of the vaccination would be covered.

Mr. Long stated that the health department will screen clients for the type of Medicare plan they have and will advise them that if they have Medicare Part C that they can go to their private provider and likely have the costs covered.

MOTION

Rev. Moore made the motion that clients with Medicare Part C will be required to pay the established fee but staff should screen all Medicare recipients for Part C and explain to them that their plan reimburses private providers only and advise them to seek the vaccine from their private provider; staff will give clients the option to come to our clinic but will be responsible for paying; the health department will write off any lost fees for Medicare Part C clients that may be missed during screening. Dr. Hamrick seconded and the motion was approved.

ESTABLISH FLU VACCINATION ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Ms. Long stated that for the past two years we have received State supplied vaccine and therefore could not limit vaccinations to Davidson County residents but with the use of private purchase vaccine we now have the option of only accepting Davidson County residents. Mr. Long said he had asked for the EPI team to discuss this issue and make a recommendation. The recommendation from the EPI team was for the health department not to exclude non county residents from receiving flu shots.

MOTION

Mr. Truell made the motion for the health department not exclude other county residents from flu vaccinations provided by the health department. Mr. Buggs seconded and the motion was approved.

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

Next Board of Health will meet Tuesday, November 14, 2006

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,

L. Layton Long, R.S., M.S.A.
Secretary to the Board

This is a true and accurate copy of the October 6th 2006, Board of Health Minutes.

Dr. Mark Davis, Chair