

Warren County Health Department

Board of Health

March 17, 2020

The Warren County Board of Health held its meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 in the lobby of the Health Department.

Members present: Dr. Elton Brown, Commissioner Baker, Dr. James Crenshaw, Mrs. Eva Brown, Ms. Cheryl Coffman, Ms. Vivian Loyd, Mr. Jerry Bolton, and Mr. Michael Kilian

Others present: Dr. Margaret Brake, Sharon Bartholomew, and Tanisha Lyons

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Elton Brown and a moment of silence was observed.

Ms. Coffman moved to omit the Conflict of Interest Statement and was seconded by Dr. Crenshaw. There being no further discussion the motion unanimously passed.

There was no public comment.

The January 2020 minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Baker moved to accept the minutes as read and seconded by Mrs. Eva Brown. There being no further discussion the motion unanimously passed.

Dr. Brake presented the FY 20-21 budget for review. There are no major changes but the Health Department did ask for a new Environmental Health position to help with the back log of septic permits as it stands now it will take two weeks or more for this to be completed. The Department also asked for \$15,000 for equipment for Environmental Health to make them more efficient. The tablets and applications will be used while the inspectors are in the field to complete their documentation in real time. We will be working with Erik Hilliard the GIS coordinator with mapping so that clients will be able to go online to look at property and also at some point we want to post restaurant inspections on line. We will use grant funds to make this purchase. We have submitted all budget forms to the County Manager and Finance Office. We will meet in the next few weeks to go through the budget. In April, we hope to have a final budget presented to the County Commissioners. Ms. Coffman moved to accept the FY 2020-2021 Budget and seconded by Dr. Crenshaw. There being no further discussion the motion unanimously passed.

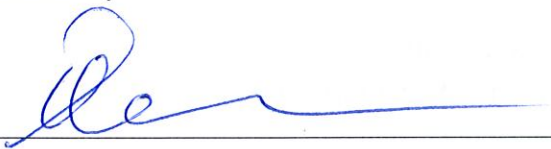
Dr. Brake presented the Influenza Report for review. This is a summary from the state report from October 2019-March 7, 2020. The flu shot is still available. We are testing more for the flu because of the Coronavirus similarities which has caused the number the cases to influx.

Dr. Brake discussed the Coronavirus Pandemic & Local Response. On Sunday, March 15th, a meeting of the Board of Commissioners declared a local state of emergency for Coronavirus response for Warren County. Funds have been made available for Mr. Jones, County Manager to have additional monies to assist with the response. On Monday, March 16th, the Local Emergency Operations Center was activated. It will operate Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm at the EMS complex.

The Health Department has been busy reaching out to other providers whenever there are updates on guidance from the State. Our communicable Disease nurse makes calls and sends faxes or emails to make sure they have the latest protocols and guidelines from the state on testing. The department does have some test kits. The health departments were only allowed to get three (3) unless you were in an area that actually has cases. We can test 6 people and we have not tested anyone partly because of the criteria that has been set by the State in order to do testing. The conditions are the person has to have symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, tested negative for the flu, or have symptoms and been in contact with someone who has tested positive. Providers in the county can also test through their own labs or private ones. There are no confirmed cases in Warren County. We have reached out to Daycare Centers to talk about prevention measures and information to share with parents. At the Health Department, we sanitize areas routinely throughout the day after we see patients. The EPI team was activated and meets weekly. We participate on the conference calls the Division of Public Health has every Tuesday @ 1:00 pm and regular meetings with Mr. Jones, County Manager every Wednesday at 9:00 am. We have worked diligently with the county to get information out by social media and radio interviews with our local station. The state updates their website everyday by 11:00am and will provide a count of how many positive cases each county has.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned by general consent at 8:30pm. The next meeting is July 21, 2020 @ 7:00pm.

Submitted by:



Dr. Elton Brown, III, Board Chair



Dr. Margaret F. Brake, Health Director

Attachment: Health Director's Report