

**DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
May 24, 2011**

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS PRESENT

Linda Liston, MD, President
Kevin Buick, JD, Secretary
Dennis Diemer, DVM
Tim Duez, DDS
Karen Hagen, RN, MS
Todd Latham
David Phillips, MD
Scott Starkweather

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS ABSENT

Jesus Romero, Vice President
Paul Stoddard
E. Sue Thompson, RN, MS

STAFF PRESENT

Karen Grush, Public Health Administrator

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Grush reported that due to decreasing revenues, we continue to evaluate all of the agency programs and services to determine priorities and allocation of management resources. We have evaluated the Vision and Hearing Program on an ongoing basis. In 2002, screening was provided to the majority of school age and preschool school children in the county. In 2004, screening was reduced to mandated grades in schools and preschool children. In 2008/2009, the Illinois Department of Public Health limited grant money to only be used for preschool children. The purpose of the Vision and Hearing Screening Program is to identify barriers to learning. It is a Department of Children and Family Services licensing requirement. It is the responsibility of schools and day cares and not the health department to assure that vision and hearing screening is provided. Mrs. Grush reported that the health department has not received any Vision and Hearing Screening grant payments for FY 2011 for the period beginning July 1, 2010. The current Illinois Department of Public Health budget has a 30% cut proposed for Vision and Hearing Screening grants for 2012. Currently two part-time certified vision and hearing screening technicians provide the screening services. If the health department had to lay off individuals in the Personal Health Services Division, the vision and hearing screening technicians would be the first to be laid off in accordance with the bargaining agreement and the agency has no other employees who are certified that could assume the work. Mrs. Grush reported that we have been in contact with Micki Chulick, Executive Director of DeKalb County Coordinated Child Care (4-C) to see if they would consider being the grantee instead of the health department and provide the screening to daycares. 4-C's mission is to provide services to children in preschools and day cares. They have two certified technicians. Mrs. Chulick indicated they would be open to further discussions. Mrs. Grush recommended we continue further discussions with 4 C's regarding the matter and requested approval from the board to pursue the feasibility of 4-C becoming the grantee with the Illinois Department of Public Health instead of the health department. Consensus of the board was to continue discussion with 4-C.

Mrs. Grush reported that Mrs. Lux will not be filling the assistant administrator position immediately. With the assistant administrator position open and the Director of Office Support laid off in December, the four administration management positions will be down to two positions. She asked the board to consider rehiring her in accordance with the rules of IMRF, not to exceed 600 hours annually as an administrative consultant during the transition period. She requested \$58 per hour. Dr. Diemer recommended the employment be for up to one year, and then reevaluated as to the continued necessity.

Mr. Latham, chair of the Personnel Committee, reviewed the process in selecting the new administrator. He reported the Personnel Committee unanimously recommends the appointment of Jane Lux as the administrator. He reported Mrs. Lux requested \$114,387 annually. The committee recommends the salary requested by Mrs. Lux.

Dr. Diemer recommended Mrs. Lux be appointed Public Health Administrator and Mrs. Grush be employed up to one year at the salaries requested.

Kevin Buick, JD, Secretary
DeKalb County Board of Health
Executive Session Minutes
May 24, 2011