

Joint City-County Planning Task Force

March 12, 2014 9:30 a.m.

Greene County Archives & Election Center, 1126 Boonville Ave.

Meeting #13

Task Force Members present:

Greg Burris, Springfield City Manager
Tim Smith, Greene County Administrator
Cindy Stein, Greene County Auditor
Mary Mannix Decker, City of Springfield Financial Director
Martha Mundt, Greene County Budget Director
Jerry Moyer, Greene County Court Administrator

Tim Smith, Greene County Administrator opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m., followed by a welcome from Greg Burris, Springfield City Manager. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the notes from the February 20, 2014 meeting. Jerry Moyer, Greene County Court Administrator, seconded the motion. The notes were approved.

Clay Goddard, Assistant Director of Health with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, led the discussion on Public Health Funding. Mr. Goddard explained the importance of working closely with all agencies in the community to provide public health and to determine what gaps needed to be filled. He directed the members attention to the two handouts – “The Three Core Public Health Functions and the Essential Public Health Services” and the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) “Embrace Minimum Package of Public Health Services”. The three core functions of public health are: Assessment, Policy Development, and Assurance. Ten essential services fall under the three core functions. It is important to note that these services work together and one service cannot be removed without affecting another. The NACCHO model demonstrates the solid foundation of public health and the services that are involved.

The following is the presentation outline given by Mr. Goddard:

1. Where are the areas we can improve
 - a. Prenatal case management
 - b. High-risk infant home visits
 - c. Case management (which can make a significant difference on long-term outcomes)
2. Satellite facilities and services
 - a. Providing clinics closer to where people live - possible satellite clinic locations include: Willard, Fair Grove, Rogersville, and southwest Springfield
 - b. Services within the satellite facilities could include: nursing, counseling/education, disease prevention, and vital records
3. Chronic Disease Prevention Services (of all the services provided by the Health Department, Mr. Goddard stated they are lacking the most in chronic disease prevention)
4. Restoration of funding for Jordan Valley Community Health Center (\$168,000 of County funding was eliminated under previous budget cuts)
5. Enhance Emergency Preparedness Capacity
6. Personnel Costs for expanded programs
7. Total Budget for expanded programs
8. Animal Control Statistics for the Urban Service Area
9. Animal Control Costs for the Urban Service Area

In regard to personnel, Mr. Burris asked what goal is involved and whether all those needing a case manager would be served. Mr. Goddard explained they are only handling those individuals with multiple

risk factors; however they would need to hire four new nurses to handle the demand. Commissioner Bengsch inquired about the cost of high-risk infants if their mothers are not served by public health and the child is placed in an intensive care hospital unit. Pam Bryant, Maternal Child Health Programs Administrator with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, later clarified that the costs could average \$50,000 to \$250,000 per length of stay, depending upon complications. She has since contacted the local hospitals for a more accurate cost for the southwest Missouri area. Mr. Goddard explained that the nurse-family partnership model is the most effective in reducing the amount of hospital stays.

Mr. Smith suggested the public health issues align with those in the Field Guild 2030 (Strategic Plan). Mr. Goddard stated that the suggested needs align with this plan.

Mr. Smith asked how much funding was needed for the City and County to effectively fund public health. Mr. Burris explained that the City and County could come up with an accurate number, but it would also involve funding from the community. The Field Guide cost estimates should also be included when determining the funding amount.

Moving to the animal control portion of the presentation, Mr. Goddard explained it would take 1.5 full time employees and approximately \$169,000 to cover the call volume and mileage to provide animal control services in the Urban Service Area of Greene County beyond the Springfield city limits. Mr. Smith stated that the County has noticeably missed this service; however this is a something that the community does not necessarily want to fund.

Mary Mannix Decker, City of Springfield Financial Director, presented the Funding for Public Health. She explained the breakdown of the revenue source, with the largest percentage, 62%, coming from the City of Springfield's property tax. The remaining revenue includes 15% from charges/user fees, 12% from Greene County, 6% from permits, and 5% from the State of Missouri. Mr. Burris asked Commissioner Bengsch the amount the State had provided in the past. Commissioner Bengsch replied that a few years ago it had been larger, approximately 10-13%. Ms. Mannix Decker explained that the County's funding was just over \$690,000 for its 280,152 residents. County residents, not living in Springfield, continue to receive the same health services as those living within the city, with the exception that county residents pay more for vaccinations. The Task Force agreed with the presentation slide that stated the following: (a) County residents receive the same level of public health services as City residents; (b) City residents pay many times more for the same level of service; and (c) City residents have been subsidizing health services for County (non-City) residents for several years. The residents of Springfield, while still also Greene County residents who pay County taxes as well, are currently paying approximately \$29 per person annually for public health services. Greene County residents, who live outside of Springfield, are paying approximately \$2-3 per resident annually for essentially the same service. The Task Force agreed that a more equitable distribution of funding support is needed. Unlike other shared services, there is no Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) defining how public health services and costs are to be shared. Mr. Smith suggested compiling the necessary cost. Ms. Mannix Decker explained they are still looking at how best to allocate the costs and to equalize the funding.

Mr. Burris suggested the group do some homework to determine how much funding is needed to properly fund the public health program and how best to equalize public health funding between the City and County residents who do not live within the City of Springfield city limits. The City will work in-house on their numbers, and then work with the County to determine the full amount. Martha Mundt, Greene County Budget Director, asked whether different types of funding solutions should be considered once the total cost of needed public health services has been determined. Mr. Burris agreed all funding sources should be considered by the Task Force. He recommended one-to-two weeks be allowed to estimate the total cost of public health services in the county.

In closing, Mr. Smith suggested that a portion of the next meeting be used to finish discussing public health. Jerry Moyer, Greene County Court Administrator, stated he may not be ready to present at the next meeting. The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 9:30 a.m., at the Environmental Resource Center.

With no additional discussion, the meeting dismissed at approximately 10:40 a.m.

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