

FILED

4-3-2012

MARY GOUGE  
COUNTY CLERK

76 D.C.

**Health & Welfare  
Committee Meeting  
March 5, 2012 / 6:05 P.M.**

Members Present: JoAnn Blankenship, Ronnie Trivett, Ken Arney, Robert Gobble, Buford Peters, Richard Winters, Scott Sams, and Steve Lowerance (for L.C. Tester).

Members Absent: L.C. Tester

Sheriff Chris Mathes, Commission Chairman Tom Bowers, Commissioner John Lewis, were also in attendance along with other concerned citizens and news media.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. Quorum present.

Motion was made by Ronnie Trivett, seconded by Richard Winters to approve the minutes of the last meeting, December 5, 2012, as printed. All ayes, motion carried.

**Old Business**

Chairperson, JoAnn Blankenship noted that EMA Director, Andrew Worley was unable to be in attendance, however a report would be presented next month concerning the Alert System. She also noted that federal funding assistance with the system may be possible.

Chairperson, JoAnn Blankenship informed those present of classes to be held at the Carter County Health Department concerning Diabetes. Dates: 03-21-2012 and 04-17-2102 at 6:00 p.m. and will be free to anyone wishing to attend.

April 3, 2012 the University of Wisconsin will be conducting a rating of all Health Departments in the United States. Rating of the Carter County Health Department will be posted when this is completed.

**New Business**

Chairperson, JoAnn Blankenship spoke to the group concerning the dangers of Bath Salts and Synthetic Drugs. Ms. Blankenship passed out some recently approved Resolutions that the surrounding counties had passed and also information sheets on Synthetic Drugs. Everyone spoke out concerning the dangers of these items and were in agreement that the ban of such items needed to be addressed in Carter County.

Sheriff Mathes addressed the group and spoke on a recent incident that use of these drugs resulted in a death in his jurisdiction. He noted that he was working to have books printed to help education concerning the dangers of this drug.

Following much discussion concerning the dangers of these drugs everyone was in full agreement that action to ban the sale of Bath Salts and Synthetic Drugs needed to be addressed as soon as possible.

Motion was made by Ken Arney, seconded by Richard Winters to contact and instruct County Attorney, Kieth Bowers, Jr. to draw up and present to the full Commission for approval, a Resolution that would ban the sale of all synthetic drugs in Carter County, and such be forwarded to State Legislature requesting a ban at State level. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Sheriff Mathes noted that he was hopeful that this ban would become effective at state level by May 15, 2012.

**Public Comments**

Commissioner John Lewis ask if the flooring had been laid at the Carter County Health Department.

No report was available.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ken Arney, seconded by Ronnie Trivett. All Ayes. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Patsy H. Lewis, Secretary

  
Jo Ann Blankenship, Chairperson.

**APPROVED**  
4-2-12