



Executive Report to the Galveston County 4C's Governing Board
July 31, 2008

Illness Outbreak at Galveston County Jail

On July 10th, 2008, the Health District received a report of a possible food borne illness outbreak affecting inmates at the Galveston County Jail. The jail nurse reported that 800 of the 1100 inmates had been evaluated for a gastrointestinal illness (vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach cramps) that lasted for 3 to 4 days. A line list was generated of inmates that were stricken with the illness. As of July 28th, 2008 the Health District had received 868 interview questionnaires which included their food history for the past 4 days. Food Safety Investigators with the Consumer Health Services program assisted in the investigation by collecting food samples and inspecting the kitchen, during which they identified some minor maintenance and training issues. The testing of stool specimens were negative for common viral (Norovirus), and bacterial organisms (*Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *E. coli*, and *Campylobacter*) and parasitic agents (*Cryptosporidium* and *Cyclospora*) and all food samples were negative for staph endotoxin. Thus far, investigation of the outbreak has not identified the cause of the illness. This is the 3rd outbreak of gastrointestinal illness in the Galveston County Jail in the past 5 years. *Houston Chronicle* stories covering the outbreak are posted at www.gchd.org/press/2008/071008-jail-illness-chron1.htm, www.gchd.org/press/2008/071108jail-illness-chron2.htm and www.gchd.org/press/2008/071708Foodpoisoning3rd.htm. *Galveston County Daily News* coverage is online at www.gchd.org/press/2008/071108Jail-ill-GDN.htm.

Kids Health Fest – Back to School Immunization Campaign

The new school year means the District is once again gearing up for the annual Back-to-School immunization campaign starting Monday, August 4th through the 27th. To better accommodate the annual crowds, smaller immunization clinics in Texas City and Dickinson will be relocated to La Marque to better accommodate the crowd and related activities. Vaccinations will be given in the La Marque office on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Immunizations will also be available in the Galveston Immunization Clinic on Mondays and Fridays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. This is a great opportunity for families to make sure their children are adequately immunized and will be an opportunity for staff to educate parents about the dangers of lead poisoning and to encourage testing of children one to six years of age. The annual GCHD Back-to-School Immunization press release was issued July 29th and can be found at www.gchd.org/press/2008/072908Backtoschool.htm. An advertisement was also submitted to the *Galveston County Daily News* to run in their Back-to-School edition published July 30th. The Ad can be viewed at www.gchd.org/press/2008/2008BTSAD.pdf. Information from the press release was also published in the *Galveston County Daily News* July 30th and can be found at www.gchd.org/press/2008/073008Checkchildshot.htm.

WIC Begins Using Lone Star Card August 11, 2008

Changes to the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program were highlighted in a press release issued July 25th. Statewide the program is changing from paper issued benefits to EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) utilizing the Lone Star Card. This should be an improvement for program participants and grocery stores in the community that process purchases. *The switch to the EBT system requires that the issuing of WIC benefits be suspended August 4 – 8 at all Health District WIC clinics.* However, WIC will continue to offer breastfeeding support services during that week at each clinic for clients. All WIC clinics will resume

normal operations on August 11, 2008 to serve participants with the new system. The whole release is posted at www.gchd.org/press/2008/072508WICchanges.htm. The information was published July 28th in the *Galveston County Daily News* www.gchd.org/press/2008/072808WICbeginselectronic.htm. KRIV Fox 26 news also interviewed district staff July 28th for a story to run at a later time that will discuss the changes and why they are good for the program. The GCHD WIC program will be the first in the area to roll out the new program.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Updates

Since January 2008 to July 15th, 2008, a total of 11 confirmed elevated blood lead cases have been reported to the Health District. The confirmed cases reside in Galveston (8), Texas City (2), and La Marque (1). Eight of the cases reside in the *City of Galveston* in zip codes 77550 (6) and 77551 (2). All 11 cases were referred to Community Health Nursing and 2 were referred for an Environmental Lead Investigation. All children with lead levels of 10 ug/dl or greater receive a home assessment by a public health nurse to discuss prevention with parents. Homes of children with levels of 20 ug/dl or higher (or two levels between 15-19 at least three months apart) also receive an environmental lead assessment where samples of paint, soil and dust are tested; and, in turn notification with results, laws regarding disclosure, and lead safe work practices is sent to parents/owners. Kurt Koopmann and Ronnie Schultz presented at the first of what appears to be several community workshops sponsored by the City of Galveston addressing lead-based paint in the community. The event was held on Wednesday, July 9th at the Rosenberg Library in Galveston. The crowd of about 30 citizens heard speakers from the Health District, Galveston Historical Foundation and the City of Galveston. The Health District spoke about lead based paint hazards, our efforts to respond to elevated blood lead levels within our Epidemiology, Community and Environmental Health Services. We also discussed recent developments of the Lead Task Force. A requested presentation was given to the Galveston Pachyderm Club by PIO Kurt Koopmann at their July monthly meeting. The presentation included information on district services, the role of a Public Information Officer and issues surrounding childhood lead poisoning in Galveston. A GCHD brochure was provided to each attendee. The City of Galveston's efforts to secure HUD funding to address lead contaminated homes on the island was the subject of a news story July 28th in the *Galveston County Daily News*. Along with city information data from previous stories provided by Epidemiology was provided. The story is posted on the Lead Task Force web page and can be found at www.gchd.org/press/2008/072808HUDfundingsought.htm.

Animal Shelter Needs

On July 6th the *Galveston County Daily News* published two stories focusing on services provided at the Galveston County Joe Vickery Animal Shelter in Texas City. The primary story on the front page was an interview with a couple of shelter volunteers expressing a need for new facilities able to handle the increased number of pets being received on an annual basis. The volunteers also expressed concern over the lack of an adequate isolation area to protect animals from illness. The story included information on a recent budget amendment approved by county commissioners that will allow some improvements to be made during the current fiscal year. The story is online at www.gchd.org/press/2008/070608-shelter-buddies.htm. The second story discussed challenges faced at the shelter with an ever increasing number of animals being received on an annual basis. The Texas Department of State Health Services also contributed to the story stating that in all of their recent inspections the shelter had been satisfactory which is the highest grade given. Also noted was that adoptions have increased and animals euthanized have decreased which has been the case for the past several years. Read this story at www.gchd.org/press/2008/070608-shelter-adoption-increase.htm. An editorial in the *Galveston County Daily News* calling for public support of funding for a new animal shelter that could handle the increasing demands of a growing county was also published. The editorial is posted at www.gchd.org/press/2008/071408Shelterneeds.htm. A presentation to be made at the Galveston County United Board of Health July meeting on the options for improvements at the Joe Vickery

Animal Shelter were the subject of a story July 30th in the *Galveston County Daily News*. The story is posted at www.gchd.org/press/2008/073008Baordhearsshelter.htm.

County Budget Workshop

On July 29, 2008 Health District staff, Dr. Guidry, Ron Schultz, Kim Schoolcraft and Jay Holland, met with Commissioners Court in budget workshop to discuss the GCHD proposed FY 09 budget. The proposed budget included a request for an increase of \$334,627 over FY 08. This increase included funding of \$261,040 for the 4C's which will be used to hire 1.0 FTE midlevel provider, .5 FTE Physician and .4 FTE Dentist and \$85,587 for public health which will be used to hire a Lead Assessor/Inspector and facility maintenance at the animal shelter. This budget request did not include funding for animal control overtime to cover Bacliff 16 hours a month on the weekends. As this was a project initiated by the Commissioners Court, they were asked if they wanted to continue the operation and they agreed to put an additional \$10,000 in the FY 09 budget to continue the project. This budget request did not deal with any facility items as those are being addressed by Commissioners Court in a separate bond issue. The tentative November 2008 bond issue will include funding for both the public health and animal control facilities. The total FY 2009 budget request is \$6,932,020.

External Auditors Begin Interim Work

The auditing firm of Sanderson & Knox began interim work related to the FY 2008 audit on July 16, 2008. Fieldwork is expected to start in late November or early December, with the final audit report issued in February 2009. A meeting with Board Finance Committee members and executive officers is currently being planned to discuss any key audit and/or operational issues that will be addressed during the audit process.

Funds to Combat Childhood Obesity Awarded

The Health District has been awarded a grant of \$100,000 from the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to start up a Comprehensive Childhood Obesity Service in the 4C's Clinic targeting children 2 to 12 years old. The grant award includes salaries for a nutritionist and a health educator to counsel obese and at risk children, both at 32 hours per week. The service will be available both to clinic patients and other eligible children in the county. The grant is due to start September 1, 2008.

Office of Public Information: *For more information, please contact Kurt Koopmann, Public Information Officer, at (409) 938-2211 or email (kkoopman@gchd.org).*

- Dates for upcoming **mammogram screenings** were submitted to the Community Bulletin Board in the *Galveston Daily News* with eligibility guidelines. These sites are submitted to the newspaper on a monthly basis. The community mammogram schedule is posted on the district web site www.gchd.org/chn/dfeet.htm and updated monthly.
- An advisory warning people to limit their consumption of **spotted seatrout and catfish** from Galveston Bay was posted on the District web site July 8th. The advisory issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services warned of dangerous PCP levels in the fish. A previous advisory for northern portions of the bay had been in place since the 1990's. The advisory can be found at www.gchd.org/press/2008/070808-fish-consumption-advisory.htm.
- The **Beach Watch Program** was mentioned in an article published July 17th in the *Galveston County Daily News*. The story covered a grant the Texas General Land Office received from the Environmental Protection Agency to fund a public awareness campaign for the state program locally administered by the District's Environmental Health Programs staff. In the article the local program was mentioned with details on the testing of 52 sites in Galveston County. Online the story can be viewed at www.gchd.org/press/2008/071708BeachwatchEPA.htm. On a daily basis the public can

visit the district web site to see if any current beach water bacterial advisories are posted at www.gchd.org/pollution/BeachAdvisory.htm.

- The status of efforts to hire **three full-time medics for the Bolivar peninsula** was the subject of a story July 21st in the *Galveston County Daily News*. Information provided by the district in the story indicated one was hiring pending all pre-hire physicals, etc, and other applications are being reviewed. The complete story is online at www.gchd.org/press/2008/072208Peninsulamedics.htm.
- Information about the ongoing national investigation of a **Salmonella** outbreak originally linked to tomatoes but now linked to jalapenos and Serrano peppers was posted on the district's *In the News* on July 21st. The information issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services advised people to thoroughly wash all fruits and vegetables before serving and was localized the fact that four of the cases have been in Galveston County. To see the complete advisory visit www.gchd.org/press/2008/072308SalmonellaJalapenos.htm.
- District Public Information Officer Kurt Koopmann attended **Preparing for Pandemic Influenza: A Risk Communication Perspective** in Houston Monday July 14th and Monday July 21st. Facilitated by trainers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the two meetings focused on communication strategies to be used in the event of a pandemic influenza. Session One focused on messages for a variety of populations and the second session was a JIC (Joint Information Center) training and exercise.

4C's Clinic Updates: *For more information, please contact Patrick Butler, 4C's Business Director, at (409) 949-3406 or email pbutler@gchd.org or Pam Jahnke, RN, Strategic Plan Evaluator at (409) 938-2256 or email pjahnke@gchd.org.*

- **Medical & Dental Provider Update** – Staff continues to search for qualified medical providers to fill open positions, with two possible medical candidates being considered at this time, along with one part-time vacant dental provider position. Current Provider vacancies have been widely advertised and distributed. Information on all Health District positions can be viewed at: <http://www.gchd.org/hr/job.htm>
- **4C's Nursing Director** - The 4C's Clinic is currently seeking a qualified Nursing Director. Eligible candidates will have management experience and preferably experience working in an ambulatory clinic setting. The position supervises a staff of 12 medical aides, six LVNs and one RN in the busy 4C's clinic sites in Texas City and Galveston.
- **New Clinical Measure Reporting Requirements** - Health District staff attended training in Dallas on July 10, 2008. A speaker from the Bureau of Primary Health Care taught FQHC personnel from all of Texas how to audit and report new Unified Data System (UDS) clinical measures. Yearly, all health centers must send in the comprehensive UDS report that measures health center performance against other centers across the country. In February 2009 centers will begin reporting on new measures: two year old immunization compliance, Pap tests for women, hypertension and diabetes control and two Perinatal measures, trimester of entry into care and low birth weight. These measures will be obtained by random sampling of medical records beginning in January.
- **DSHS Renews Title V Children's Medical & Dental Care Grant** - The Health District has received a grant award from DSHS to continue Title V services in the 4C's Clinic for children's medical and dental care. Eligible children include those who are not eligible for Medicaid, but are in families earning less than 185% of the federal poverty level. Eligible children do not have to prove citizenship. The award level for FY2009 is \$66,000.
- **Evaluation of Referrals to UTMB** - For the Quarter of October - December 2007, 4C's Providers made 684 referrals. After reconciliation with UTMB's DAMP office we had a success rate of 21%, 29% were Denied, 1% were Pending, 1% Declined Appointments, 14% had No Record or were lost by UTMB DAMP, 5% of the patients failed to comply with Financial Office, 19% were unable to be

contacted, 6% did not keep their Financial Screening appointment, and 3% were Third Party Qualified (such as Medicaid, Medicare, County Indigent Program).

Office of Community Health Services: *For more information, please contact Cassandra Arceneaux, MD, MPH, Director of Community Health Programs at (409) 938-2456 or email carceneaux@gchd.org.*

- **Senior Health Outreach** - Charles Kelly, Senior Services Coordinator continued to promote senior health this month through the topic "Mouth Health". Approximately 164 seniors were educated on the importance of proper oral care and the services provided at the 4C's Dental Clinics. Part-time 4C's dentist, Dr. Richard Randolph was the presenter at the Senior Centers in the Cities of *La Marque, Dickinson, Bacliff, Texas City and Galveston*. On July 10th, Charles Kelly presented a Medicare Overview to residents at Lake Haven Retirement Apartments in *League City*.
- **Health Fair Partnerships** – On June 27th, the HIV staff partnered with Galveston County Department of Parks and Senior Services, the Jesse Tree, and the Gulf Coast Center to offer free HIV tests in observance of National HIV Testing Day. 40 City of Galveston residents were educated about high risk sexual behavior and sexually transmitted infections with 17 taking advantage of free HIV testing.
- **National Center for Health Statistics/CDC Survey** – Galveston County will take part in the upcoming National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics/CDC during November 2008-January 2009. NHANES is a continuation of a 40-year series of surveys to obtain national health data on the United States population. This information is obtained through interviews, physical examinations, and medical tests and measurements. The current survey will interview and examine 5,000 individuals per year. NHANES will combine results from our county with information provided by people across the country. These statistics will influence public health policy and services and identify risk factors for certain diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure and osteoporosis.
- **DOW Grant** – An application for a grant to fund lead testing for High Risk children was submitted on July 14, 2008. The \$4,800 requested would allow the Health District to provide blood lead level testing to 200 children living in high risk areas who do not have access to other resources.
- **STD MIS 4.1 Training** - June 25th – 27th the STD/HIV staff participated in the MIS 4.1 Data Entry System Training held at DSHS Regional Office in Houston. This training involved the use of the STD MIS 4.1 System, which is used to input data that can be accessed throughout the state to facilitate STD surveillance.

Office of Environmental Health Services: *For more information, please contact Ronnie Schultz, Director of Environmental Health Services, at (409) 938-2314 or email rschultz@gchd.org*

- **City of Dickinson Outreach Event** – Officials with the City of Dickinson invited the Health District to participate in a community outreach event titled "Dickinson on the Go." The event was held on Saturday, July 19th in the parking lot of the Baker Street Baptist Church. The event was designed to showcase city and county services provided to the citizens of Dickinson. The Health District showcased services including environmental, animal and community health. The city has asked the Health District to participate in future events.
- **Animal Seizure** – On July 1st, Animal Services seized four pit bull dogs in the *City of Dickinson* following months of investigations and working with the owners of the dogs to provide for proper restraint, shelter, food and water. In spite of Animal Services efforts to gain compliance with our animal services policy and ensure proper care of the animals, the owner continued to neglect them and would no longer respond to our official notices requesting compliance. The animals were not in a good state of health and were noticeably under weight. A civil seizure warrant was obtained and

executed to remove the animals from this property. Once in Health District custody, all four were humanely euthanized.

- **Shelter Donation** - The Joe Vickery Animal Shelter is the recipient of a \$10,000 donation from the 9 Lives Cat Food Company. Ms. Alma Boudreaux won a 9 Lives Cat Food contest and chose us as the lucky shelter to receive the donation. The donation once received will be spent on shelter items to improve the conditions within the shelter. In addition, Ms. Boudreaux will donate the food that she won to the shelter.
- **Smoky Conditions** – The Air and Water Pollution Services received several calls on July 1st concerning smoky conditions in the Galveston and Texas City area. Environmental investigators were dispatched in the field to investigate possible sources. In addition, office staff began contacting local and state agencies to determine a source. Eventually, investigation details pointed towards two wild fires that were burning in the Sabine Pass area. It appears that the winds on that day were carrying the smoke towards Galveston County and impacting some of our residents on the east end of Galveston Island and Texas City/La Marque.
- **Decade Data Management System** - Staff continues to work on data validation and training for the eventual implementation of a new data management system for environmental health services. The “go-live” date is projected for mid-October. The program called Envision Connect is a web based application developed by Decade Software.
- **Consumer Health Permits Overdue** – On July 9th, 20 food service establishments and 41 pool permits were operating with expired licenses. Letters were hand delivered to the owners and as of July 28th, the majority have paid and are in compliance with the policy approved by the Board for food service and pool establishments. There is one food facility not in compliance - Mike's Place #1 in Galveston. The owner stated that a check was mailed on July 16th to the Health District. The District did not receive the payment, so the owner will hand deliver a check to the District. There are also three pool facilities not in compliance: Island Bay Resorts, Galveston who has been notified to pay in person by the close of business on July 30th or face the possibility of charges being filed; Newport at West Beach, Galveston, has stopped payment on the original payment and has mailed a second check and Rustic Oaks, League City, Health District unable to make contact and will seek assistance from the local courts by filing charges.

Office of Emergency Medical Services: *For more information, please contact Mike Carr, JD, EMS Director, (409) 765-2524 or mcarr@ghcd.org*

- **GAAA Staffing Update** – There are currently 14 vacant full-time field 911 positions and 4 vacant full-time field non-emergency transfer positions and 2 vacant 911 positions on Bolivar Peninsula. We have two full-time EMT-Basics pending drug test/physical results and/or immunizations and four full-time EMT-Basics who we are checking references on. We have one full-time EMT-Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic scheduled for testing/interview.
- **Bolivar Peninsula First Responder Program** – The first employee for the Peninsula First Responders has completed processing and has been offered a position. Robert Isaacks will report to work in Bolivar on August 11, 2008.
- **Software Upgrade Project** – The project to implement the ePCR (electronic patient care record) continues to progress. Hardware has been ordered and implementation teams continue to work to configure the data in the new software system. Training for staff members is tentatively scheduled for the week of September 8, 2008. The anticipated “Go Live” date remains October 1, 2008.
- **Repairs to buildings used by GAAA and owned by the City of Galveston** – Repairs to the 2602 Avenue Q building are completed. The upper floor has been remodeled to provide kitchen facilities, television area and day room. The downstairs has been painted, flooring replaced and lighting improved. The exterior has been repaired and painted. Repairs to the 50th and Avenue Q-1/2

building are substantially completed with only repairs to the apparatus bay still ongoing. The interior has been repaired, repainted, re-floored and lighting improved.

Disease & Disaster Preparedness for additional information, contact Dana Beckham, DVM, Chief Epidemiologist, at (409) 938-2322 or email dbeckham@gchd.org.

Epidemiology Updates:

- **Hepatitis A in League City** - On June 27th, a *League City* resident tested positive for acute Hepatitis A. Investigation revealed the case had a history of traveling to Mexico 2 ½ weeks prior to onset of illness and does not work or volunteer in a daycare setting or as a food handler. Five close contacts were identified and received Hepatitis A vaccine and Immune Globulin. None of the close contacts were experiencing any symptoms. The case and all close contacts were educated on transmission, prevention and hygienic practices. Hepatitis A is a viral infection that is transmitted fecal oral with a discreet onset of symptoms (abdominal cramping and jaundice). Galveston County averages 4 to 5 cases per year.
- **Salmonella Saintpaul Cases** - As of July 25th, Galveston County reported 4 laboratory confirmed and 2 pending cases associated with Salmonella Saintpaul infection. There are a reported 1294 confirmed cases associated with the nationwide investigation. These cases come from 43 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada with 495 cases in Texas. Items that have been thought to cause the illness consist of raw tomatoes, fresh jalapeño peppers and cilantro. Thus far the investigation has not determined which item caused the illness.
- **Whooping Cough in Santa Fe and La Marque** - As of July 30, 2008, the Health District has received a total of 5 confirmed Pertussis (whooping cough) cases. The two new cases are not epidemiologically linked to the cluster reported in May and June. One case is a 3 year old female that resides in Santa Fe and the other is a 2 month old male that resides in La Marque. Epidemiological investigation revealed that both cases were current on immunizations and all close contacts were identified and received chemoprophylaxis. All cases and close contacts were educated on transmission, prevention, and treatment of disease. Pertussis is a vaccine preventable disease that is an acute bacterial infection of the respiratory tract. Galveston County reported 11, 9 and 1 Pertussis cases to the Texas Department of State Health Services for the years 2005, 2006 and 2007, respectively.

Public Health Preparedness Updates:

- **Public Health Planner** - The Health District welcomed Jack Ellison, Jr. as the new public health planner on July 7, 2008. Mr. Ellison has a wealth of local and state public health experience as a registered sanitarian and a member of the state disaster district committee. He has experience in participating and responding to numerous exercises, drills and public health threats (Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, Tropical Storm Allison, meningitis and food borne illness outbreaks).
- **Galveston County Emergency Response Collaborative (GCERC)** meeting was held on July 10th at the Galveston County Office of Emergency Management. The participants viewed a presentation of WebEOC systems and discussed the objectives of the collaborative. GCERC is a forum for information sharing on responding to an incident. GCERC meetings will be held every other month and welcomes all that are interested in learning how different entities respond to emergencies and how different entities emergency plans are integrated into Galveston County Emergency Operation's Plan. Several *Medical Special Needs Shelter* meetings have been conducted throughout the month of July by the DSHS and Fort Bend County Health Department. The meetings discussed specifics on equipping a shelter for a special needs population (pediatric, elderly, pandemic flu, and animals).

Signed RFP's, Grants, Contracts & Agreements For more information, please contact Kristina Garcia, Compliance Auditor, at (409) 938-2213 or email kgarcia@gchd.org.

- **Amendment to the DSHS CPS/CRI Cities Readiness Initiative grant** was signed by CEO on July 1, 2008. This grant funds the dispensing of prophylactic medications during a bioterrorism attack. The budget change resulted in \$5,000.00 from personnel to equipment for FY08 grant period to purchase HP Rack Server.
- **Amendment to the D'Feet Breast Cancer, Inc.** grant was signed by COO on July 7, 2008. The 2008/2009 budget amendment included D'Feet shall reimburse the District up to \$900.00 in travel costs associated with the breast cancer screening program.
- **The On-Call General Contractor Services bid** was awarded to Texas Construction for one-year. COO approved the bid award on July 8th.
- **Interface EAP Agreement for Behavioral Healthcare Management** was signed by COO on July 11th. The term is for one-year with automatic month-to-month renewals until cancelled. The program cost is approximately \$2.10 per employee per month.
- **CPS Bio-Terrorism Preparedness Grant from DSHS** was signed by COO on July 15, 2008. This grant funds the dispensing of prophylactic medications during a bioterrorism attack. The grant amount is \$204,332.00 for the contract term of 8/1/2008 and ends on 7/31/2009.
- **Cities Readiness Initiative Grant from DSHS** was signed by COO on July 15, 2008. DSHS has requested Harris County acting through Harris Co. Public Health & Environmental Services; act as the fiscal agent over the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Grant. The grant amount is \$105,500.00 for the contract term of 8/1/2008 and ends on 7/31/2009.
- **Amendment to the TCEQ BioWatch Monitoring grant** was signed by COO on July 17, 2008. This agreement extended the term to 8/31/09 in which the GCHD will operate and maintain whole air samplers in the Galveston area. The FY09 Budget is \$79,100.00 with the total FY07-09 budget not to exceed \$231,100.00.
- **The Animal Feed/Litter bid** was awarded to Tibaldo's for one-year. COO approved the bid award on July 21st.