

MINUTES

DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 09, 2007
12:30 P. M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith Raulston
Mr. Brown Loflin
Mr. Keith Raulston
Commissioner Don Truell
Dr. Mark Hamrick
Rev. Lamar Moore
Dr. Cathy Riggan
Dr. Peter Rogaski
Ms. Amy Greeson

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Jackie Frank
Ms. Kim Frank
Ms. Cindy Harris

VISITORS PRESENT

Mr. Long opened the meeting and established a quorum. Mr. Long stated that in accordance with Board by-laws he would initiate the meeting until a Chair and Vice Chair were selected for the calendar year 2007.

MOTION

Rev. Moore made the motion that Dr. Davis remain as Chair to the Board of Health. Dr. Rogaski seconded. Mr. Long asked if there were any other nominations for Chair. Hearing none Mr. Long called for a vote on the nomination. Dr. Davis was approved as Board Chair for 2007.

MOTION

Dr. Hamrick made the motion that Dr. Rogaski remain as Vice Chair. Commissioner Truell seconded. Mr. Long asked if there were any other nominations for Vice Chair. Hearing none Mr. Long called for a vote on the nomination. Dr. Rogaski was approved as Board Vice-Chair.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Rogaski asked if there were any corrections to the November 14th minutes or amendments to the agenda.

Mr. Long asked for a motion from the Board to remove item VIII (a.) under New Business, Proposed Well Rules-Committee Update from the agenda.

MOTION

Rev. Moore made the motion to amend the agenda as requested and approve the consent agenda. Dr. Rogaski seconded and the Motion was approved.

HEALTH DIRECTOR REPORT

- ***Animal Ordinance***-Committee moving forward with the ordinance draft requiring animals to be spayed or neutered and will be presented to the Commissioner's on February 13th, 2007. The Animal Ordinance Committee's hope is to reduce the population of stray animals.
- ***Interpreter Change***-The County signed a contract that started January the 1st with Rosario Incorporated. This firm provides medically trained interpreters and provides insurance and bonding for their services.
- ***Pan Flu Plans***-. Working with community partners to get plan completed by the end of March. Will inform BOH when plan is completed.

- **Legislation**-Representative Hugh Holliman is introducing legislation intended to limit smoking in public places.
- **Medicaid**- Changes in Medicaid for infants of undocumented parents born in the hospital could have a significant impact on the health department and social services. The changes that have come down from the Medicaid offices are that these children are not automatically signed to Medicaid and their parents will have to come in and apply to Medicaid for the child.
- **Flu Activity**- Has slowed down-Health Department letter sent to school parents urging them to keep their children at home if their children were sick. We have approximately 120 doses of purchased flu vaccine remaining. Kim Frank and her staff have done a great job in making sure we weren't left holding a lot of vaccine. Demand for flu vaccine has been down with the health department only giving 1500 doses. The State had been working with the Medical Society and a pharmaceutical company to buy the first shipment of flu vaccine but the Medical Society was concerned about limiting purchase to just one source.
- **Shingles Vaccine**-The health department is currently looking at whether to offer the vaccine for shingles. The cost for the health department would be \$152.00 a dose. With the administration cost it would be at minimum \$175.00 per dose for the public. Presently, insurance will not reimburse for the vaccine. Recommendation for the vaccine would be adults 60 or older.
- **Legislative Lunch**-Attending a lunch Friday the 12th with health directors at AHEC in Winston-Salem to discuss public health issues related to health care.
- **Billing**-Looking at billing United Health Care, a private insurance carrier, for private purchase vaccines for third party billing. The health department may need to look at adding another clerk to budget proposal. Per the Board approval we have put into place an actual billing program to cover some of the bad debts that have occurred over the years in Family Planning.
- **Jail House Plan**-Worked on and approved the jail health plan with the Sheriff but the Commissioners are now looking at outsourcing jail health to a private vendor in an effort to provide some continuity of service. Mr. Long stated he would support this decision because the jail is a very difficult environment to work and there has been a fair amount of nurse turnover at the jail.
- **Well Program**-The Environmental Health Sub Committee will meet Thursday, January 18th to talk about the Well Program. Environmental health has scheduled a meeting with the builders January 16th and also will discuss the well program with realtors March 7th.
- **Male Chlamydia Testing**-Our contract addendum requires Chlamydia testing for females. We budgeted some money this year to test males but the funds are quickly running out. Clinic staff have seen a 19% positive rate for Chlamydia in males tested. We contracted with Forsyth County Health Department to run lab test for us. It is not State mandated to test males but staff feels this is good public health practice.
- **Fees**-Resolution for Food and Lodging fees the Board passed at the last BOH meeting is on the Commissioner's agenda for tonight. Mr. Long will make presentation.

Rev. Moore Stated he was concerned over the fact that there has been a problem with our Senior Service Social workers reporting that there is not a gynecologist in the county that will treat a wheel chair bound woman that could not get up on the table and there is no place for them to go. (Mr. Long stated that he would look into this problem, but he didn't know what the health department could do.) (Ms. Frank stated that there were exam tables that are accessible for the handicapped but that we didn't have one. Ms. Frank said that we were just discussing this in an accreditation meeting yesterday on how we typically handle this with our accreditation standards because our rooms are accessible and in the past, we had manually lifted clients that could have been a risk to our staff. Ms. Frank also stated that the physicians had probably already thought of the safety risk to their staff.)

NEW BUSINESS

Smoking (tobacco) Policy- Mr. Long stated that the Board has already adopted a smoking policy but when Barbara Jones went back and looked again at accreditation standards it became apparent that the Board would need to amend the policy to be a "Tobacco Free" policy in order to meet the standard. Ms. Jones has

changed the word “Smoking” to “Tobacco”. Mr. Long asked that the Board approve the revision of the wording of the Smoking Policy to a Tobacco Free Policy.

MOTION

Mr. Loflin made the motion to approve the revision of the Smoking Policy to the Tobacco Free policy. Rev. Moore seconded and the motion was approved.

(Mr. Long stated that Davidson County Schools were going “smoke free” and schools throughout the State were going “smoke free” and thought it was a very positive move.)

Prenatal Program- Mr. Long stated that the Board made some significant changes to the pre-natal policies in order for the program to comply with State mandates. As expected collections for the program are down and are about 65% of where we were this time last year.

Mr. Long stated that Family Planning activities are going down and we don’t know why. Mr. Long stated it is concerning because we want to see clients in family planning rather than see them in our prenatal clinic. Mr. Long said that we will be looking at this clinic more closely to see what out reaches we can do to bring some of those clients back in.

Dr. Rogaski wanted to know if we were looking at contracting in school systems. (Mr. Long answered by saying that we were dealing with a lot of the teenage population, therefore, you are limited in what you could do and not do in the terms of schools and the community.)

Rev. Moore wanted to know what role the school nurse could play in the part of recruiting. (Ms. Frank said that they had talked about this problem and they do play a vital part but cannot readily talk to class rooms about contraceptives. Ms. Frank stated that they can talk to individual students if approached but typically it is difficult to pin point students that would individually talk to us about those things. Ms. Frank stated the school nurses are there if a student wants to talk to them. Mr. Long said maybe the School Health Council would want to discuss what options may be available.

Mr. Long informed the Board that for the prenatal program, we negotiate a contract each year between the health department and Thomasville OBGYN and Lexington OBGYN. The concern is each year it gets to be more costly for the OBs in terms of the number of patients they see and what we are able to provide financially for these services. Medicaid presumptive eligibility has allowed each practice to receive payments based on the number of patients each practice sees. Mr. Long stated even with this change prenatal care cost is increasingly an issue. Mr. Long stated we use as much State money as we can in the program but it only covers a small portion of the overall expense. As we again begin negotiations with the OB/GYN practices for prenatal services they may request additional funds and the health department will need more money to provide care. Mr. Long stated that he just wanted the Board to know the prenatal program continues to be a growing issue in terms of finances.

Bad Debt Policy-Mr. Long stated that information on bad debt write-off as of 6-30-05 was included in the packet that Ms. Frank provided to the Board.

Ms. Frank reported that in September the Board approved the “Bad Debt Policy” that the State mandated the health department implement. Ms. Frank stated that this request for approval to write-off debt would be presented on an annual basis. Ms. Frank said there is a total of \$263,506.99 write off of bad debts that we need approved by the Board. She stated that this number reflects many years of past debt that is still on record since this is the first time the Board has taken this action. Mrs. Frank described the process by which the debt was determined. Additionally, Mrs. Frank explained that this action did not release the client from the debt but that it would be reactivated if they came back for another service. Ms. Frank stated that if the

Board approves this request now, she will be back with another bad debt write off later in the year that will be for FY06.

MOTION

Dr. Riggan made the motion to accept the bad debt write off as presented. Ms. Greeson seconded and motion was approved.

Annual Review of By-Laws-For accreditation standards the Board is required to review operating procedures of the By-Laws and considered for any revisions annually. Mr. Long asked if there were any recommended changes to the by-laws from the Board. None were noted.

RECOGNITION

Mr. Long recognized Mr. Brown Loflin for all of his many years' service to the Board of Health. Mr. Long stated that he had enjoyed working with Mr. Loflin on the Board but Mr. Loflin had decided that he did not want to be reappointed for another term to the Board.

Mr. Loflin stated that it had been a pleasure to serve on this Board for all these years and that the health department did some great services for the County and he was proud of all the staff that worked here. Mr. Loflin stated that he would like to see the prenatal clients taken care of because it was an investment of the future of this country.

OLD BUSINESS

None

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

Next Board of Health will meet Tuesday, March 6th, 2007.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,

L. Layton Long, R.S., M.S.A.
Secretary to the Board

This is a true and accurate copy of the January 9th 2007, Board of Health Minutes.

Dr. Mark Davis, Chair