

MINUTES
DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 7, 2014
12:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Becky Daley
Dr. Rick Gilliam
Ms. Alice Gray, Vice-Chair
Dr. Mark Hamrick, Chair
Mr. Rod Kcuik
Dr. Michael Lanning
Rev. Lamar Moore
Mr. Keith Raulston
Dr. Cathy Riggan
Commissioner Don Truell

STAFF PRESENT

Janie Ange
Ava Byrd
Darren Cecil
Mary Lou Collett
Karen Copley
Jen Hames
Nancy Rosier
Nancy Stout
Monecia Thomas

VISITORS PRESENT

WELCOME

Dr. Mark Hamrick called the meeting to order, established a quorum, and welcomed everyone to the January 7, 2014 Board of Health Meeting. Dr. Hamrick explained as an order of business that the Board of Health Bylaws requires the election of a Chair and Vice Chair at the January meeting. Dr. Hamrick turned the meeting over to Health Director Monecia Thomas.

ELECTION of CHAIR and VICE CHAIR

Ms. Thomas opened the floor for nominations for the Board Chair and Vice Chair for calendar year 2014.

MOTION

Rev. Lamar Moore made a motion to retain Dr. Mark Hamrick as Chair and Ms. Alice Gray as Vice Chair for the year 2014. No other nominations were made. Dr. Michael Lanning seconded. Dr. Hamrick was unanimously elected Board Chair for 2014 and Ms. Gray was unanimously elected as Board Vice Chair for 2014. The motion was approved without dissent.

Dr. Hamrick assumed the duties of the Chair and proceeded with the meeting.

MEETING AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Hamrick requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda, consent agenda and financial reports.

Ms. Thomas distributed the November 5, 2013 Closed Session meeting minutes and the Board of Health Evaluation Subcommittee Meeting November 5, 2013 minutes.

Board members were allowed time to review the Closed Session minutes. Dr. Hamrick asked if there was any discussion after reviewing the minutes.

MOTION

Dr. Cathy Riggan made the motion to approve the items on the meeting agenda and the consent agenda as presented. Dr. Michael Lanning seconded and the motion was approved without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PROGRAM UPDATES

Environmental Health Current Projects

Scanning Records

- Environmental Health Director Darren Cecil focused on the scanning of records and explained that all newly created records were scanned beginning January 1, 2014 and Environmental Health hopes to be paperless by an April/May 2014 time frame.

LDO/Arc View Field Mapping

Mr. Cecil explained Environmental Health is working on equipment and funding needs. Their intention is to use Performance-Based Budgeting funding in February to purchase GIS equipment with an approximate cost of \$5,000.

Complaints

Mr. Cecil is scheduled to meet with Mike Newby, county attorney, on January 8th to look at the current process for responding to Environmental Health complaints.

Rabies

Mr. Cecil reported that the year was closed out with two positive rabies cases in December.

Clinic Challenges

- Director of Nursing, Mary Lou Collett, explained that a summary of the E. coli and HUS cases would be covered later in the meeting. Ms. Collett wanted the Board to know that staff is busy with every day clinics. Electronic Medical Records and Scanning are still two big issues, but nothing has changed so there is nothing new to write on her Program Plan Update. Ms. Collett directed the Board's attention to the Mid-level provider resignation effective January 17th. Ms. Collette and Clinic Nurse Supervisor, Cindy Harris, have been actively seeking interested candidates and when they attended a conference in December, they may have possibly found a candidate that is retiring from Guilford County. The individual has worked with DCHD before and could possibly work one or two days per week. Ms. Collett was not sure how clinics would be scheduled until the nurse practitioner open schedule could be filled. The position should be posted soon, but Ms. Collett wanted the Board to know that it took several months to get a Mid-level Provider on staff previously.

Health Education – Current Projects

- Health Education Supervisor Jen Hames explained the following:
 - The Community Transformation Grant (CTG) is working on access to locally grown healthy produce, shared use agreements with schools, tobacco free grounds, and the Health by Design collaboration
 - Partnering with Thomasville Rotary – on the Children at Play Initiative
 - The Southern Obesity Summit in November in Nashville, TN – presented during breakout session on the County Wellness program and had 36 individuals in attendance
 - Access to Care Work Group – sponsored five community forums on the Affordable Care Act – targeted the five libraries and offered educational information, time for questions, and assistance with enrolling in the Marketplace. The sessions were not largely attended, but everyone who attended that wanted assistance with enrolling was successfully enrolled. March is the deadline, so it is anticipated that we may do additional community forums with educational sessions again in February, in hopes that there would be better attendance.
 - Tobacco Work Group – currently meeting with the City of Lexington and with County and local municipalities to discuss smoking/tobacco policies. The common theme seems to be moving toward smoke

free parks and Ms. Hames is setting up meetings with Recreation Directors in January to discuss how to proceed.

- The Obesity Work Group has not been very active in the last couple of months, but will pick up in the spring to address nutrition and physical activity.
- Ms. Hames attended the Lake Thom-A-Lex Commission meeting to present the educational nature trail project at the lake, which is part of their master plan. An update was given about the Community Transformation Grant and what could be done to take the project to the next level. The Commission's recommendations are for Ms. Hames to take it back to the municipalities to keep them informed about the nature trail project.
- Intern Megan Francis from Winston Salem State will be here Monday thru the end of April. She will be working on some of these initiatives to get them to the next step.

WIC Crossroads IT System

- Ms. Thomas stated WIC Director Barbara Hedrick was not in attendance because she was sick. Ms. Thomas reported that the WIC department has received supplies and computer equipment needed for the new IT system "Crossroads". The Pilot in Wayne County is reported to begin in February 2014, with implementation in late May though mid October 2014.

Health Director's Update

Dr. Hamrick commented that Ms. Thomas has included her Health Director's Report in the Board of Health packets and behind the Health Director's Report is the list of recent Davidson County Health Department Employees that were honored for their years of service on December 5th at the Commissioners meeting.

- Janie Ange – 25 years of service
- Darren Cecil – 20 years of service
- Ms. Thomas explained that Project Lazarus, now known as "DCSPAN", (Davidson County Stop Prescription Abuse now) had a Community Forum on December 10th. A range of people from across the community were invited and Fred Wells Brason II, the President/CEO of Project Lazarus, was the guest speaker. The real work began when the participants were divided into groups representing law enforcement, health care providers, health department, social services, government entities, etc. to develop a plan to address the prescription use and misuse in our community. It was a very successful meeting with approximately seventy-five people in attendance. The smaller groups will meet in January/February and then come back together to share what each group is doing. Ms. Thomas stated that law enforcement is very supportive. She has met with the police chiefs and Sheriff Grice and the Sheriff has mentioned that he may be able to provide some additional funding. Ms. Thomas informed the Board that DCHD Health Educator Karen Villines is the Project Lazarus Coordinator. DCSPAN Billboards have been placed around the County and there are plans for literature distribution and a short video for the schools.

Ms. Thomas commented that she had mentioned to the Board previously that the Davidson County Health Department Website was very informative, but it did not have a very nice visual appeal, so we are in the process of returning to the County website format. When the E-coli outbreak occurred, Ms. Thomas created a list of 'lessons learned' and one of them focused on getting the original letter posted on our DCHD website. This was an issue because only one individual had access. Returning back to the county website will be advantageous and a series of people will have access to the website.

The Board packets include the Gillings School of Global Public Health Workforce Report based on a survey completed last year by the DCHD staff. The report highlights Davidson County Health Department's workforce characteristics and self-identified training needs based on the national Core Competencies for Public Health.

Ms. Thomas made the Board aware the Clinic Sound System to address Patient Confidentiality is moving forward. An investigation and a QI project was completed to see if a sound machine would help. It was

determined that the best outcome was to have a sound system installed in the ceiling. Nancy Stout led the QI project, with IT involvement. The sound system will cost \$2,500-\$2,600.

Old Business

Davidson County Board of Health Upcoming Vacancy - Process

Dr. Hamrick stated that Rod Kcuik is going off the Board leaving the pharmacist position vacant. Recruitment of a potential pharmacist from the medical center was previously discussed, but follow up concerning Davidson County residency was needed. Mr. Kcuik stated that the individual lives in Winston Salem, not in Davidson County. Thus, the individual is not eligible.

Ms. Collett asked if it was a conflict of interest if a Board member had a family member that worked at the health department.

Dr. Hamrick mentioned in his opinion that he did not think it was.

Ms. Thomas commented that Mary Lou is referring to a staff member that has a spouse who is a pharmacist.

Ms. Thomas mentioned to Dr. Hamrick that the NC Board of Pharmacy could be contacted to provide a list of the pharmacists that reside in Davidson County to make sure we are not overlooking anyone who may be interested.

Commissioner Truell asked what does the State recommend if there is not a pharmacist available in Davidson County.

Dr. Hamrick replied that the pharmacist position could be filled by a public citizen.

Dental Clinic Update

Ms. Thomas stated that at the November Board meeting, she talked extensively about the dental clinic and the fact the dental clinic is supposed to close around August of this year because at that point, the East Carolina University Dental Clinic will be opening. Ms. Thomas had also mentioned in the minutes that the dental clinic issues were compounded by the fact that the clinic operated with three dentists through staffing agencies (one dentist has taken a leave due to illness, one has returned to private practice and the other one is only at the dental clinic one day a week). Ms. Thomas was very pleased to announce that yesterday was the first day for a contracted DCHD dentist. This young lady was located through the Office of Rural Health in Raleigh. She is a seasoned dentist and has been in private practice previously. Ms. Thomas checked with several of her references. She recently assisted a dentist in High Point by working with his practice for about two months when he took a leave of absence. All references were positive. Ms. Thomas spoke with Jim Tysinger in Human Resources and the County Attorney because one issue that came up with the dentist was associated with a Medicaid issue that occurred almost twenty years ago. Ms. Thomas wanted to be sure that due diligence was done by checking with the Board of Dental Examiners, the HR Director and the County Attorney. Ms. Thomas and Ms. Collett had several conversations with the dentist, but wanted to give her an opportunity to address the issue in person. We had the records from the Board of Dental Examiners and Ms. Thomas spoke with Dr. Lanning about the fact that she was reinstated with Medicaid. Ms. Thomas' understanding is that being reinstated with Medicaid is a rare occurrence. She will be working Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Thursday is a day off for the dental staff because they work four ten-hour days. The one dentist from the staffing agency will be maintained on Fridays for the month of January due to the current contract. Starting in February, the new dentist will be at the dental clinic Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesdays and Fridays, so we are hoping that things will improve now that there will be some consistency. The dental staff was very pleased when an emergency case came in that was not scheduled and the new dentist happily took the client in. The dental staff mentioned this as a positive because they had encountered dentists from the staffing agencies that would not have seen the emergency case.

The second issue was the issue of Medicaid reimbursements. We are now getting some Medicaid reimbursement. Ms. Ange may have more recent figures, but in December we received \$23,000 from Medicaid, so at least the issues are being worked out. We did have to move some money from the Medicaid Max Funds to make sure the dental issues were covered. Ms. Thomas explained that the staffing agency dentists receive \$850 to a little over a \$1,000 per day and they also get an additional bonus if they bring in a certain amount of revenue. The DCHD contract dentist has a

contract that states \$750 per day and she can receive an additional amount if she brings in \$2,800 in Medicaid revenue. The overall charge and the additional amounts are lower than what the staffing agency dentists receive and in addition, there is no administrative fees, pay for mileage or anything of that nature.

Dr. Lanning asked if once she is place and she is going 'full speed' will there be an attempt to contact the schools and get referrals from the schools.

Ms. Thomas explained that we have been doing that now. Ms. Hames created a flyer and the school nurses were encouraged to make sure they are providing dental referrals. It was noted that that the schools no longer have a State Dental Hygienist. Fortunately the majority of school nurses and the Care Managers who go out and see families have the referral information as well.

Dr. Lanning asked Ms. Thomas if she knew if the Dental Society was going to do "Give a Kid a Smile" days like they have done in the past. In his office, they would see a lot of need and they would either treat them in their office or provide a referral. Dr. Lanning was not sure if he or someone else needed to do a presentation at the Dental Society meeting and let them know that the DCHD Dental Clinic is available now. Dr. Lanning stated that he would be more than willing to do that. Their meeting is the first Thursday night of the month and he was sure a lot of them were not aware that this is now a good situation. Ms. Thomas agreed that this would be very nice and she plans to follow up with Dr. Lanning to be sure information was provided.

Commissioner Truell asked Ms. Daley if she was aware of how things were going at the Community College in terms of the new Dental Clinic.

Ms. Daley replied that they are moving and working on the building.

Ms. Thomas commented that the last time she spoke to East Carolina University was probably in November and they gave a full update that they were still right on track. The Lumberton Dental Clinic would be opening next and they were on schedule for that. Ms. Thomas did not have the remainder of the information immediately available.

Ms. Thomas stated that she would send Commissioner Truell the information regarding the clinics they are opening and the dates. They did mention searching for several additional sites within the state.

New Business

- **Review Appointment Terms and Vacancies**

Dr. Hamrick mentioned that because it is the first of the year, there are a few Board housekeeping items to review. The Board needs to review Appointment Terms and Vacancies of Board members included on the Board Member list in the Handbook. There are additional copies available, if needed. Corey Buggs will rotate off the Board completing his 9-year appointment in April 2014, thus opening a public citizen position. The Board needs to be looking for prospects for that position. If they have suggestions or know of anyone that may be interested, please speak with Dr. Hamrick. Also, Dr. Gilliam, the Board optometrist, will be up for reappointment in May 2014. Mr. Raulston mentioned that he is aware of a pharmacist that is available to serve on the Board.

- **Appointment of Committees**

Dr. Hamrick reviewed the list of committees and current members. Ms. Becky Daley volunteered to serve on the Environmental Health committee, in addition to the General Services Committee. Dr. Hamrick verified the Sub-Committees for 2014 as follows:

<u>Budget</u>	<u>By Laws</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>EH</u>	<u>General Services</u>
Dr. Michael Lanning	Dr. Cathy Riggan	Dr. Mark Hamrick	Ms. Alice Gray	Dr. Cathy Riggan
Com. Don Truell	Dr. Rick Gilliam	Mr. Corey Buggs	Dr. Mark Hamrick	Rev. Lamar Moore
Mr. Corey Buggs	Dr. Mark Hamrick	Dr. Rick Gilliam	Mr. Keith Raulston	Ms. Alice Gray
Dr. Mark Hamrick	Rev. Lamar Moore	Com. Don Truell	Ms. Becky Daley	Ms. Becky Daley

There were no other recommended changes made for the Committees.

- **Board of Health Meeting 2014 Calendar**

Dr. Hamrick asked for any other suggestions or changes on the Board of Health meeting dates for 2014. None were made.

- **Communicable Disease – Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome Cases Update**

Dr. Hamrick mentioned that Ms. Thomas provided the Board with general information in email updates when the HUS and E. coli cases were first known. During today's Board meeting, we will hear from Karen Copley, Communicable Disease Nurse Supervisor; Ava Byrd, Communicable Disease Nurse and Monecia Thomas regarding an overview of the events.

Ms. Thomas felt that it would be beneficial for the Board to hear information in person. Ms. Copley and Ms. Byrd will start from the beginning and give a brief overview. Ms. Nancy Rosier is calling Dr. Sarah Rhea, the CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer. Dr. Rhea provided State leadership and guidance. She will be available to answer questions.

Ava Byrd stated that Ms. Thomas received a call from Fox 8 News inquiring about an E. coli case which the Health Department was not aware of. Ms. Byrd was asked to call her contact – the Prevention Specialist at Baptist Hospital. The Specialist had to look up the cases and they located the two individuals named by Fox 8. Usually the DHCD receives reports directly from the hospital, but this time, things occurred differently. Ms. Byrd asked Baptist Hospital to fax the information to her so she could start the investigation. Prior to Ms. Byrd faxing the information to the State, the State Communicable Disease Branch was on the phone calling her. Ms. Byrd explained that she was just getting the information. Ms. Byrd was able to contact the parents of the two children who were in the hospital. One was a sixth grader and one was a seventh grader at Tyro Middle School. Ms. Byrd interviewed the parents and could not find any similarities in places that they had been to or things that they had done. They really did not cross paths with each other at school and they rode different school buses. Later that afternoon, DCHD had another call with the State and discussed the information we had found out. Several staff members stayed late at the Health Department on Friday, December 27th to develop plans that included a Saturday phone bank to field questions from the community. We talked with the Tyro Middle school principal and they would complete a Connect Ed call, which is a call to the parents notifying them of the situation and advising them to call the Health Department if they had further questions or concerns. Letters were also distributed to physicians, emergency rooms and pediatric urgent care facilities to make them aware of the situation. The DCHD after-hours staff member was notified that she may receive calls and to send them to Ms. Byrd or Ms. Copley so they could take information and answer questions. The Connect Ed calls were delivered on Saturday morning. About thirteen calls were received at the Health Department phone bank with most calls wanting to know what school was impacted because people had heard rumors and wanted to be sure their children were not attending the suspect school. Two people from the State Communicable Disease Branch assisted the Health Department with the phone bank on Saturday. Ms. Copley was the spokesperson for the television interviews. Tyro United Methodist Church provided the information on their electronic sign so the information could be spread directly in the community. The Health Department was notified of another child later Saturday afternoon who had been diagnosed with E. coli. The two patients in the hospital were not able to get a culture to diagnose them with E. coli, but E. coli was suspected because the students had developed kidney failure and had to be placed on dialysis, which can result in very serious consequences if not taken care of immediately.

Ms. Copley stated that when they found out about the third child, it was investigated and found out that he was a four-year old who attended the Elementary School in that area. They made a home visit and spoke with the parents and found out that this child had a fourteen- month old sister. During this time the sister had developed diarrhea and went to the Emergency Room, but she is in good condition. Just before coming to the Board of Health meeting, Ms. Copley called the State to see if the results had come back from the submitted specimens. The fourteen-month old does have Shiga toxin producing organism, but we will not know if it is E. coli until tomorrow, but it is highly likely. One child went home from the hospital Thursday of last week, but the other child is still in the hospital and receiving dialysis. Environmental Health has made home visits with the Communicable Disease staff and they have been to several restaurants, but nothing has turned up as a connection between the four children. Ms. Copley stated she would be happy to answer any questions.

Questions were asked about the individual cases, the illness being food-based and time frames.

Ms. Copley mentioned that HUS is reportable to the State, so the pediatric resident on call at the hospital contacted the State, but did not call the Health Department.

Dr. Riggan stated that the child had been sick for five days with vomiting and diarrhea.

Ms. Copley stated that the family has goats on their farm and that the child was a primary care giver for the goats, but there was no connection to the other child.

Ms. Gray asked if they had any suspicions or guesses.

Ms. Copley stated that the children do not have restaurants or churches in common.

Ms. Collett stated that they both took their lunch to school.

Dr. Lanning asked if there have there been any other cases anywhere else over the State.

Ms. Copley stated that not in our area, but Shigella has been in the Salisbury/Rowan County/Cabarrus County area. They did look it up and Davidson County has not had an E. coli outbreak in two or three years, but the County has had a fair share of Salmonella and Pertussis.

Commissioner Truell asked what do we do next.

Ms. Byrd replied that we are doing case findings through the end of this week. It was determined today to review starting with 12 23 13 and 20 days following that date. We have not received any additional phone calls.

Ms. Copley commented that a call was received yesterday from a mother wanting to know if it was safe for her child to go back to school. Ms. Copley noted that the school is not the issue.

Dr. Sarah Rhea stated that she felt they had provided a wonderful summary and an update of where things are. From the CDC's prospective, they appreciate the hard work of the Davidson County Health Department staff in this investigation. When situations like this occur, we often do not know at the start what their scope will be, so it is really important to do a thorough investigation. The DCHD has done an excellent job and they have put out frequent media updates, trying to find any additional cases. Through these efforts and the interviews, no other cases were found. The State appreciates the hard work on this important investigation.

Ms. Thomas stated that we are also appreciative of the State. As Ms. Byrd mentioned, at the beginning of the investigation, two State people came down on that Saturday when the phone bank opened.

Ms. Copley mentioned Dr. Rhea made a visit to one of the children at Brenner Children's Hospital and then she made a home visit on Thursday in Churchland to see the other child after hours.

Ms. Thomas asked if the Board members had any questions or comments for Dr. Sarah Rhea. Ms. Thomas thanked Dr. Rhea and mentioned that DCHD would be in touch.

Dr. Hamrick asked if there were any other comments or questions. Dr. Hamrick commended everyone for all their hard work and how everyone did a great job from what he had seen on TV and in the email updates from Ms. Thomas.

Dr. Hamrick thanked Rod Kcuik for his years of service to the Board.

Mr. Kcuik commented he enjoyed the past six years and that it has been a pleasure.

Dr. Hamrick stated that with no additional business he would accept a motion to adjourn.

MOTION

Dr. Cathy Riggan made the motion to adjourn. Dr. Michael Lanning seconded and the motion was approved without dissent.

BOARD MEETING DATES

The Board of Health will meet Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 12:30.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,

Monecia R. Thomas, MHA
Secretary to the Board

This is a true and accurate copy of the January 7, 2014, Board of Health Minutes.

Dr. Mark Hamrick, Chair