

MINUTES

DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

**March 03, 2009
12:30 p.m.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Rod Kcuik
Ms. Alice Gray
Dr. Peter Rogaski
Dr. Mark Hamrick
Dr. Mark Davis
Dr. Cathy Riggan
Commissioner Don Truell
Rev. Lamar Moore
Ms. Kim Smith
Mr. Keith Raulston
Mr. Corey Buggs

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Jackie Frank
Ms. Janie Ange
Ms. Joseline Hernandez
Ms. Kim Frank

VISITORS PRESENT

Teresa Saunders, Clerk of Court

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Davis opened the meeting, established a quorum, welcomed everyone and introduced the newest Board member Kim Smith, Nurse Manager at Thomasville Medical.

NEW BOARD MEMBER OATH OF OFFICE

Teresa Saunders, Clerk of Court Assistant administered the Oath of Office to Kim Smith

MEETING AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Dr. Davis asked if there were any other corrections or additions that needed to be made to the agenda or minutes from the last meeting.

Addition -Program Eligibility-Personal Health-WIC policies

Ms. Jones defined the highlighted differences for WIC requirements and Personal Health on the policy requirements from the Federal Guidelines for WIC.

Mr. Long stated that policy changes were omitted from the Board packets and could wait until the next meeting if the Board would rather wait.

MOTION

Dr. Riggan made the motion to approve the meeting agenda and consent agenda with the WIC policy included to the March 03, 2009 agenda. Dr. Hamrick seconded and the motion was approved.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Budget-** Beginning to see an impact in programs-Purchase of Care program gone because of no funding; clients already in eligibility process have been notified
- **New State Health Director-**Jeff Engel, M.D. He was previously with the Division of Public Health in the Epidemiology Branch.
- **HIS-**System is moving forward. Right now Davidson is in the first wave of roll out for non pilot counties. One person from this department will be going for training March 10th in Raleigh. There will be six to eight weeks of training referred to as the “sandbox” where data will be entered from our system into the HIS environment. Going into a “production” mode May 12th and 14th and the “go live” date is scheduled for May the 18th. Hearing positive things from the pilot counties about the system itself. During the initial transition we will have to down size our clinics.
- **Debt Set-Off-**Credit goes to Inge Leonard, Management Support Supervisor and her staff for doing so well getting money collected. The total bad debt entered into the debt set off program for the health department was around \$37,000 from 238 clients.
- **Stimulus Package-**I chair the technology committee for the Health Director’s Association. The committee was advised at the last meeting about stimulus funding for electronic medical records. The federal government is pushing improvement around electronic infrastructure, health records and health information among all private medical providers.
- **Board of Sanitarian Examiners-**The Board has been trying for a long time to get needed technical revisions to the law that outlines the Board’s authority. Have been working with Senator Stan Bingham to get bill introduced to make these technical changes.
- **Well Sampling Bill-**Health Departments will have problems with sampling all new wells for volatile organic compounds if changes are not made to a law passed last session. A proposed bill this session would allow the health director to make a determination of whether or not a well needs to be sampled. The problem this presents is not knowing all of the contaminated sites in the County already identified by the state divisions of Solid and Hazardous Waste, Water Quality, and Public Water that do not necessarily communicate with each other or maintain a central database of these sites. I have asked John Hendren to assign someone in environmental health to work with these state agencies to identify sites in Davidson County.
- **Management Academy for Public Health-**Getting the team together but are waiting to hear on funding. Sandy Motley and I have been working on this project and will be meeting soon with someone from Baptist Hospital.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Davis stated that committee appointments needed to have been addressed at the January Board meeting but was forgotten. Dr. Davis stated that in the Board packets there was list of committees and members from last year. Dr. Davis asked if anyone wanted to change committees. All Board members agreed to stay on the same committees they were appointed in 2008. Ms. Smith agreed to be on the General Services Committee and Rod Kcuik, who had not been appointed to a committee, agreed to be on the Environmental Health Committee for 2009.

MOTION

Dr. Riggan made the motion to approve the committee member's appointments. Keith Raulston seconded and the motion was approved. The Committee Appointments with additions or changes highlighted for 2009 are as follows:

<u>Budget</u>	<u>By Laws</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>EH</u>	<u>General Services</u>
Dr. Mark Davis	Dr. Cathy Riggan	Dr. Mark Davis	Ms. Alice Gray	Dr. Cathy Riggan
Com. Don Truell	Dr. Peter Rogaski	Mr. Corey Buggs	Dr. Mark Hamrick	Rev. Lamar Moore
Dr. Peter Rogaski		Dr. Peter Rogaski	Mr. Keith Raulston	Ms. Alice Gray
Mr. Corey Buggs		Com. Don Truell	Mr. Rod Kcuik	Ms. Kim Smith

NEW BUSINESS

Fiscal Year Budget 2010 Proposal

Janie Ange and Mr. Long presented the general cost analysis for the FY 2010 which demonstrated a flat budget request for County dollars the same as FY 2009. Ms. Ange stated that the budget included elimination of funding for one full time environmental health specialist (EHS) position and one temporary EHS position. Ms. Ange said that all the budgets were reviewed closely and operating supplies cut as well. Dr. Davis stated that the budget sub-committee had already reviewed the full budget Friday, February 20th and recommended approval. Dr. Davis stated that if any Board member had any questions or concerns please ask. Ms. Ange did state that a new Social Worker and WIC nutritionist position were added but were not funded by County dollars. Mr. Long said that a lot of our funding was through the consolidated contract with the state and we had received numbers the same as last year. He also stated that some question still revolves around the Aid to County funds (\$147,000.00) received from the Legislature.

MOTION

Rev. Moore made the motion to approve the budget as presented. Dr. Riggan seconded and the motion was approved

Home Health Interest Report

Dr. Davis stated the report given to the Board reflects the low interest rate we are now receiving on the home health money; \$30,000 versus the \$90,000 we were acquiring when the interest was higher. Dr. Davis said the Board is currently obligated for \$50,000 a year for the physician extender (at Davidson Medical Ministries) but at the rate we are going, the home health money will run out by next year. Mr. Long stated that he had talked to Jane Kiker about the interest rate and the County is earning about 2% interest rate at this time. Dr. Davis stated with the interest earned now, we would need another \$15,000 every year just for the physician extender even if we don't fund anything else. Dr. Davis stated in the budget sub-committee meeting that they had talked about not carrying over money previously allocated for the pap smears. Mr. Long stated that he was not making a recommendation but for information and discussion purposes the Board can consider all options including elimination of the \$50,000 for the physician extender position. Dr. Davis said if the Board reduced the \$5000 allocated for flu shots for the older uninsured public with no payer source to \$1000, reduced the \$15,000 allocated for pap smears to \$2500 and let the other projects remain and not add anything that it should buy two years (funding for the physician extender) if the same interest is applied. Dr. Davis stated that this would give the Board close to \$35,000 and gives us 2 ½ years left (to fund the physician extender at the same level) or we could un-fund everything but the physician extender position. After much discussion the Board agreed to re-assess the issue at the next meeting and the following motion was made:

MOTION

Rev. Moore made a motion to allow the health department to preserve funding for the physician extender position and to use any Home Health monies presently budgeted if necessary for this fiscal year. Dr. Rogaski seconded and the motion was approved.

Proposed Fee-Nuvaring-Kim Frank stated the fee sheet included in the Board's packet were proposals for new fees. She stated that the first two fees listed were for lab work sent out to a private lab; LabCorp. She stated that these fees are for labs ordered by physicians (not previously included in the fee schedule) for prenatal clinic patients. Ms. Frank stated that the next fee charge was for Nuvaring, a contraceptive method. Ms. Frank stated that Medicaid doesn't reimburse the health department for Nuvaring but will reimburse drugstores. She explained that in the past the health department wrote prescriptions for clients which meant monthly trips to the drugstore which increased failure rates since clients would not always go. Ms. Frank said to try to alleviate this problem we started supplying Nuvarings purchased through our Family Planning funds and since we could not get reimbursed the health department is proposing a fee of \$70.75 for the paying population. Ms. Frank said the majority of our patients are 0-20% pay which would average the costs out to what our local pharmacists charge after insurance. Ms. Frank said there will be a few patients that we will write a prescription for to take to the drug store for their insurance company to pay some of the cost. Ms. Frank said the cheapest drug store is Wal-Mart charging sixty some dollars. Mr. Long said the above mentioned lab tests for a prenatal patient was pretty rare for the doctor to order.

MOTION

Dr. Riggan made the motion to accept the new proposed fees. Alice Gray seconded and the motion was approved.

Flu Re-imbursement Issues-Kim Frank stated each year when we go through the flu clinics we bill Medicare for a population of folks that come in as Medicare clients, or what they think is Medicare, but actually have insurance supplements that we cannot get reimbursed for. Ms. Frank said we screen out as best we can by putting notices in the paper and advertising the flu clinic for Medicare clients but they still don't understand or are confused to what coverage they have. She went on to explain that rather than get into an argument in the flu lines, we go ahead and give them their flu shot. Ms. Frank stated this decision was made since it wasn't worth billing this small amount of unpaid vaccine debts due to the time required of staff and the ill feelings it was going to cause (with clients) especially since our flu revenues were exceeding projections. Ms. Frank wanted to make the Board aware of the issue as far as whether this is the correct course or not to take.

Rev. Moore asked if the health department could become certified to become one of the HMOs for reimbursements. Ms. Frank said there is a way and we are in the process of adding Blue Cross Blue Shield and that we will concentrate on the major insurance companies. Ms. Frank said by doing some hand written bills for flu shots, we have received some reimbursements from BCBS and United Health Care.

House Bill 2-Smoking Legislation-Included in the Board's mailed packet was information from Forsyth County Board of Health regarding their smoking resolution and other articles. Mr. Long asked the Board if they would also consider the resolution. Mr. Long hoped that possibly the Board chair could send a letter of support for the smoking legislation to the Dispatch. Mr. Long stated the reality is that the surgeon general's report has removed any lingering doubt that second hand smoke is a health risk. Mr. Long in his role as a public health official supports this legislation and considers it to be one of the most significant public health efforts in NC that has come up in a long time. Mr. Long stated he hoped the Board will choose some support for Rep. Holliman in his effort by endorsing Smoking Bill 2 through resolution and letter.

MOTION

Dr. Peter Rogaski made the motion to support House Bill 2 with an endorsement from the Board. Dr. Riggan seconded and the motion was approved

FYI-Mr. Long asked if the Board had any objections to some of the staff attending the NCPHA 100th Anniversary to be held at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville this fall. Mr. Long said if any of the Board would like to attend the meeting or had any concerns please let him know. The BOH did not have any objections for staff attending the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

Next Board of Health will meet Tuesday, May 5th, 2009 at 12:30

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 March 4th, Board of Health Minutes.

Dr. Mark Davis, Chair