

## MINUTES

### DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

May 3, 2011  
12:30 p.m.

#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

#### STAFF PRESENT

John Hendren  
Nancy Rosier  
Barbara Jones  
Jen Hames

#### VISITORS PRESENT

Dr. Rick Gilliam

#### WELCOME

Dr. Mark Hamrick called the meeting to order, established a quorum, and welcomed everyone.

#### MEETING AGENDA

Dr. Hamrick stated agenda item VII under New Business - b. needed to be amended to include "Resolution on the State Budget". He also requested approval of the consent agenda. Dr. Hamrick asked if there were any other additions to the agenda, none were made.

#### MOTION

Dr. Mark Davis made a motion that the agenda with the noted amendment and items on the consent agenda be approved. Commissioner Don Truell seconded and the motion was approved.

#### HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Senate Bill 433-** Currently under North Carolina law the structure of Board of Health has existed for approximately 100 years. The County Commissioners appoint Board of Health members with the Health Director working directly for the Board. Under Senate Bill 433 the Commissioners have the choice to dissolve the Board of Health and DSS Board and create a human services agency and board, or the Commissioners could be the board themselves. There are two counties in North Carolina that currently have this authority; Mecklenburg and Wake Counties. There is a population threshold of 425,000 under current law so no other counties are allowed to make that choice. This Bill has gone through the Senate with a 39 to 10 vote and is moving to the House where we do not expect any different result. As a health director and member of our Association, and also with it being a legislative agenda item for the County Commissioners Association, I do not have a position on this Bill.

*Commissioner Don Truell asked if this Bill does pass will the Commissioners have to take control and is the premise to save money. Mr. Long responded Senate Bill 433 will give the Commissioners*

*a choice but will not require any action. Mr. Long stated that he understood that commissioners that had this Bill put on the legislative agenda felt that they wanted more control.*

- **Senate Bill 551** – Creates a voluntary pilot project for counties that are interested in becoming part of a regional public health authority. Davidson County is relatively a large county based on demographics, ranked 14<sup>th</sup> but there are a lot of very small counties and it is hard for them to staff appropriately, provide consistency in services and redundancy of services. A regional approach for many of these small counties may make sense.
- **Senate Bill 552** - To sum up Bill 552 it will do away with the Division of Public Health as we know it and would create 4 Regional Public Health Authorities in North Carolina that would have their own board with rule making authority, which would have the authority to purchase land, facilities, etc. and operate almost like an LME. It appears there would still be individual county health departments under regional authorities and all of the contracting would be done through the region instead of through the Division of Public Health. The other premise in the legislation is only accredited health departments would receive funding which Davidson County Health Department is accredited. This Bill is completely upending & restructuring Public Health in North Carolina.
- **CAP-C Program** – is being transitioned. I have received feedback from the parents that they were very appreciative of the meeting and the opportunity to hear from the agencies and DMA. I was contacted by another county that had heard about how we had arranged the meeting and they would like to do the same by using us as a model on how to make the Cap-C transition occur. The last I heard we had received about half of the letters of intent as to what agency the parents had chosen.
- **HIS-** Electronic medical record search, we have spent an enormous amount of time looking at a couple of different systems to potentiality purchase. One of the systems is already in operation at Rowan County that our staff really liked. However, our IT Director has a lot of concerns about the platform this systems runs on. Cabarrus County is still trying to implement the other system we looked it. This system doesn't seem to be a fully developed even though they are marketing and selling it as one. I believe it would be better to stay with HIS at this point than to go to something else. The State's contract with HP will expire on May 11<sup>th</sup> and if they don't have a signed contract with Netsmart there may be no support for the HIS system. The State is trying to get the contract with Netsmart moved through so they can begin modifications to HIS. We are looking at a cost close to a quarter of a million dollars to purchase a local software system and another year of turmoil and upheaval in the clinics and with staff. I believe the best decision is to wait another couple of months to see what happens after the State contracts directly with Netsmart, unless the Board thinks differently.
- **House Budget Bill** – Still a lot of issues around that budget bill and with the special provisions. There are two items that came out positive with this bill; the school nurses are still there and they have restored the aid-to-county money, which are a huge improvements over where we were with the Governor's budget. It continues to be a wait and see.
- **Employee Appreciation** – Employee Appreciation Luncheon was held last Friday at Lake Tom-A-Lex and went very well. Several of the staff received "Caught in the Act" certificates. Caught

in the Act is a program when an employee gets caught performing positive customer service work and they are recognized for it. Customer service training included the “True Color” course which recognizes the differences in people and their personalities through self-analysis was held after the luncheon at DCCC. Everyone had a good time.

- **Dentrix-** is installed in dental and Dr. Citineni is working with the Dentrix trainer on getting the staff trained. We are currently in the process of scanning dental records. The dental clinic will be advanced in the electronic medical record process.
- **WIC-** is participating in a QI event and they’re in the middle of that project in working through implementation of open access to improve our no show rates. They will be going through a “Lean Kaizen” event which is a detailed process analysis of the WIC division to revamp and streamline the process.
- **Board of Health 2011 Calendar** –Revised September meeting date from the 6<sup>th</sup> (day after Labor Day) to the second Tuesday, September 13, 2011 and location of the meeting to the boardroom.

#### **MOTION**

Dr. Cathy Riggan made a motion to approve the Board of Health 2011 calendar as revised by moving the Board of Health meeting to the second Tuesday in September and location to the boardroom. Dr. Davis seconded and the motion was approved.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**FQHC-** Congress in the last wrangling with President Obama about the continuation of the government pretty much wiped out the lion’s share of the FQHC funding but there is some money left. Davidson County has gone from 1-10 to a 1-100 chance of getting an award.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### ***Recommendation for Optometrist Board Member***

Dr Rogaski introduced Dr. Rick Gilliam who he is recommending as a replacement for him on the Board of Health. *Dr. Gilliam stated he has lived in Davidson County since 1999 and owns Triad Eye Associates with three offices located in Archdale, High Point and Greensboro. He grew up in Burlington so I have been North Carolina based forever and have been here since 1982.*

Dr. Hamrick stated a motion needs to be made that upon Dr.Rogaski’s recommendation Dr. Rick Gilliam fill the Optometrist opening on the Board of Health in May when Dr. Rogaski’s term expires.

#### **MOTION**

Dr. Rogaski made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that Dr. Rick Gilliam be appointed to fill the optometrist position on the Board of Health. Don Truell seconded and the motion was approved.

### **Child Fatality Prevention Team Report**

Mr. Long stated this is an annual requirement to present the Child Fatality Prevention Team report to the Board of Health. He stated the following statistics on infant mortality:

- SIDS - 4
- Accidents - 3
- Birth defect – 5
- Perinatal condition – 8
- Suicide – 1
- Homicide – 1
- Undetermined -2

Mr. Long stated that the biggest issue that we continue to hear is that of co-sleeping, where the parents are sleeping in bed with small children which contributes to concerns with suffocation. Mr. Long also stated that police investigations are not getting all the information from the death scene about what actually happened as a result of the parents being distraught and with such a dramatic scene all the details are not recorded for the medical report. When the incident and all the details are looked at later it becomes apparent that there are issues associated with co-sleeping and may not have been identified in the police report. The main objective is continuing to educate the parents that this is a bad practice and not to engage in co-sleeping.

Mr. Long stated that the infant mortality rate in Davidson County was 12.2 per 1000 births compared to 7.9 in North Carolina. He stated that he and staff had tried to get to the details as to why it was so high but these numbers fluctuate from one year to the next and that this year just appears to be an anomaly. Mr. Long stated that you just have to look across several years to try and pinpoint if there is a particular issue.

### **Proposed Reorganization of NC Division of Environmental Health/ Resolution on the State Budget – John Hendren**

Mr. John Hendren stated that there are three proposals that he would like to request the Board of Health pass a resolution. Mr. Hendren stated that the legislature is proposing to move the Milk program out of the Division of Environmental Health and into the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Mr. Hendren stated that he believes Milk is a public health program and it would not save money by moving it to the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Hendren stated that with most of the consuming population being children that it needed to remain as a public health program.

Mr. Hendren stated the next proposal is to eliminate the Public Health Pest Management Program. This program is staffed by vector experts including medical entomologist which, among other things, assisted us at High Rock Lake samplings the adult mosquitoes during the drought a few years back testing for West Nile virus, providing education to the school system and DCCC on bed bugs in schools and worked with us when we had several cases of EEE in horses. Mr. Hendren stated that it is not clear why the legislature wants to eliminate this program; there are only 4 ½ positions 2- PhDs, 2- Masters degrees and the half position is another PhD with a total cost of \$371,000 for the entire program.

Mr. Hendren stated the final proposal is to move the Shellfish Sanitation Program to the Division of Marine Fisheries. The Marine Fisheries Commission is mostly commercial fishermen and they have little knowledge about writing public health laws and the impacts of disease outbreaks. Mr. Hendren stated that Shellfish sanitation needs to stay in the Division of Environmental Health and in

public health. If the decision is made to move to the Division of Marine Fisheries, at a minimum the Commission for Public Health should continue to be the rule making authority.

### **MOTION**

Dr. Davis made a motion that the Board approves the proposals as presented and adopted the proposals as a resolution to be presented to the Commissioners, local and State representatives. Alice Gray seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Communicable Disease Report – Jen Hames**

Jen Hames stated that every year the EPI team tracks communicable diseases and looks at what has changed from one year to another. Ms. Hames handed out a Communicable Disease Report for 2010 to the Board and did a brief summary of changes compared to 2009 which included atypical incidents, trends, public health enforcement actions and communicable disease control measures. She stated that in Davidson County the TB numbers remain low but salmonella cases continue to be increasing year to year.

*Board members inquired about the no smoking law. Ms. Hames stated that it has been well received by the public and has been a very successful law. No restaurant violations (fines) have been reported*

### **Policy Review – Barbara Jones**

Mrs. Jones stated that the “Release of Medical Records” document presented includes a policy and purpose statement and references a Guidance Manual which contains the procedures the staff follows in handling releases of information from our medical records. We follow State and federal regulations in developing the procedures we follow.

Mrs. Jones discussed the minors’ policy and explained to the Board that this policy addresses how we handle sharing information with parents concerning services a minor received here at the health department. There are specific services minors can seek without parental consent; those related to venereal disease, communicable diseases and pregnancy. Mrs. Jones stated that when the minor seeks these services without the parent’s consent, the minor must also authorize disclosure of this information. State law allows us to not release this information to the parent should the parent request the information unless we have the minor’s consent which is our agency policy for several reasons. Releasing information concerning family planning services to the parent without the minor’s consent would place us in a position to lose \$200,000 in Title X funding. Also if we disclose information to the parent without the minor’s consent, minors will not continue to come here for services, preventing our being able to meet their needs.

Mr. Long stated these policies as presented were drafted as a result of a law enforcement official coming to the Health Department demanding a minor’s record. The officer had parental consent and could not understand why we did not comply without the minor’s consent. Mr. Long stated that these minors need to feel comfortable coming to the health department for services in order to prevent pregnancies or to have STD’s treated without fear their parents will be contacted. Mr. Long stated that nurses make assessments on the ability of minors to make these sort of decisions and have guidelines to follow and may even try to convince the child to have a conversation with their parents or notify CPS if the situation requires it. Also if the child’s test results are abnormal and are of concern for the child’s health the parent would be notified.

**MOTION**

Dr. Davis made a motion that Departmental Policy 100.38 and Personal Health Policy 800.09 be approved as presented. Don Truell seconded and the motion was approved.

Dr Hamrick presented Dr. Rogaski a gift of appreciation for his six years of service on the Board of Health.

**FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES**

The Board of Health will meet Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 12:30.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

Respectfully submitted,

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**L. Layton Long, REHS, MSA**  
**Secretary to the Board**

This is a true and accurate copy of the May 3, 2011, Board of Health Minutes.

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**Dr. Mark Hamrick, Chair**