

MINUTES

DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

November 04, 2008
12:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Keith Raulston
Dr. Peter Rogaski
Commissioner Don Truell
Ms. Tammy Hedrick
Dr. Mark Hamrick
Rev. Lamar Moore
Dr. Cathy Riggan
Dr. Mark Davis

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Kim Frank
Ms. Janie Age
Ms. Joseline Hernandez
Ms. Mary Lou Collett
Ms. Jackie Frank
Mr. Darren Cecil

VISITORS PRESENT

Danny & Nancy Alexander
Ronnie Rominger

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Davis opened the meeting, established a quorum and welcomed everyone.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Davis asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the last meeting or additions to the agenda.

MOTION

Dr. Riggan made the motion to approve the Meeting Agenda for November and the September 2008 minutes. Dr. Rogaski seconded and the motion was approved.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The amount of debt-written off this year has gone down. Inge Leonard and her staff are doing a great job with collections and billing.
- Explained to the Board that he promised Cindy Harris and the Open Access team that if they successfully implemented the system that he would dress weird for the Board meeting. *Mrs. Harris stated that they had achieved an 85 to 100 % show rate on any given day in Open Access and Mr. Long had to fulfill his promise by wearing his outfit for the Board*
- Tammy Hedrick's term will expire February 8th, 2009. Please be thinking of a replacement for the nurse seat on the Board. Ms. Hedrick will be eligible to attend the meeting in January before her term expires
- Staff did a tremendous job of getting the public in and out for their flu shots. Gave 1,254 flu shots and 32 pneumonia shots. It has been a slower year due to ample supplies of flu vaccine in the community which has decreased our demand.
- Kim Frank stated Tdap vaccinations went well and by the 30th day of school less than five students had been suspended for not having been vaccinated. Mrs. Frank said it would probably be better to present the Tdap to the children at the end of the 5th grade before school is out for the summer.
- October the 7th we had a large meeting at the health department on accessing primary care for the uninsured in the community. Along with Dr. Davis and Commissioner Truell others in attendance included hospital representatives from Forsyth, Baptist, Lexington, and Thomasville Medical, area doctors, Office of Rural Health staff, and Forsyth Access Care. This meeting stemmed from so many people in the community losing health insurance as a result from layoffs and various other reasons. We have another much smaller group put together to look at developing a coordinated plan between the hospitals, health department,

Medical Ministries and private providers to expand health care access. Data show that about 31% of working people in Davidson County do not have health insurance. There is a program called Management Academy through UNC Chapel Hill that helps communities develop plans to address community issues. The program costs \$4500 per person and the Division of Public Health and DHHS will pay for a team to attend. We are hoping we will be able to send a team but will continue to work on the issue of the uninsured while applying to the program.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Expired Application Refund Request-(Danny and Nancy Alexander)-Darren Cecil

Darren reported that the Alexander's bought a sub-division of 25 lots and purchased septic applications for each of the properties. Mr. Cecil stated that in accordance with the existing fee policy, the Alexander's applications expired after one year. Mr. Cecil explained that the Alexanders were notified by telephone that the applications were nearing expiration but by the time the Alexanders contacted staff to let them know the lots were ready for completion, the applications had expired three weeks prior. Mr. Cecil stated that the Alexanders had paid roughly \$4000.00 for the applications. *Dr. Rogaski wanted to know if there was anything the county did to delay this process.* Darren answered by saying no we waited on them for roughly a year to contact us.

Mr. Long explained to the Board that they, as the Board, had the statutory authority to charge fees and set fee policies and that the current policy did not address reinstatement of expired applications. A lengthy discussion regarding the request and possible changes to the fee policy ensued among Board members.

MOTION

Reverend Moore made the motion that the Alexanders pay a \$200.00 reinstatement fee to cover the additional costs of environmental staff time required to complete the applications and that the Alexanders have 60 days to act upon the applications; after 60 days a renewal fee of 25% would be required. Dr. Rogaski seconded and the motion was approved with 5 for and 2 against the motion. Dr. Hamrick excused himself from voting on the motion because he was an acquaintance of the Alexanders.

MOTION

Keith Raulston made a motion that the fee policy be amended, effective immediately, requiring a 25% reinstatement fee for expired applications which will grant a 60 day extension; if not acted upon within the 60 day extension the client will have to re-apply and pay 100% of the original fee. Dr. Hamrick seconded and the motion was approved

Refund Request (Mr. Ronald Rominger)-Darren Cecil

Mr. Cecil reported that Mr. Rominger applied for an addition to an existing septic system. Mr. Cecil stated that a specialist met Mrs. Rominger in response to the application. Mr. Cecil stated that Mrs. Rominger indicated to the specialist that she preferred the septic addition be located in the back yard and that staff had acted upon this request in issuing the permit. Mr. Rominger later contacted the office, after the permit had been issued based upon Mrs. Rominger's request, stating that he wanted the system in the front yard since it would be more economical. Mr. Cecil explained that Mr. Rominger was advised by staff that he would have to pay a second permit fee of \$220.00 for the soil to be checked in the front yard since a permit had already been issued on the original application. Mr. Cecil said that there had not been a communication problem between his staff and the Romingers but that Mr. Rominger had changed his mind after realizing it would cost him more to put the system in back yard. Mr. Cecil stated that in accordance with state rules, to look at another site we would need another application and fees for applications are set by the Board. A discussion ensued among Board members. Staff and Mr. Rominger were asked additional questions regarding the situation surrounding the request.

MOTION

Keith Raulston made the motion to deny the refund request. Commissioner Truell seconded and the motion was approved

Clinic Fees Adjustments-Kim Frank

Mrs. Frank reviewed recommended fee changes which included primarily dental fees and a few personal health rates. Ms. Frank explained that these fees would have been presented earlier but that the new rates published in the Medicaid bulletin did not become available until September. *Dr. Davis explained to the Board, that health department fees should be slightly above Medicaid rates.* Mrs. Frank stated that we want to keep fees reasonable as we do have self pay clients that are on a sliding fee scale.

MOTION

Alice Gray made the motion to accept the fee changes as presented. Dr. Rogaski seconded and the motion was approved.

Hepatitis Testing-Kim Frank

Ms. Frank reported there has been an increase demand in the request for Hepatitis B screening/testing primarily from clients seeking to enter drug rehab programs (Hepatitis B testing is prerequisite for them). Ms. Frank said our state lab does not perform this test except for certain circumstances therefore; we would like to offer testing as a service. Mrs. Frank stated that this service will be private pay for most clients. Mrs. Frank stated that Labcorp's rate will be \$33.96 and we are recommending a fee of \$35.00. The Board discussed the proposed fee and believed it should be set higher to cover indirect costs.

MOTION

Dr. Rogaski made the motion to charge \$45.00 for Hepatitis B screenings. Alice Gray seconded and the motion was approved.

Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Report-Janie Ange

Mrs. Ange presented to the Board via PowerPoint the end of FY 2008 budget report. Mrs. Ange reminded the Board that the health department signs a consolidated agreement with the state that sets the terms for what the health department must do to receive the state funds. The health department stayed well within the approved budget and actually received additional revenue that had not been projected. *Mr. Long stated that we are anticipating some difficulties in next fiscal year as a result of State budget issues and declining revenues with the County. Mr. Long stated that we did receive some WIC money that we weren't anticipating and plan to use those funds to pay for a WIC clerk that is currently County funded. Mr. Long said that environmental health revenues are expected to be down as a result of the declining building industry and that we would not be filling a vacant position in that division.*

Home Health Proceeds Update and Request-Mary Lou Collett

Mrs. Ange handed out a home health interest balance sheet for September 08. Ms. Collett thanked the Board for the \$15,000 from the home health funds previously given for follow-up cancer screening services. Ms. Collett stated that she had 17 people scheduled for services, allotting up to \$1000.00 per patient. Ms. Collett stated that the obstetrical practices were very generous in allowing the health department to pay them Medicaid rates for these services and that Labcorp had offered a 30% discount as well. She stated that these reduced costs had allowed the funds to go much further. Ms. Collett requested \$10,000 additional home health interest funds for the balance of the fiscal year. *Mr. Long said he would like for the Board to keep in mind that we are not earning the same amount of interest this fiscal year and, in addition to other approved projects, \$50,000 of the interest is allocated annually for a part time position.* The Board discussed the request and reviewed the home health interest spread sheet.

MOTION

Commissioner Truell made the motion to allocate an additional \$10,000 for fiscal year 2009 from the home health proceeds for cancer screenings. Dr. Riggan seconded and the motion was approved.

Closed Session – Personnel

Dr. Davis announced that the Board needed to go into closed session according to North Carolina General Statue 143-318, 11(a) (1)-(9) regarding Mr. Long’s annual evaluation.

Return to Open Session

The chairman announced the Board to be back in open session

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATE

The next BOH meeting will be January 6th at 12:30 P.M. in the Davidson County Health Department

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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 November 4th, Board of Health Minutes.

Dr. Mark Davis, Chair