

MINUTES

DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

November 6, 2007

12:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Jackie Frank
Ms. Kim Frank
Ms. Janie Ange
Ms. Jen Hames
Ms. Mary Jacobs
Ms. Joseline Hernandez
Ms. Karen Copley

VISITORS PRESENT

None

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Davis stated we needed to add one item under the consent agenda, the policy revisions made to the Public Comment Policy and Workforce Development Policy that were included in the Board packets.

Dr. Davis asked if there were any corrections to the September 14, 2007 minutes or other amendments to the agenda.

MOTION

Dr. Rogaski made the motion to approve the meeting and consent agenda. Rev. Moore seconded and the motion was approved.

HEALTH DIRECTOR REPORT

- **Flu Shots**-1400 to 1500 flu shots given so far this year. Karen Copley, coordinator for the flu activity commented that we were steadily receiving calls for flu shots but we weren't as busy as we had been in previous years due to the availability of flu vaccine
- **Project**-Have been accepted into the South East Public Leadership Institute. It is a year long program where I meet with other health directors and public health professionals three times in the next year. I will be required to develop a project for the Health Department. This program is paid for through a scholarship.
- **Accreditation**- We are down to the wire and doing all we can to be ready. Staff has been cleaning up the health department. Maintenance did a wonderful job of putting cabinets in the two copying rooms and Jen's office giving them more room. Pictures were hung, garbage hauled off, carpet cleaned, floors stripped, waxed, and buffed and a lot of the walls were painted both in Lexington and Thomasville. The accreditation team will be here Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Reverend Moore, Commissioner Truell, Dr. Davis and Dr. Hamrick from the Board have volunteered to be interviewed Friday morning by the accreditation team. Also other people in the community will be interviewed; school superintendent, social services, Family Services and Medical Ministries.

- **NCPHA Award Recipients**-Positive note - we had two award recipients at the last NCPHA conference. Mary Jacobs, School Health Supervisor received the Margaret D. Dolan award which is the highest award provided by the Nursing Section. Ms. Jacobs is retiring next spring after thirty-six years. The school systems have really grown to respect and appreciate everything Mary has done with the school nurse program over the years. Ms. Jacobs stated that she had seen a lot of changes in her thirty-seven years and knows that the health department has always had the support we needed from the BOH and appreciates it. Ms. Jacobs stated that the health department had changed in leaps and bounds and that when she came, there were five nurses and now there was a staff of thirty-five or forty nurses due to our changing programs. Mr. Long stated that Kim Frank, Nursing Director is another deserving employee who received the Public Health All Star Award and was recognized for her contribution for all her years of public health service. The health department is very proud of Mary and Kim for their achievements.
- **Dentist**-Dr. Davis made a lot of calls on behalf of the department to show the Office of Rural Health that we are a “County of Need” for dentists. As a result of these calls we have a dentist that might be interested in working for the dental clinic if everything works out. A meeting has been scheduled this coming Thursday to discuss the transition.
- **Northwest Partnership for Public Health**- Information was included in the Board packet on our participation in the incubator initiative for the North West Partnership.
- **Healthy Carolinians**-Received \$12,000 from the State for the local Healthy Carolinians Coalition which is the Davidson Health Alliance. The money is handled through the health department but actually is for the support and enhancement of the Health Alliance and cannot be spent without authorization of the Health Alliance.
- **Asthma Grant**-Applying for grant through the local asthma coalition. One project is having different colored flags to fly at schools to alert parents, especially those with children who have asthma, of the air quality that day by the color of flag flown. This project will start in the spring. Ms. Hames added that the coalition would like to expand this project to include businesses to get increase awareness in the community. Additional efforts will be to encourage restaurants to go smoke free. Ms. Hames stated that the newest effort would be the “Coach’s Clipboard” program. This program works with booster clubs coaches, parks and recreation coaches to have clipboards that have the signs of asthma on it and what to do with children experiencing any of these signs. The project includes educational training as part of the effort.
- **Software**- The Environmental Health Food and Lodging, daycare or swimming pool inspection grades can be viewed on line. So far there have been approximately 7000 hits on the web site to view this information.
- **Rabies**-John Hendren wanted to pass this along-CDC has apparently declared the US free of the canine variant of rabies. Doesn’t mean we don’t have rabies, but we don’t have the canine type.
- **Debt Set Off**-Received the copy of the draft letter from the president of our association that was to be sent to the federal agency overseeing Title X funds. The letter was requesting clarification of debt setoff and Title X funds issue or health departments would continue using debt setoff for Title X funds. The Iredell County Board of Health Chairman had also sent a letter to the Federal oversight agency requesting clarification on the issue. He had received a response that was federal bureaucratic language which basically says that they (the federal agency) really can’t say for sure, but we might be doing something wrong as it relates to garnishment of state tax refunds where health departments might be disclosing confidential information that the client has sought family planning services. We are in the program and we are not recommending changes. Ms. Frank stated that we had entered in excess of forty thousand dollars into the system but probably won’t see any payouts until the spring when people start getting their tax returns.
- **SIDS Request**-Would like to bring before the Board a request from Davie County for a letter of agreement for use of our SIDS counselor until they have a trained counselor in place. Davie County rarely has the need for a SIDS counselor but would like to be able to send a family here for counseling or have

the counselor go to a Davie County family's home should the need arise. *Ms. Greeson wanted to know how this would affect our staff.* Mr. Long answered by saying we would pay them mileage and we would work some kind of arrangement out with Davie County to reimburse us. From a liability stand point we are covered under anything we do under this practice. *Commissioner Truell asked if it was okay for us to go outside of our perimeter because he knew policemen and the sheriff's department didn't.* Mr. Long stated that we have an agreement with Guilford County for nurse practitioners to come here to work clinics so it would not be an unusual situation.

MOTION

Commissioner Truell made the motion for an agreement to be made between Davidson County and Davie County to use the health department's SIDS counselor until they have a counselor trained. Ms. Amy Greeson seconded and the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

FY 07 End of Year Budget Report

Janie Ange presented a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the final end of year budget for FY 06-07. Janie stated we did well in all the specific budgets. Mr. Long stated that the budget was better than anticipated with unanticipated additional revenues. *Commissioner Truell wanted to go back to the home health agency fund and asked how much money we used there.* Mr. Long stated that we used \$10,000 in BCCCP but the \$50,000 appropriated for the nurse practitioner wasn't used because that position was only recently filled. Mr. Long stated that the home health money was generating approximately \$90,000 a year in interest.

Request for Home Health Proceeds for Flu Vaccine

Jen Hames, Health Educator explained the letter that was included in the Board packet was a request for financial assistance to help assure residents of Davidson County would receive a flu shot during the 2008-09 flu season. Ms. Hames stated that the Marketing Committee is requesting \$5000 from the Home Health Funds to pay for flu shots for residents that cannot afford the shot. Ms. Hames stated to be eligible for this money, residents must be uninsured and at or below 250% poverty level. The sliding fee scale would be used as well. *Ms. Gray asked how would you get the news out to these people and Jen responded by saying that they haven't worked that out yet because their income will have to be verified to qualify.*

MOTION

Rev. Lamar Moore made the motion to approve the marketing committee's request for financial assistance for flu shots in the year 08-09. Alice Gray seconded and the motion was approved.

Report on MRSA

Mr. Long reported that the health department had been inundated with calls as a result to the media attention on MRSA. We did send a letter out with every school child in the county about MRSA. Mr. Long stated that MRSA topic has died down recently but asked Karen Copley to report on MRSA to the Board.

- Karen Copley, Communicable Disease Nurse shared information about living with MRSA. Ms. Copley reported that MRSA is not a new disease but an old disease that has been seen in hospitals and nursing homes but is now coming into the community; called community acquired MRSA. Ms. Copley stated that MRSA was so common that health departments did not keep up with the actual number of cases. Ms. Copley stated there are sixty-one reportable diseases in North Carolina and MRSA is not one of them unless we have a cluster of cases. Ms. Copley stated that washing your hands with soap and water is still the number one way to protect yourself from an infection with anything and also by using the sanitizing hand cleanser. Ms. Copley explained if anyone does have MRSA and it is covered properly they are

permitted to go to school/work or any kind of social activity. Ms. Copley said it primarily comes down to being cautious and the health department is providing a lot of instructions to the schools with athletic teams being the primary emphasis. Ms. Copley stated that the schools have been supplied with videos and in-services trainings. Also, Ms. Jacobs interjected that information was sent to the day cares. Ms. Jacobs informed the Board that a lot of pediatricians are doing cultures where they had not been doing them. Ms. Jacobs stated that if the doctor's office says it is MRSA, that is what we treat it as because culture or not, we have to go along with the doctors. Ms. Jacobs stated that what they really watch is a draining sore on a student.

Closed Session

Dr. Davis announced that the Board needed to go into closed session regarding Mr. Long's annual evaluation.

MOTION

Alice Gray made the motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter. Dr. Cathy Riggan seconded and the motion was approved.

Dr. Davis stated pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §§143-318, 11(a) (1)-(9) the Board of Health was going into closed session.

Return to Open Session

The chairman announced the Board to be back in open session.

MOTION

Dr. Riggan made the motion to come out of closed session. Dr. Rogaski seconded and the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

Next Board of Health will meet Tuesday, January 8th, 2008 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 November 6th 2007, Board of Health Minutes.

Dr. Mark Davis, Chair