

MINUTES

DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

May 1, 2012 – 12:30 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Mary Lou Collett
Nancy Rosier
Jen Hames

VISITORS PRESENT

Michael Newby, Asst. County Attorney
David Bodenheimer, Reporter-The Dispatch

WELCOME

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

MEETING AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Dr. Hamrick asked for approval of the agenda and the consent agenda including the March 6, 2012 Board of Health meeting minutes, March 26, 2012 Public Hearing minutes and also the monthly and financial reports.

Mr. Long brought to the Board's attention the policy revisions and explained Darren Cecil had reformatted and brought clarification to the Environmental Health fee review policy by doing some technical changes to make it consist with our other policies.

MOTION

Rev. Lamar Moore made the motion to approve the items on the meeting agenda and consent agenda as presented. Dr. Michael Lanning seconded and the motion was approved.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Community Health Assessment (CHA)** is going well and, as the Board is aware, we are working with Thomasville Medical Center and Lexington Medical Center. Community forms will be held on May 21st at North Davidson Public Library, May 23rd at Thomasville Public Library, May 30th in the commissioners meeting room, and May 31st at Denton Public Library. There is a meeting on May 15th to begin the prioritization process.
- Aid to County cut – During the budget cycle I may have addressed some concerns around the Aid to County money that is a general appropriation from the Legislature to the local health departments that is non-categorical funding. I received notice yesterday that it is a targeted cut from fiscal research at the Legislature. For us, that could be a loss of \$147,000. The Health Directors Association will be all over that because it will be a significant amount of money that is distributed to health departments based on their size and population.

- **Medical Ministries** – There is no official word yet but it appears there is an increase probability of Medical Ministries receiving the FQHC award. That will mean a lot of things for that entity and ultimately our relationship with that organization. Hopefully, they will be able to expand and grow with those federal funds.
- **2012-13 Eat Smart Move More Community Grant**- The health department will be collaborating with Thomasville City Schools, specifically Liberty Drive Elementary. The intent is to establish an afterschool obesity program that will include education for the children as well as the parents (similar to the MENDS program being offered by Lexington Medical Center and the Lexington YMCA). Cooperative Extension will be a partner and will offer educational and cooking classes; the Thomasville YMCA will be a partner and offer physical activity classes. Included in the grant will be a walking trail at Liberty Drive that will be available to the children during the day and the public after school hours. Also included will be a school garden at Liberty Drive. The amount of the grant is up to \$50,000. The funding originated from CDC and was given to the State for the Eat Smart Move More program. Jen Hames is applying for this grant and would like an endorsement and approval from the Board to move forward with the application.

MOTION

Don Truell made the motion to endorse the application of the Eat Smart Move More Community Grant. Dr. Cathy Riggan seconded and the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Local Tobacco Regulations**

Mr. Long stated he was leaving the health department effective May 25th and he felt tobacco regulation is an important public health issue for this community. We had the opportunity to see some preliminary data from the community health assessment and interestingly enough about 29% of the population of Davidson County use tobacco, which is significantly higher than the state average of 20%. From a public health standpoint, it very important in terms of this Board and whoever takes my position as health director to advocate for things to improve and promote the health of this community. Policy implementation is known as a proven effective method. When policies affect behaviors, it becomes more difficult to indulge in a behavior, so the person tends to move away from that behavior. And, if you are trying to encourage a behavior, policies make it easier for them to engage in the healthy behavior and it becomes more of a habit. Mr. Long stated that he felt this was a big enough issue and important issue that the Board should continue to support it and promote it, but given the fact that he will not be here, it would be an awful lot for an interim health director to take on and he would recommend to the Board at this point to set this aside until the Board has a newly appointed health director in place and pick it back up at a later date. Mr. Long emphasized that tobacco is the number one preventable cause of death and disease. It is a sad statement for us when we are selected by Chapel Hill two or three years ago because of our high incidence of smoking during pregnancy, which has a high cost associated with it. When you look at it from an economic standpoint, if an employer is looking at this community which has an excessive high incidence of tobacco use, it could be a deciding factor on if the industry would even come to the community due to the impact on insurance rates. This is my recommendation until a new health director is appointed. It is certainly the Boards purview to do as they choose, but there won't be anybody in place to work with the community and Commissioners and do the presentations in my absence.

Dr. Hamrick stated he agreed that the Board should wait until a new health director is in place and move forward at that point.

MOTION

- Rev. Moore made the motion to table the local tobacco regulations until a new health director is hired. Keith Raulston seconded and the motion was approved.

Closed Session

Dr. Hamrick announced that the Board needed to go into closed session in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 143-318; 11(6) (1)-(9) to discuss personnel matters.

MOTION

Dr. Riggan made a motion to go into closed session. Becky Daley seconded and the motion was approved.

The Board returned from closed session. Dr. Hamrick opened the session and stated that the Board would like to proceed with appointing Darren Cecil as interim health director.

MOTION

Rev. Moore made a motion to appoint Darren Cecil as the interim health director effective 5pm on May 25, 2012. Dr. Riggan seconded and the motion was approved.

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

The Board of Health will meet Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 12:30.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,

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

This is a true and accurate copy of the May 1, 2012, Board of Health Minutes.

Dr. Mark Hamrick, Chair