

# MINUTES

## DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

May 7, 2013  
12:30 p.m.

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Becky Daley  
Ms. Alice Gray, Vice Chair  
Dr. Rick Gilliam  
Dr. Mark Hamrick, Chair  
Dr. Michael Lanning  
Rev. Lamar Moore  
Dr. Cathy Riggan  
Commissioner Don Truell

### STAFF PRESENT

Janie Ange  
Darren Cecil  
Mary Lou Collett  
Jen Hames  
Barbara Hedrick  
Nancy Stout  
Monecia Thomas

### VISITORS PRESENT

Thomasville High School's TRU Group  
Jada Baxter  
Darius Broadie  
Derrick Cotton  
Ka'Trena Green  
Facilitator/Teacher: Sabreen Mutawally

### WELCOME

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

### MEETING AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Hamrick stated Janie Ange has pointed out the section on the agenda "Monthly Reports" is not used anymore and she has recommended that it be removed from the agenda. Dr. Hamrick stated the minutes and financial reports were included in the packets and asked for approval of the removal of "Monthly Reports" from the agenda, the items on the agenda and the consent agenda as presented.

### MOTION

Dr. Cathy Riggan made a motion to approve the removal of "Monthly Reports" from the agenda, the items on the meeting agenda and the consent agenda as presented. Dr. Michael Lanning seconded and the motion was approved without dissent.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Hamrick reminded the Board that the Public Comment Policy states three minutes is provided per speaker for a total of fifteen minutes. This can be modified if the Board so chooses. Normally the Board of Health members do not make comments during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Ms. Sabreen Mutawally stated that she is a Health and Physical Education teacher at Thomasville High School. She also serves as the advisor for the TRU Club (Tobacco Reality Unfiltered), a youth advocacy club that partakes in various activities pertaining to tobacco prevention among young people. Ms. Mutawally turned the program over to the students to conduct the activities with the Board.

Jada Baxter and Darius Broadie instructed the Board to chew a tootsie roll for one minute and spit into a cup to demonstrate the amount of "spit" generated from chewing tobacco. Mr. Broadie stated one dip (pinch) of tobacco from a smokeless tobacco tin is equal to smoking 3-4 cigarettes. Ms. Mutawally distributed the Gruen Von Behrens cards to the Board. Two weeks ago, Ms. BJ Elmore a survivor of throat cancer spoke to the TRU Club and explained the picture of Mr. Von Behrens. He started using tobacco at the age of thirteen and by the time he was seventeen, he was diagnosed with oral cancer. Mr.

Von Behrens is currently twenty-five and has had half of his jaw removed and over thirty facial reconstructive surgeries.

Ka'Trena Green and Derrick Cotton distributed straws to the Board and instructed them to jog in place or do jumping jacks then stop, take one deep breath in and breathe out. Ms. Mutawally instructed the Board to do the same thing except pinch their nose and breathe only through the straw. Ms. Green and Mr. Cotton explained the reason for the exercise is to show when people smoke or chew tobacco it is hard for them to breathe normally because tar clogs your arteries and lungs.

The Board commended the TRU Club on a good demonstration and invited them to attend the County Commissioners' meeting as the Board advances their tobacco free efforts.

## **PROGRAM UPDATES**

- Environmental Health Supervisor Darren Cecil explained the current Project 319 Abbotts Creek Watershed Study which studies the movement of wastewater from septic tank systems in the Abbott's Creek Watershed to determine to what degree septic tank systems contribute to pollution. This study also looks at septic tank system failure rates and which types of systems are more prone to failure. Research surveys were mailed out to home owners and Mr. Cecil wanted to make the Board aware that they would be going door to door asking questions May 22-24.

Mr. Cecil stated sewer line mapping started three years ago in conjunction with public works requesting Environmental Health to use GPS units to map the county controlled sewer lines. The project is near completion with 28.8 miles of sewer lines walked and mapped thus far with Environmental Health Staff Members Randy Swicegood responsible for most of the work.

Mr. Cecil reported:

- Rabies Clinic was held April 13<sup>th</sup> with 355 vaccines given which is low compared to normal
- Centralized Permitting is both a Success and a Challenge – Opening of the office has gone smoothly but there is still a learning curve. There is still a goal of going paperless in a few years. Requests for waste water systems have increased and Environmental Health does their best researching records but it can take as much as thirty minutes to research one record.
- The State reviewed the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Plan– Davidson County did very well with a 98.2% score

Mr. Truell asked question regarding the benefit of Centralized Permitting. Mr. Cecil responded that it may take a few years, but it will be a benefit to the County. Also the scanning of Environmental Health records will impact the success of the Centralized Permitting office and over time the staff will learn more about Environmental Health permits. For now, Environmental Health is providing a staff member to the Centralized Permitting office a couple of hours in the morning and an hour in the afternoons and of course, staff is still available for questions even if they are not physically at the Central Permitting office.

Mrs. Gray asked for examples of Legal Actions: 63 violations under General Sanitation. Mr. Cecil responded that the most common are Notices of Violations for Onsite Waste Water Systems-30 day notices, Intent to Suspend - Restaurant Permit giving 30 days to correct violation or possibly an Immediate Suspension to close the restaurant.

- Director of Nursing Mary Lou Collet provided an update on the measles outbreak. The number of cases has increased to 19 cases statewide with several counties involved. The health

department is one of the nineteen counties that is one of the counties allowed to offer State supplied vaccines at no charge. We have not had many calls. People can walk in or schedule an appointment.

- Staffing issues are still a success and a challenge: Office support is fully staffed, but we still have clinical nursing positions that need to be filled and also a dentist position.

- Child Health Report Card - Highlights

- Percentage of children with appropriate immunizations grade is now a C verses the B it was last year. Ms. Collet expressed her opinion that this may be due to the State not providing immunizations at no charge, unless you meet the qualifications for the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program.
- 1 in 4 children live in poverty
- Decreasing obesity is one of the top goals of our strategic plan. There are several initiatives in place to address obesity, for example the city of Thomasville celebrated the opening of seven new parks as part of the Children at Play initiative called "Party in the Park."

Mr. Truell asked about the case of TB at a university in Raleigh. Ms. Collett responded that there is a shortage of skin tests now so they are deferring a routine TB skin test and are recommending options in cases of possible exposure.

- Health Education Supervisor Jen Hames explained the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's "Roadmaps to Health" \$25,000 cash prize. The prize is based on county health rankings and was launched to further the work of the County Healthy Rankings & Roadmaps program, which aims to educate the public and policy-makers on the multiple factors that influence community health such as education, economic conditions, and the physical environment and to provide solutions that will improve community health. Ms. Hames will apply on behalf of Davidson County and the application is due at the end of May

Mrs. Gray asked about the status of Be Active. Ms. Hames responded they have lost their funding and the program will end June 30<sup>th</sup> unless new funding can be found.

- WIC Director Barbara Hedrick stated WIC training for Crossroads is continuing but seems to be a bit elusive in that we know that it is coming, but we have not received an implementation date. Crossroads will be implemented in Wayne County this summer. Ms. Hedrick explained that they are getting ready for the Farmer's Market and will be able to issue the 'Coupons' which will give women with children three years of age or older 6-four dollar coupons equal to twenty four dollars' worth of products that can be purchased at the local Farmer's Market. As part of our Nutrition Services plan, WIC partnered with an agriculture extension agent to bring in season produce to the WIC office and have a session with clients educating them on the product. Topics may include ripeness, preparation of and safe storage of produce. Ms. Hedrick shared the vendor activity report from April 2012 thru March 2013 which shows that Davidson County's vendors redeemed \$3,150,088.11 in WIC vouchers.

- Health Director Monecia Thomas reviewed the listing of local/regional/State meetings. Only about five of the meetings take place outside of Davidson County. For example, the NC Association of Local Health Directors meets in Raleigh, the Legal Conference was held in Chapel Hill, and the Northwest Partnership, our region of ten health departments, traditionally meets in Yadkin County. The Girl Scouts Peaks to Piedmont Board meetings are held in Colfax or Hickory and Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign of NC (APPCNC) meets in Durham. Advanced Imaging Systems

was toured by Ms. Thomas, IT Specialist Robbie Varner, Nursing Director Mary Lou Collett, Management Support Supervisor Linda Russ and Joan Boyd from Management Support Services.

- Ms. Thomas explained that the Board will continue to hear about the Community Transformation Project, a large project that is being worked on within our region with Jen Hames as our lead for the Davidson County Health Department. Ms. Hames is meeting with County Managers, Thomasville and Lexington City Managers, Parks and Recreation Directors to discuss initiatives around the built environment to help increase physical activity.
- The Legislative Update was provided based on the stance of the NC Association of Local Health Directors. This information was provided to County Manager Robert Hyatt as requested. The document is a good overview of current activities. At this time, Ms. Thomas does not know how much interaction takes place between the Board of Health and elected officials who will make these legislative decisions. Ms. Thomas would like to contact the Board as a group to see if they are interested in contacting Representatives and Senators about some of the issues. One of the current issues is the Consent for Minors HB 693 - Eliminate Exceptions/Medical Treatment/Minors. The concern is that minors are currently able to consent to certain types of treatment and if you take that treatment away and permit adult consent only, young people are no longer protected and able to easily access treatment.
- Ms. Thomas mentioned the successful funding of an electronic medical records program. An email was sent previously to the Board explaining the need to move \$94,000 from next fiscal year to this fiscal year. The budget amendment has been changed; the agreement has been reviewed by the County Attorney and the IT Specialist and we are setting up a phone conference to follow up on questions the county attorney had in terms of arbitration with the vendor for electronic medical records.

## **VI. Old Business**

- Dental Clinic – Ms. Thomas stated that the last time she had a conversation with East Carolina University they mentioned the ground breaking being scheduled for either July or August of this year. The plan to be up and running within a year and will accept children and adults as clients. The DCHD Children’s Dental Clinic is still operating with dentists through staffing agencies and we have hired one dental assistant due to a staff retirement. We plan to hire a second dental assistant soon.
- Dr. Hamrick stated that Ms. Thomas had distributed the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) Six Functions of Public Health Governance to the Board at the March Board of Health meeting to see if the Board would like to adopt them. Dr. Hamrick explained that Ms. Thomas has compared the North Carolina Accreditation document and the Six Functions of Public Health Governance and they line up very well with each other to meet accreditation requirements. Dr. Hamrick asked if the Board would like to make a motion to adopt the Six Functions of Public Health Governance as part of the Davidson County Board of Health handbook and recognize the functions as a part of the Board of Health.

## **MOTION**

Dr. Cathy Riggan made a motion to adopt the Six Functions of Public Health Governance as part of the Davidson County Board of Health handbook. Dr. Rick Gilliam seconded and the motion was approved without dissent.

## **VII. New Business**

- Dr. Hamrick asked the Board to leave their Board of Health Handbooks to be updated. The Handbooks will be returned at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Nancy Stout mentioned that the policy review looks overwhelming, but there were not many significant changes. The Board received all the policies in their packets for review. Ms. Stout explained the following policy changes:
  1. Public Comment – matched wording to read exactly like the Board of Health Bylaws
  2. Program eligibility – Ms. Stout distributed Identification Certification Forms to the Board. She explained that it was approved in the Executive Staff meeting earlier to have clients sign the Identification Certification Form and the wording was changed in the policy to match the form. There are occasions that require the need to compare signatures in order to release files, so getting a signature on this form allows for a comparison.
  3. Strategic Planning – changed timing to match Community Health Assessment cycle
  4. Tobacco Free – no change – resource impact statement added as required on all policies
  5. Workforce Development – changed wording on documentation of training and the timing of employee evaluations
  6. Policy and Procedure Development – changed documentation of policy approval - a signature is not required as long as it was documented in the minutes that the policy was approved.

### **MOTION**

Rev. Moore made a motion to accept the health department policy changes. Dr. Michael Lanning seconded and the motion was approved without dissent.

- Dr. Lanning mentioned the Ladies Night Out on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Davidson County Community College from 5:30-8:30 pm. It is sponsored by Novant Health Thomasville Medical Center. Dr. Lanning explained this is an opportunity for women to learn more about specific health items in a pampered type environment and the proceeds go to “The Circle of Care”, an employee campaign that collects money that is used for special patients or for staff in need at the hospital.

### **BOARD MEETING DATES**

The Board of Health will meet Tuesday, July 9, 2013 at 12:30.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

Respectfully submitted,

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Monecia R. Thomas, MHA  
Secretary to the Board

This is a true and accurate copy of the May 7, 2013, Board of Health Minutes.

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Dr. Mark Hamrick, Chair