Stanly County Health Department

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Dennis R. Joyner, MPH
Director

STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 5th, 2012
Meeting Minutes

The Stanly County Board of Health met on January 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Stanly County Health Department. Board Members absent were Debby Johnston, Aretha Sherrill, and Dr. Ann Yowell. Staff members present were Dennis Joyner, Health Director, Judie DeMuth, Debbie Bennett, Patti Lewis, Becky McKeon, Dean Lambert and Landon Efird. Leon Warren attended as media representative.

Chairman Faulkner called the first meeting of the year to order and welcomed those present. First term pharmacist board member Rick Cain was sworn in by Mr. Faulkner and Judie DeMuth, clerk to the board witnessed and notarized the Oath of Office. Mr. Landon Efird who began work in the Animal Control Program on January 3rd was introduced to the board and sworn in as a new Animal Control Officer by Mr. Faulkner. Judie DeMuth, clerk to the board witnessed and notarized the Oath of Office.

Next, the floor was opened for nominations of a Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board for the year of 2012. Commissioner Lowder nominated Mr. Faulkner to continue to serve as Chairman of the board, and the motion was seconded by Conrad Carter. With no other nominations offered, by acclamation Mr. Faulkner was elected to continue as Board Chairman. Dr. Laura Mauldin then nominated Debby Johnston to continue to serve as Vice Chairman. Mrs. Margaret Rudisill seconded the motion, and with no other nominations, Mrs. Johnston was elected by acclamation to continue as Vice Chairman.

Chairman Faulkner then entertained a motion for approval of the November 3rd, 2011 board meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Dr. Mauldin, seconded by Mr. Carter and approved by the board. No comments were noted under Public Comments and the meeting was turned over to the Health Director.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Health Director updated the board on the agency's personnel status informing them that Dr. Emily Smith began work on 10/17/11 in the dental clinic and Beth Speights, Dental Assistant began work on 10/31/11. He added that the addition of staff in the dental clinic should help increase future revenues. In the home health program, Denise Burns, Community Health Assistant (CHA) started work on 11/21/11 replacing Joyce Hatley who retired 11/22/11. At the Animal Shelter, Landon Efird began work 1/3/12 in the Animal Control Officer position left vacant when Dean Lambert was promoted to the Animal Control Supervisor position. The vacant Processing Assistant/Receptionist position was filled by Lynn Dawkins who began work on 11/28/11.

Reports on expenditures and revenues along with performance reports for all Health Department programs as of November 30th were reviewed. He explained that in the Smart Start Program revenues usually lag 2-3 months behind and in the General Health budget Beacon Grant funds used to fund the electronic health record system can now be applied to revenues. In the Dental Health Clinic budget, some Medicaid billing has been re-billed and the addition of another full time dentist should reflect an increase in revenues. Mr. Joyner explained that at 42% into the fiscal year figures and performance statistics are generally at expected levels.

NEW BUSINESS

The possibility of scheduling a Board of Health orientation meeting through the UNC Institute of Public Health was discussed and the director stated that the meeting should last approximately 1 hour. Everyone present agreed to an orientation presentation and suggested that it be scheduled at the usual first Thursday of the month and possibly begin earlier than 7:00 PM in order for the regular business meeting to take place after the orientation presentation. The Health Director invited new board members to arrive early if possible for a future board meeting, perhaps 5:30 PM, and he would take on a tour of the department, including the animal control and environmental health offices. Further communication will be shared with the board as these orientation opportunities are scheduled in the future.

The budget process for FY2012-13 was discussed and the board was informed that a due date for completed county department budgets has not been set by the County Manager. The Health Director requested that a budget committee comprised of at least three board members be appointed. Chairman Faulkner explained that this committee, as in the past would attend a meeting with the Health Director and key department personnel to review the budget proposal before submission to the entire board, which has proven to be very helpful. The board members who served on last year's committee which included Margaret Rudisill, Conrad Carter and Larry Faulkner all volunteered to serve as the Board of Health Budget Committee for FY2012-13.

The Health Director explained that it was time for yearly performance evaluations which was almost completed for staff. He explained that he had submitted an evaluation form to the County Manager to complete on himself and the revised form from last year would be forwarded to board members to complete and return at the February 2nd board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board Members were informed that the proposed revised Animal Control Ordinance is still being reviewed by the County Attorney and will be presented and reviewed by County Commissioners when that process is complete. Information based on their decisions will be shared as soon as received.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Health Director then gave various updates on department activities which included:

The 2011 Community Health Assessment Report had been completed and is currently posted on the county web page. He thanked Debbie Bennett and other staff who worked to put the report

together and explained that a review of the CHA results would take place at the next Health Expo, which is now being planned.

Implementation of the new electronic health/medical record (EMR) system for the Health Department was discussed. Mr. Joyner stated that all medical records have been scanned leaving a large area of empty space in the records room. An implementation team has been established and is meeting weekly to discuss the new system which is expected to cover a period of 6-9 months.

A regional Health Promotion Grant from the CDC (Community Transformation Grant) was discussed with the Health Director explaining that the lead health department in our region was Cabarrus County. Funds will be used for health promotion efforts over a five year period with the possibility of up to $400,000 granted each year. The focus of the initiative will be on policy and systems change in the areas of physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use. Additional information will be shared in the near future.

The Human Services Consolidation Bill (SB-433) was discussed and Mr. Joyner explained that this bill has been revived to allow counties to consolidate their Department of Social Services, Health Departments and Mental Health Agencies. The bill will likely be considered in the next legislative session. Under the bill, individual counties would not be required to consolidate but would be allowed to combine these three departments if their commissioners so choose. Mr. Joyner shared his concerns about the bill and the potential impact it could have on the local public health infrastructure throughout North Carolina.

With no further business to discuss, the board adjourned at 8:25 PM.