



Stanly County Health Department

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Dennis R. Joyner, MPH
Director

STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

October 3rd, 2013
Meeting Minutes

The Stanly County Board of Health met on October 3rd, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Stanly County Health Department. Board Members absent were Shirley Lowder, Dr. Mauldin and Dr. Royer. Staff members present were Dennis Joyner, Health Director, Judie DeMuth, Debbie Bennett, Thomas Taylor, Dean Lambert, Patti Lewis, and Jennifer Layton. Jenny Furr, County of Stanly Attorney was in attendance and Leon Warren attended as media representative.

Chairman Faulkner called the meeting to order and after welcoming those present, entertained a motion for approval of the September 5th, 2013 board meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Cain, seconded by Dr. Yowell and approved by the board.

There were no comments noted under Public Comments and the meeting was turned over to the Health Director, who requested to add to the agenda an update on the local impact of the recent Federal government shut-down as part of his report. Also, he made the board aware that under Other Business, the *Graduate Student Preceptorship-Project Summary* agenda item needs to be postponed until the November board meeting in order for the student, Dr. Jennifer Lane to be in attendance. All board members agreed to the requested changes.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Health Director updated the board on the agency's personnel status informing them that the Animal Control Program has actively recruited for two officers over the past few weeks and on Monday, October 7th Amy Irving, who has previously worked for animal control in Mecklenburg County is scheduled to begin employment. Also on Monday, Lisa Williams is scheduled to return to work in her previous position of PHN II in the pregnancy care management program.

Reports on expenditures and revenues along with performance reports for all Health Department programs as of 8/31/12 were reviewed. Mr. Joyner explained that figures and performance statistics are at expected levels at 16% into the fiscal year, and questions concerning the use of fund balances and Medicaid settlement funds were explained. The director reported that Medicaid payments are continuing to be received through the new NC Tracks Medicaid processing system but the process is still slow.

Director Joyner shared information concerning the recent Federal government shut down. He explained the implications to program areas in the Health Department that receive federal funds should the shut down continue for an extended period of time. The WIC program is the most vulnerable since it is totally funded through Federal funds passed through the State. Other health department programs such as Family Planning, Maternal & Child Health, and Public Health

Preparedness are partially supported by Federal block-grant funding through the State. Discontinuation of the Federal funding would require the department to review and adjust service delivery. After discussion, board members were assured that more detailed information on this issue will be shared should staffing or services be altered due to Federal funding issues.

NEW BUSINESS

County Attorney, Jenny Furr distributed documents and reviewed responsibilities of Board of Health members included in the new Animal Control Ordinance. This served as a Board of Health legal education session. All articles of the Ordinance containing references to actions of the board were discussed as Mrs. Furr outlined possible issues that would involve board participation primarily with regard to hearing appeals. Timelines and summaries of procedures pertaining to sanctions, penalties, fines and remedies were reviewed and information was shared on hearing procedures that would take place in the conference room of the Health Department or County Administration as these areas are most conducive to a “court-like” hearing. Also, hearings will be open to the public and all witnesses will be sworn in or affirmed before testifying. After time was allowed for questions and discussion, Mrs. Furr was thanked for her efforts and assistance in obtaining approval of the new Animal Control Ordinance, as well as representing animal control in hearings.

Ms. Jennifer Layton, health educator and chairperson of the Partners in Health Coalition, shared information on how priorities were determined for the 2013 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHA). The recent CHA data was presented for review and discussion at the September 25 Partners In Health meeting. The top three priorities identified were (1) Bullying (2) Illegal Drug Abuse and (3) Child Abuse and Neglect. It was noted that the current priorities of obesity and tobacco use would remain priorities and these three would be added. A motion to approve the CHA priorities as presented was made by Commissioner Ascitutto, seconded by Mr. Carter and passed by the board.

A brochure announcing an upcoming free health screening clinic to be held in a mobile unit at the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Albemarle on October 24, 2013 was distributed. Board Members were informed that the screenings would take place from 10 AM until 6 PM and was hosted by Stanly County Partners in Health and Stanly County Farm Bureau.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Director Joyner gave an update on Board of Health members whose terms of office will expire on 12/31/13 stating that all have agreed to continue to serve if appointed by County Commissioners. Also, Dr. Amy Jordan, DVM had submitted an application of interest to serve in the Veterinarian Member position that will be vacated by Dr. Ann Yowell at the end of the year. Board Members were reminded that Dr. Yowell has served the limit of three 3 year terms for a total of 9 years and her service on the board was commended. All four names of board members willing to continue to serve as well as the application of Dr. Jordan will be forwarded to the County Commissioners for their review and appointments.

Board Members were informed that results of recent re-accreditation activities have been received and out of 148 activities monitored, a total of 143 were successfully met and the accreditation site review team has recommended recertification for the department. Mr. Joyner reminded board members that the Accreditation Site Visit Report had been sent to them shortly after he received it and contains more detail on the review. A formal recommendation and approval from the N.C. accreditation board will take place in Raleigh this December and the Health Director along with the Nursing Director and Accreditation Coordinator, Patricia Hancock, plan to be in attendance. Mr. Joyner thanked everyone involved with the process including staff and board members for their assistance in obtaining this accomplishment.

OTHER BUSINESS

Changes in the Oral Health Section of the N. C. Division of Public Health were discussed and Mr. Joyner informed the board that the state funded Dental Hygienist position housed at the Health Department over the past 30+ years has been eliminated due to budget cuts at the state level and restructuring of the department. The position has been vacant for a number of months due to the retirement of the last employee. He explained that the focus of this section has changed and will now only provide services to counties with the neediest populations (Tier 1 counties) and Stanly County is designated as a Tier 2 county. He further explained that these cuts will have an impact over time in areas such as discontinuing surveillance of dental needs through the screening of children in elementary schools.

An update on influenza activities was shared and no known confirmed cases have been recorded to date for Stanly and reports of influenza-like illness (ILI) were still low.

Board Members discussed whether to hold a December Board Meeting, and as in the past several years everyone agreed that due to busy schedules during the holidays, unless a called meeting is deemed necessary by the Health Director, there will not be a December Board Meeting. Commissioner Peter Ascuitto made a motion to cancel the December meeting, which was seconded by Conrad Carter and passed by the board.

With no further business to discuss, Dr. Dunlap made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carter and passed by the board.