



Stanly County Health Department

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Dennis R. Joyner, MPH
Director

STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

March 6th, 2014

Meeting Minutes

The Stanly County Board of Health met on March 6, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Stanly County Health Department. All Board Members were present with the exception of Dr. Joan Eudy, Mr. Conrad Carter, Ms. Debora Norris, and Dr. Hal Royer. Staff members present were Dennis Joyner, Health Director, Judie DeMuth, Debbie Bennett, David Ezzell, Dean Lambert, Patti Lewis and Thomas Taylor.

Chairman Faulkner called the meeting to order and after welcoming those present entertained a motion for approval of the February 6, 2014 board minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Ric Cain, seconded by Dr. Mauldin, and approved by the board.

With no general public in attendance, no comments were noted under the Public Comments agenda item and the meeting was turned over to the Health Director.

Everyone present was made aware that a brother of Health Department employee, Becky McKeon, RN passed away suddenly last weekend. A sympathy card was signed by board members present.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Joyner updated the board on the agency's personnel status informing them that recruitment is ongoing for 3 vacant Processing Assistant IV positions, with a total of 136 applications submitted. To date, Laura Ramirez-Soto has accepted the vacant position in the WIC Program with almost 8 years experience at the Randolph County Health Department WIC Program. She is scheduled to begin work on 3/17/14. The remaining vacant positions will be filled as soon as possible. The board was reminded that Wanda Mesimer, Processing Assistant in the Home Health Program has submitted her resignation/ retirement to become effective on 3/29/14.

Reports on expenditures and revenues for all Health Department programs as of 1/31/14 were reviewed. Mr. Joyner explained that at 58% into the year most figures are on target; however revenues are a little lower than anticipated in the dental clinic but due to available Medicaid settlement funds that we receive near the end of the year we typically do not end in a deficit. Everyone was reminded that the 126% collected in revenues for the Animal Control Program reflect unbudgeted collected civil penalties which will be transferred to the school system per State law. He further explained that next year's budget, beginning 7/1/14 will include anticipated civil penalties to account for these charges based on the new ordinance.

In the performance measures, Director Joyner explained that in the Environmental Health Program, soil evaluations completed within 10 days reflected a low percentage rate of 54%, which continue to be the result of several factors which are weather related and contractor/property owner delays. The employee wellness clinic reflected a total of 73 visits for the month of January which is consistent with previous months; however visits for the month of February will be lower due to inclement weather and fewer working days. The Health Director added that the euthanasia rate in Animal Control was now less than 75% which has decreased from as high as 90% in the past. Euthanasia issues were discussed, and the director reminded board members that the shelter utilizes euthanasia by injection and has not used the carbon monoxide method for several years. He commended officers, rescue leagues, etc. for their work in improving the statistics of adoptions/rescues.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Emily Smith, DDS shared information from the Health Department Dental Clinic reviewing activities/updates for the past year. Board Members viewed a PowerPoint presentation on the recent expansion of the clinic utilizing \$75,000 in Cannon Grant Funds to construct a consultation room, built-in nitrous oxide systems and the expansion of two new operatories. Dr. Smith reminded the board that the clinic also serves as a preceptor site for dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants with several students rotating through the clinic each year. Outreach projects were reviewed which consisted of participation in "Give Kids a Smile" clinics for second graders in two Stanly county schools and participation in Stanly Community College Health Fair Day, pre-K screenings at daycares throughout the county and head start screenings. Statistics for surgeries performed by Dr. Turner at Stanly Regional Medical Center included 106 patients in 2012, 92 patients in 2013 and 18 patients so far in 2014. The need for more operating room (OR) time was discussed, and the board was made aware that currently the waiting list for needed OR procedures is 6 months with two patients scheduled every Thursday. However, Dr. Smith shared that at the present time the hospital has added Monday's to the dental clinics OR schedule, which will increase from 2 to 4 patients per week which will help greatly with the current waiting list. After time was allowed for discussion and questions from the board, Director Joyner thanked Dr. Smith for the presentation.

A recent incident involving a dog bite in Oakboro was discussed and Commissioner Ascitutto commented on the need to make the general public aware of the new Animal Control Ordinance and the seriousness of dog bites/attacks. He stated his concerns in the lack of public awareness on this issue and requested that a brochure/pamphlet pointing out not only the new law but also the consequences of the new ordinance be put together and distributed as soon as possible. Board Members agreed with this request and discussed the need to possibly include the cost comparison of \$14 for a rabies shot for an animal versus the high cost of post exposure rabies prophylaxis for humans. Dr. Amy Jordan volunteered to help with putting a brochure together and Mr. Joyner agreed to make sure this issue is addressed as soon as possible.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Health Director informed the board that orientation for new board member, Dr. Amy Jordan was scheduled for March 27th at 9:00 AM. All board members were invited and welcomed to participate at their discretion.

Board Members were made aware that the next County Department Head Meeting is scheduled for March 13th and budget guidance for fiscal year 2014-15 is expected to be discussed at that time with specific expectations from the County Manager and Commissioners. Director Joyner added that the Board of Health Budget Committee should expect to possibly meet in April to discuss budget recommendation for FY2014-15.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Health Director reminded the board of the upcoming State of the County Health Expo to be held on March 17th in the Magnolia Room at Stanly Regional Medical Center. He added that as in the past the Community Health Improvement Award will be presented at the Expo and anyone interested in attending should let him or Judie DeMuth know for registration purposes.

Director Joyner informed the board that alarms have been installed and activated at all entrances of the Animal Shelter. In addition to the alarm system, quotes on camera surveillance equipment are being put together in an effort to possibly obtain additional security of the property. Also, Mr. Joyner stated that a security system utilizing name badges/pass keys for Health Department employees to be able to pass through various doors of the Health Department is being investigated.

Board Members were made aware that 38 residents and 19 staff members at Woodhaven Court in Albemarle were sick with Norovirus. Director Joyner commended the way the situation has been handled at Woodhaven, stating that only one resident has been hospitalized so far with most of the cases resolved at present. As of today, only 3 new staff and 3 new residents have become sick and no visitors, discharges or new admittances are allowed until the facility has been clear of the virus a minimum of 48 hours.

The Health Director shared information on an upcoming class "Rabies: Fight Back with Facts" offered through Charlotte AHEC on April 16th with Dr. Carl Williams, DVM who is with the Division of Public Health, as class instructor. Director Joyner informed board members that public health is promoting this class, which is primarily for medical providers to highlight information surrounding bites and to enhance general rabies awareness.

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Ascitutto moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lowder and passed by the board.