



## Stanly County Health Department

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Dennis R. Joyner, MPH  
Director

### ***STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH***

**October 2, 2014**

### **Meeting Minutes**

The Stanly County Board of Health met on October 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Stanly County Health Department. Board Members absent were Ric Cain, Dr. Laura Mauldin and Peter Ascitutto. Staff members present were Dennis Joyner, Health Director, Judie DeMuth, Debbie Bennett, Becky McKeon, Patti Lewis, Charles Hartsell, and David Ezzell. 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 August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 board meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Carter, seconded by Dr. Dunlap and approved by the board. With no comments noted under Public Comments, the meeting was turned over to the Health Director.

#### **HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Joyner expressed appreciation for the board's understanding the need for cancellation of September's board meeting due to his recent surgery. He then updated the board on the agency's personnel status informing them that Dr. Emily Smith, in the Dental Clinic, had resigned effective today. He explained that Dr. Smith was employed for about 3 years in the Stanly County Dental Clinic but had recently moved to Winston-Salem where she was offered a position in the Forsyth County Health Department dental clinic. Board Members were informed that Dr. Bill Burnside, local retired dentist has agreed to work in our clinic performing hygiene checks on Thursdays, when Dr. Mindy Turner is in surgery and Dr. Candice Crowe, a dentist at Union County Health Department has agreed to work temporarily on an as needed basis to help with dentist coverage while the department recruits for Dr. Smith's replacement. The Health Director added that filling dentist positions can be a lengthy process and the department is working with the NC Office of Rural Health and School's of Dentistry in the recruitment process.

Reports on expenditures and revenues for all Health Department programs including performance reports as of 8/31/14 were reviewed. Mr. Joyner explained that figures and performance statistics are at expected levels at 16% into the fiscal year, with figures in the Home Health Program continuing to look good. Also, adoptions at the Animal Shelter remain steady with numbers up for the month of September. Dental Clinic numbers reflected a decrease in patients seen, primarily due to continuing education and vacation absences of staff. The Employee Wellness Clinic numbers reflect a significant savings to the county compared to the same time period last fiscal year, with an increase of approximately \$300,000. The Health Director explained the differences in private physicians' offices health information systems and the Health Department's system.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Environmental Health Program fee schedule, proposed water sample fees and supply cost increase was discussed. Director Joyner explained that at the time of the recent budget planning/proposals for FY2014-15, notification had not been received from the state reflecting increased charges. Therefore, a new fee schedule including proposed water sample fees were necessary at this time. The new fees and cost information was reviewed by the board and David Ezzell, Environmental Health Supervisor explained the information including a memo received on August 13<sup>th</sup> from the state outlining legislative mandates. After discussion, Mrs. Shirley Lowder made a motion for approval of the proposed fees and to forward to County Commissioners for their approval. Mr. Conrad Carter seconded the motion, which passed by the board.

Board Members were made aware that the WIC Program rolled out, statewide, a new Crossroads computer system in September. All staff working in the WIC clinic traveled to Raleigh for a week of training prior to the rollout and thus far no major issues have hindered the process. Some clinic flow changes are required by Crossroads which should help with scheduling appointments and provide faster service for clients.

A brochure outlining 21 historical sites in downtown Albemarle was distributed and discussed. Director Joyner explained that in an effort to encourage exercise, the Health Department collaborated with the Stanly County Historical Society, Stanly County Museum, Stanly County Convention & Visitors Bureau and Vac and Dash to compose the outline of a one mile historical walking tour of downtown Albemarle.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Director Joyner gave an update on Board of Health members whose terms of office will expire on 12/31/14. He stated that Larry Faulkner, General Public Member's second term and Ric Cain, Pharmacist Member's first term would be ending at the end of the year. He explained that in a recent conversation with Mr. Cain, he agreed to serve another term and after discussion, Mr. Faulkner agreed to serve a third term if appointed by commissioners. Mrs. Lowder made a motion to submit both names to County Commissioners for reappointment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carter and passed by the board.

Board Members were made aware that several people with an interest in the Nancy Lee Henderson beneficiary donation to Animal Control for approximately \$148,000 had met recently and discussed how to best utilize the funds. Areas of focus included a spay/neuter program with low cost options as well as material to raise public awareness for this need, subsidizing for general public based on ability to pay, assist local rescue groups in covering the spay/neuter costs for animals pulled from the shelter, install air conditioning in shelter, replace the current shelter freezer unit, construct a fenced area that would allow animals to exercise and provide a place for potential adoption viewing of the animals. Also included was PVC kennel bedding, an animal bathing unit and new cameras. Director Joyner explained that the Henderson donation was projected to be used over a 3 year period and thus far approximately \$85,000 would be budgeted this year to cover the cost of priorities discussed.

Dr. Amy Jordan voiced concern that veterinarians outside the county would be getting our business even though local vets cannot meet the low fees charged at the spay/neuter clinics in Mecklenburg and Cabarrus Counties. Mrs. Lowder requested that all options be considered in giving local veterinarians the opportunity to participate in spay/neuter clinics.

Director Joyner shared information concerning a recent situation involving dog bones found on a West Oakwood property in Albemarle. He explained that along with Sheriff Burris, Animal Control Supervisor Charles Hartsell inspected approximately 2 dozen dog bones, some in crates. Pictures of the property were made available to board members and Mr. Joyner explained that investigation of the property has now been turned over to the Albemarle Police Department and is ongoing awaiting test results of the bones. Board Members discussed various circumstances of owning/taking in multiple dogs/cats and agreed that it may be necessary to conduct a review of the Animal Control Ordinance to possibly address this subject in the future.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mrs. Becky McKeon, RN shared information on the Enterovirus (EV-D68) outlining statistical information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC). She explained that from mid August to September 30, 2014, a total of 472 people from 41 states and the District of Columbia were confirmed to have respiratory illness caused by EV-D68 with 7 of those cases confirmed in North Carolina. All were in children <10 years of age with respiratory illness and not limited to any particular region of the state. Next, Mrs. McKeon informed the board that the Ebola virus has traveled from West Africa with the first case diagnosed in Texas on September 20th. She added that the CDC has been anticipating and preparing for a case of Ebola in the United States enhancing surveillance and laboratory testing capacity, developing guidance and tools for health departments to conduct investigations, providing recommendations for healthcare infection control and guidance for flight crews, emergency medical services and customs and border protection officers about reporting ill travelers to the CDC. Information received at the Health Department has been sent via blast fax to local providers as well as school nurses, including Pfeiffer, Stanly Community College, EMS and Stanly Regional Medical Center.

Board Members were informed that to date the Health Department has not received a supply of Influenza vaccine. However, the vaccine should arrive within the next few days and will be available to board members at the November board meeting.

The reporting system for Vital Records was reviewed and Director Joyner explained that birth and death certificates are processed through the Health Department with him serving as Registrar. He reviewed the required process after they are received from physicians, hospitals, funeral homes, etc. before they are filed with the Register of Deeds which is the final destination, and added that during the first quarter of 2014 the state average filing time for death certificates was 8.2 days with Stanly County averaging 5.7 days placing our county 7th best out of 100 counties. For the same time period, the state average filing time for birth certificates among health departments was 14.8 days with Stanly averaging 3.5 days.

Board Members discussed whether to hold a December Board Meeting, and a majority agreed unless a called meeting is deemed necessary by the Health Director, there will not be a December Board Meeting.

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