



Stanly County Health Department

1000 North First Street, Suite 3

Albemarle, NC 28001

Phone (704) 982-9171 Fax (704) 982-8354

www.stanlycountync.gov



February 2, 2017

STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting Minutes

The Stanly County Board of Health met on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at the Stanly County Health Department.

Board members present were: Larry Faulkner, Jann Lowder, Ric Cain, Shirley Lowder, Conrad Carter, Dr. Tom Norwood, Dr. Janice Dunlap, Dr. Dianne Daniels, Dr. Keenya Little and Dr. Joan Eudy.

Health Department Staff Present: Debbie Bennett, Patti Lewis, Debbie Bailey, Dean Lambert, Wes Smith, Shelley Barbee, Dr. Mindy Turner, Dr. Candace Crowe, Dr. Bill Burnside, Kim Shuffler, Teri Bowers and Health Director Dennis Joyner. Toby Thorpe attended as media representative.

Welcome and Call to Order:

Chair Larry Faulkner welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Approval of January 5th, 2017 Board of Health Meeting Minutes:

Chair Larry Faulkner presented the January 5th, 2017 Board of Health Meeting Minutes for consideration of approval.

Motion: After review of the January 5th, 2017 meeting minutes, Ric Cain moved that they be approved as written with a second by Conrad Carter. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

Larry Faulkner welcomed visiting public guests to the meeting and opened the floor for any discussion and comments. Barbara Morton, who was in attendance, spoke before the board in regards to concerns with the current Animal Control Ordinance which bans metal barrels but allows the use of plastic barrels as adequate housing for dogs. Prior to the meeting, Ms. Morton had mailed a letter along with pictures of a residence with unsuitable living conditions for their dogs, which included plastic unanchored barrels. Ms. Morton stated that after doing some research of other counties, she noted 2 other counties (Durham and Wake) do not allow metal or plastic barrels as acceptable housing. She also stated she had talked with other members of the public who had voiced concern as well and would like to request the Board of Health consider recommending an amendment to the current Animal Control Ordinance to add plastic barrels as unacceptable housing. Mr. Faulkner stated that this has been discussed in the past when the ordinance was being revised, it initially did not allow any type of barrel as acceptable housing. Due to the opposition voiced at a public hearing by hunters that often use plastic barrels as housing, it was decided by the county commissioners to allow plastic barrels but not metal barrels. After discussion among the board members, Mr. Joyner was asked to collect additional information on the issue and if available, from Animal Control, the number of phone calls and complaints concerning the plastic barrel issue. The matter will be further discussed at the March 2nd Board of Health meeting.

Health Director's Report:

- A. **Personnel Update** – Mr. Joyner stated that there were not any changes with personnel at this time, but Home Health is still recruiting for a vacant Public Health Nurse II position.
- B. **FY2016-17 Expenditures and Revenue** – Reports on program revenue and expenditures were presented for review. At 50% into the fiscal year, revenues are at 57% with expenditures at 49% as of 01/31/2017. Mr. Joyner stated that these numbers were generally consistent with where we should be. Home Health Revenue seems to be lagging a little but should pick up with outstanding billing that is expected to come in. Dental Revenue is up due to the Medicaid Cost Settlement funds we received in late December. Expenses appear on track for midway through the year.
- C. **Program Performance Reports** – Mr. Joyner stated that all clinics along with Employee Health clinic seemed to be operating as expected and patient case load on track. Board members noted they didn't receive this portion in their monthly information packet and Mr. Joyner stated if they wanted to discuss at March meeting they could. Board members were presented with these copies of Performance Reports before the meeting ended.

New Business:

- A. **Dental Clinic Patient Eligibility** – Mr. Joyner addressed the Board of Health on behalf of the Stanly County Dental Clinic, for consideration of allowing the Dental Clinic to accept Privately Insured Patients. As background information he shared various clinic data trends including revenues and expenses, payor mix, and patient visit volume. He stated many health department dental clinics in other counties across the state accept all insurances and not doing so here, puts us at a disadvantage. Parents as well as other dentists have noted that it is sometimes frustrating to have to refer pediatric patients out of county for service. Mr. Joyner also stated that on the horizon another pediatric service is expanding into Stanly County and we would like to be on a level playing field to accept all insurances to stay competitive. Dr. Mindy Turner also addressed the board to reiterate the need for this. She stated that pediatric dental services are very much in need here for handicapped children as well as low income and Medicaid patients and that will remain the clinic's priority. Offering services to private insurance patients will help us compete with other practices and avoid losing so many children to out of county practices. She stated this should help us financially where we are not so dependent on the Medicaid cost settlement to help cover revenue shortfalls.

Motion: After discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Janice Dunlap with a second by Conrad Carter to approve the request by the Stanly County Dental Clinic to accept private insurance patients. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Animal Control Ordinance Acceptable Housing Provision** – With the discussion earlier about this matter, Mr. Joyner asked if the Board of Health would like to discuss making a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners about elimination of all barrels as appropriate housing for animals. As decided earlier, more data is needed and this discussion will resume at next Board of Health Meeting, March 2nd, 2017.

Motion: A motion was made by Conrad Carter with a second by Shirley Lowder to obtain more data from Animal Control regarding the number of complaints about the plastic barrels as suitable housing, to determine whether the Board of Health should make a recommendation to the County Commissioners to amend the existing Animal Control Ordinance.

Other Business:

- A. **Departmental/Program Activities & Updates** – The Home Health Performance Tracking & Activity Report was postponed and will be presented during the March Board of Health Meeting.

Mr. Joyner stated according to County Manager Andy Lucas, the commissioners have included on their agenda for the upcoming budget retreat the discussion of a consolidated human services model in Stanly County which would organizationally combine the Health Department and Department of Social Services to create a consolidated Human Service Agency. Also on their agenda for discussion is the issue of whether Animal Control's organizational positioning should remain under the Health Department or be under the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Joyner stressed that it is his understanding this is only up for discussion and no specific details are available at this point.

Mr. Joyner shared that we had received the Annual Immunization Assessment Results with our Health Department scoring at 92% and the statewide average is 86%.

The resurfacing of floors at the Animal Shelter will be starting in March. This will be done in two phases and will be very durable, easier to clean, smooth flooring when completed.

We are in the beginning stages of the Health Department's preparation for State Reaccreditation process with benchmark evidence documentation to be submitted in June.

Mr. Joyner also brought attention to the fact that if there is a repeal of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), there could be risk in losing some funds that are earmarked under the ACA for funding to Health Departments under Federal Prevention and Public Health Funding. Mr. Joyner recommended the Board write a letter to our congressmen requesting a delay of the repeal of the Public Health portion of those funds until an ACA replacement or a fix is identified. He asked if the board would support this letter which he would write and include the signature of Chair Larry Faulkner.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Janice Dunlap with a second by Ric Cain for Health Director Dennis Joyner to draft a letter which will be forwarded to our respective Congressmen asking that consideration is given to delaying the repeal of the public health portion of those funds under the Affordable Care Act if it is repealed.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chair Larry Faulkner called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: A motion was made by Conrad Carter with a second by Jann Lowder that the Stanly County Board of Health meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis R. Joyner, Secretary
Stanly County Board of Health