
The Cleveland County Board of Health met on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., at the Cleveland Country Club.

Board members present: Joel Spragins, Robert Miller, Robert Blackburn, Bill Marsh, Ronnie Hawkins, Michael Alexander, Steve Rackley, Dino Nicopoulos, Kendalyn Lutz-Craver, Elizabeth Shipley and Jack Hunt.

Health Department staff present: Denese Stallings, Rodella Gold, Sam Lockridge, Jimmy Hines, Marty Allen, Patrick Sery, Sheila Wellmon and Charlene Parker.

Bob Yelton, County Attorney, was also present. Olivia Neeley, reporter with The Star, was present.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Chair Spragins called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Robert Blackburn gave the invocation. Olivia Neeley, reporter with the Shelby Star, was recognized.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION:

No citizens requested to appear before the Board.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 13, 2009 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The following corrections were noted to the January 13, 2009 Board of Health meeting minutes: On Page 4 the last sentence should be "... equipment.", instead ...; and Page 7 the reconvened in regular session time should be 7:57 p.m.

Motion was made by Robert Miller, with a second by Robert Blackburn, that the January 13, 2009 Board of Health meeting minutes be approved with corrections noted. Motion passed unanimously.

ANIMAL CONTROL SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

Jimmy Hines stated that he and Sam Lockridge have looked at ways to promote spay and neuter of animals in the community. This effort meets the mission of public health, which is prevention and education, and will work toward the reduction of rabies in the county.

February 24, 2009 is National Spay Day, which is sponsored by the United States Humane Association. In an effort to support the effort locally, Mr. Hines presented plans for a campaign to create awareness about spay and neuter of animals in Cleveland County. Details of the campaign were given. Posters will be distributed by Animal Control Program staff. A local logo has been developed and will be used on posters and other materials. The Shelby Communicator Board will contain messages. Billboards will be placed throughout the county during this year. Pocket cards will be distributed at each of the county recycling centers. The cards will contain local veterinarian

names, the Cleveland County Humane Society and AWA contact information. Electronic signs at each of the recycling centers will contain messages about spay/neuter.

The campaign will educate children by providing materials for teachers. Coloring books will be distributed at the display board in different areas of the county.

Ronnie Hawkins requested that the campaign information be provided at the Kings Mountain Business Showcase. Mr. Hines stated that the Department has reserved space and will provide information about the campaign at the showcase.

Tee shirts recognizing spay/neuter day are available. Call Jimmy Hines at 704-484-5241 or email to jimmy.hines@clevelandcounty.com, if you are interested in wearing a tee shirt to support the campaign.

Sam Lockridge has his staff involved in the campaign. Mr. Lockridge stated that the Cleveland County Humane Society is appreciative of the County's efforts to promote spay/neuter. The Humane Society stated they have never seen this great an effort made by other counties.

Mr. Lockridge stated that a Free Rabies Clinic will be held in April 2009. One thousand vaccines will be made available for a clinic that will be held in the Cleveland County Health Department parking lot. The Free Rabies Clinics will be evaluated to determine if they will be held late next summer.

Mr. Hawkins provided information about animal euthanasia that was reported on Channel 33 News and stated that he was requesting legislation to regulate puppy mills. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Hawkins thanked the Health Department staff for their work with the Litter Campaign.

Denese Stallings provided information to the Board about proposed House Bill 2 – Davie's Bill. Discussion was held regarding the proposed legislation and its affect on animal euthanasia. Copies of a letter Ms. Stallings sent to Representative Tim Moore regarding the legislation were distributed. Ms. Stallings stated that if the legislation is passed it will be expensive for counties to implement and maintain. She would like to see funding included with this legislation. Further discussion was held.

WEBSITE FOR LOST ANIMALS

Sam Lockridge presented details about the Health Department website where information and pictures of lost and found animals in Cleveland County can be posted and viewed. He thanked Jimmy Hines and Patrick Sery for their work with the website and stated that it is a work in progress. Patrick Sery provided information on how the site can be accessed and used. Development will be ongoing. Access to the website is through a link to the Cleveland County Health Department Website - Animal Control Page.

Information that is submitted by the public will be received as an email and reviewed by the Health Department IT Person. The information will then be posted on the site. This service will be available in approximately one month.

Dino Nicopoulos suggested that a section be added to enter microchip information in posting lost dogs. Discussion was held regarding the use of microchips in identifying lost animals.

The media will be notified when the website is operational.

CODAP/UNITED WAY

Jimmy Hines stated that the Cleveland County United Way requires annual Board of Health approval for receipt of grant funds by the Cleveland County Health Department for the Community Organization for Drug Abuse Prevention (CODAP) Program. A grant funding request was submitted by CODAP to the United Way for \$53,560, which is the same amount received last year. The funds will be used to help support three school health programs for 7th, 8th and 9th graders on alcohol and drug use prevention.

Motion: Robert Blackburn moved that the Board of Health approve the request to the United Way of Cleveland County for grant funds in the amount of \$53,560, to be used in the CODAP Program as presented. Motion was seconded by Robert Miller and passed unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Rodella Gold presented the following budget amendments for consideration of approval:

ITEM NUMBER ONE: The Cleveland County Health Department has been awarded a \$150,000 grant from the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health for the construction of a second elevator. The addition of this elevator will allow 1) transportation of patients on an extended gurney from the third floor clinical areas to the first floor; 2) supplies to be distributed to all floors without going through patient waiting areas; 3) employees that enter the building through the rear entrance will have access to an elevator without walking to the front of the building; and 4) access when the original elevator is not usable during maintenance. The grant period is 1/31/09 to 1/31/10. A request was made to accept the grant funds and budget for this purpose.

ITEM NUMBER TWO: The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Women's Health Services Section, has allocated \$1,766 in Family Planning Bonus Funds. A request was made to budget the funds in the Family Planning Department (539) for clinician fees.

ITEM NUMBER THREE: The Shelby Lions Club has given a \$150 donation for eye exams of indigent clients. A request was made to budget these funds in the General Department (530) for eye exams.

Motion: Motion was made by Bill Marsh, with a second by Dino Nicopoulos, to approve the budget amendments as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Robert Blackburn stated that he had attended a Legislative Workshop presented by the N.C. Association of County Commissioners, representing the Association of N.C. Boards of Health (ANCBH).

The ANCBH Board voted to support the following legislative goals in 2009:

1. Increase the general aid to county funding for local health departments.
2. Make all N.C. worksite and public places 100% smoke free, including a preemption clause for local governments - HB # 2.
3. Implement quality physical education in the schools by 2013.
4. Support the recommendations of the N.C. Task Force on Prevention Childhood Obesity.

Motion: Motion was made by Robert Blackburn that the Cleveland County Board of Health endorse House Bill #2. Motion was seconded by Ronnie Hawkins and passed unanimously.

Other action by the ANCBH Board included:

1. Establish a \$1,000 annual scholarship for health leadership at the UNC Getty School of Global Public Health in honor of Vaughn Upshaw who helped establish the Association of North Carolina Boards of Health.
2. Give four \$500 grants to Board of Health members to encourage them to attend the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in July.
3. Sponsorship of the 100th Anniversary Conference of the North Carolina Public Health Association, September 30-October.

Dr. Blackburn was elected to serve another term as President of the N.C. Association of Boards of Health for the 2009 Year.

**CLEVELAND COUNTY SHELBY,
BOARD OF HEALTH
FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

**NORTH CAROLINA
PAGE 5**

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Spragins adjourned the Cleveland County Board of Health meeting.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Denese R. Stallings, Secretary
Cleveland County Board of Health