

The Cleveland County Board of Health met on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cleveland Country Club.

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

Health Department staff present: Denese Stallings, Rodella Gold, Jimmy Hines, Dorothea Wyant, DeShay Duddy, Anne Short, Nancy Gamble and Charlene Parker

Andrea Leslie-Fite, representing the County Attorney, was present. Caleb Royster was also present.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Chair Spragins called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Bill Marsh gave the invocation.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION

No citizens registered to appear before the Board.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 10, 2009 BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES:

There being no corrections, additions, nor deletions to the minutes of the March 10, 2009 Board of Health meeting, motion was made by Robert Miller, with a second by Ronnie Hawkins, that they be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

TEENS ADVOCATING CHANGE – THE N.C. ALCOPOPS BATTLE

Jimmy Hines provided information regarding Teens Advocating Change for the sale of Alcopops. Eleventh and twelfth grade students from all four high schools are participating in a learning institute to look at ways to prevent underage drinking. Mr. Hines introduced DeShay Duddy, Health Educator with the Cleveland County Health Department, who is leading the students in this effort.

DeShay Duddy provided further information about the learning institute, which is raising awareness and advocacy about underage drinking. Students from Burns High School developed a powerpoint presentation and video about the Alcopops drink and how Alcopops contributes to underage drinking. Caleb Royster, an eleventh grade student from Burns High School, was introduced and made the presentation.

Mr. Royster stated that the goal of the Teens Advocating Change group is to advocate that the Alcopops drink, which is classified as a malt beverage, be sold in ABC Stores and taxed at a higher rate to make the drink less accessible to teenagers. If North Carolina did this, it would join several other States, California, Maine, and Utah. Others States are considering this change. Further information was shared.

Discussion was held regarding classification of the drink and taxation. The Teens Advocating Change group sent a letter to North Carolina Senator Basnight requesting that he consider advocating these changes. A response has not been received. Further discussion was held.

Motion: Robert Blackburn moved that the Cleveland County Board of Health send a letter to the Cleveland County Legislative Delegation requesting their support of the proper classification and taxation of the Alcopops drink. Motion was seconded by Dino Nicopoulos and passed unanimously.

Chair Spragins thanked and commended Caleb Royster and DeShay Duddy on their work and the presentation.

ASTHMA AWARENESS MONTH RESOLUTION; 4TH ANNUAL STEP ONE CHALLENGE RESOLUTION

Anne Short presented a resolution for the Board of Health's consideration to declare May, 2009 as Asthma Awareness Month. The request comes from the Alliance for Health and the Cleveland County Asthma Coalition. May 1, 2009 is World Asthma Day. It will be celebrated with an announcement of the "Art for Asthma Contest" winners and a reception for the winners at Cleveland Mall. Air quality flag presentations will be made that week. A presentation will be made to the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners at their first meeting in May. Books about asthma will be distributed to the libraries in the County. These activities are to increase community's awareness of asthma. The Cleveland County Asthma Coalition is recognized as one of the foremost coalitions in the State of North Carolina. Further information was shared about activities that the coalition is involved in. A correction was noted in the third paragraph of the proposed resolution.

Motion: Robert Miller moved, with a second by Mike Alexander, that the Cleveland County Board of Health approve the resolution as presented, with noted correction, to adopt May, 2009 as Asthma Awareness Month. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Short presented a resolution for the Board of Health's consideration to support the 4th Annual Step One Challenge. Board members were invited to form or take part in a team of three to six people. County Commissioners have been challenged to take part. Ms. Short stated that there is great participation in this year's Step One Challenge from churches, civic groups, businesses and industries across the county. Pedometers were distributed to each Board member.

The Step One Challenge walking contest grew out of the FIT Together Initiative to address childhood obesity. Further information was shared.

Motion: Robert Miller moved, with a second by Bill Marsh, that the Cleveland County Board of Health approve the resolution to support the 4th Annual Step One Challenge, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

STAFF/STUDENT/FACULTY IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Dorothea Wyant presented a revised Cleveland County Health Department Staff/Student/Faculty Immunization Policy for Board approval. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends a two step method for Tuberculosis Skin Tests for people who have not had a TB skin test within the last twelve months. Further information was shared. The revised policy contains the two step method for TB skin tests as recommended by the CDC

Motion: Motion was made by Ronnie Hawkins, with a second by Robert Miller, that the revised Staff/Student/Faculty Immunization Policy be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION TASK FORCE

The most recent Community Health Assessment showed teenage pregnancies as one of the top five problems identified by community leaders that needed to be addressed. The Alliance for Health and Health Department staff met to look at ways to address the problem. Because of the success of the Childhood Obesity Task Force that was formed five years ago, it was felt that the formation of a task force would be a good way to address the issue of teenage pregnancy. Further information was shared regarding the local and state teen pregnancy rate and social problems that are the result of teen pregnancies. The goal of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Force will be to establish a plan to lower the Cleveland County teen pregnancy rate by recommending policy and environmental changes.

Denese Stallings presented a list of names of citizens of Cleveland County that she is recommending to serve on a Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Task Force. The names presented represent various communities/organizations/ethnic groups. Additional names can be added.

Ms. Stallings would like to hold the first meeting of the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Task Force on May 28, 2009 at 12 Noon at the Cleveland County Health Department in the second floor conference room. May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Board of Health members were invited and encouraged to attend the initial meeting as a show of support.

Motion: Dino Nicopoulos moved, with a second by Kendalyn Lutz-Craver, that the Board of Health support the formation of a Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Task Force with the membership as presented, and with the possibility of adding additional members. A challenge was issued by the Board for the Task Force to develop a plan. Motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

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

ITEM NUMBER ONE: The Cleveland County Health Department has received \$2,800 in new Family Planning Title X Bonus Funds. These funds must be spent by May 31, 2009. A request was made to budget the funds in the Family Planning Department (539) for clinician fees.

ITEM NUMBER TWO: The North Carolina Community Care Network, Inc. has received a \$25,000 grant from the Division of Medical Assistance to partner with the Cleveland County Health Department, Carolina Community Health Partnership to promote and support an ePrescribe initiative. This grant will end 11/30/09. A request was made to budget this amount in the Carolina Access (546) budget to support this initiative.

Motion: Robert Miller moved, with a second by Michael Alexander, that the Board of Health approve the budget amendments as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Robert Blackburn reported the following:

The North Carolina Health Department Accreditation Board met to vote on Re-Accreditation Standards. The Board decided to give the Health Directors additional time to review the proposed Re-Accreditation Standards to allow them the opportunity to have input. Action will be taken in July.

House Bill 2 has moved to the Senate and contains a preemption clause, which took out most of the preemptions.

Dr. Blackburn has met with the North Carolina State Health Director, Jeff Engel, regarding budget. He talked with the Surgeon General of Florida and that State is having similar problems with their budget.

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