

**CLEVELAND COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
MARCH 13, 2007**

**SHELBY,
NORTH CAROLINA**

The Cleveland County Board of Health met on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cleveland County Health Department.

Board members present: Joel Spragins, Philip Jiamachello, Bill Marsh, Betty Lingerfelt, Jack Hunt, Robert Miller and Dino Nicopoulos

Health Department staff present: Denese Stallings, Marty Allen, Rodella Gold, Sam Lockridge, Jimmy Hines, Beth Moore, Kelli Bradley and Charlene Parker

Bob Yelton, County Attorney, Jan Huffman and Paul Hamberis were also present.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

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

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 13, 2007, BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES:

There being no corrections, additions, nor deletions to the minutes of the February 13, 2007, Board of Health meeting, motion was made by Robert Miller and seconded by Bill Marsh, that they be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

SOLID WASTE FRANCHISE RECOMMENDATION

Denese Stallings stated that the Cleveland County Solid Waste Ordinance requires that the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement be re-bid every five years and that the Health Director make a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners from the applicants.

Three applications were submitted to the Health Director by the deadline of February 15, 2007: 1) GDS; 2) Waste Management and 3) Berry Container. Copies of the applications were included in the Board of Health packet. Berry Container's application stated that the company was willing to provide 50 yard containers at construction sites only. GDS stated that they would provide the same level of services as they had provided for the past five years, which is to pickup residential, commercial and industrial waste. Waste Management has elected to not include residential solid waste pickup services in their application, and to provide pick-up of only commercial and industrial waste.

Paul Hamberis, representative from Waste Management, was introduced and addressed the Board briefly. He requested the Board of Health's consideration to allow Waste Management to provide services as a franchise hauler in Cleveland County.

Further information and discussion was held. The Board of County Commissioners have the authority to award the franchise to whoever they choose. Bob Yelton stated that the recommendation from the Health Director and Board of Health carries a lot of weight.

Ms. Stallings recommended that GDS be awarded the Cleveland County Solid Waste Franchise for Cleveland County for a five year period, due to their application to provide residential, commercial and industrial services to Cleveland County. This decision is based upon the need to provide garbage pickup services for residential customers. The county has approximately 2,500 rural customers. A lot of these customers are elderly and if these customers are not supported, they will have no way to have their garbage picked up at their residence.

Motion: Robert Miller moved that the Cleveland County Board of Health recommend that the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners consider the recommendation of the Health Director, which is to award the Cleveland County Solid Waste Franchise to GDS, due to their application to provide residential, commercial and industrial hauling services to Cleveland County. Motion was seconded by Betty Lingerfelt and passed unanimously.

2006/2007 STRATEGIC PLAN

Ms. Stallings introduced Jan Huffman, Accreditation Consultant for the Health Department. Accreditation requires that a formal Strategic Plan be developed annually. The Management Team attended a planning retreat in September 2006, which was facilitated by Jimmy Hines. The result of the Planning Retreat was the identification of Health Department needs to be addressed during the year and also in the future.

Ms. Huffman stated that the Board of Health is also required to participate in the strategic plan development process. She shared further information and issues that came out of the planning retreat that are included in the strategic plan. A copy of the proposed 2006/2007 Strategic Plan was included in the Board of Health packet. The Strategic Plan was reviewed and discussed.

Philip Jiamachello identified an item that needed to be placed in correct chronological order. He recommended that the County's catastrophic technology plan be addressed under technology needs. He also recommended that salary increases and entry level salary should be added to the staff recruitment and retention goals. Ms. Huffman will add these to the plan.

Motion: Philip Jiamachello moved, with a second by Robert Miller, that the Cleveland County Board of Health approve the 2006/2007 Cleveland County Health Department Strategic Plan, with the recommended changes. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNUAL REPORT

Jimmy Hines presented the 2005/06 Cleveland County Health Department Annual Report. Copies of the report were distributed. Further information was shared about the contents of the report. The report shows statistics, which measure the effectiveness of programs that are consistently delivering the services to the community with basically the same amount of resources or less. Further information was shared. The Health Department mission of education, prevention and protection is highlighted in the report. The report reflects the hard work that the staff does to try to change lifestyles and impact policies. It reflects a strong Board of Health, an excellent Health Director and leadership, and staff that believes in the public health mission.

Ms. Stallings stated that the report is mailed to the local medical community, the school system, State and local government agencies and other service agencies in the county.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007/2008

Denese Stallings presented the proposed 2007/2008 fiscal year budget for consideration of adoption. She stated that this budget is a working draft. She presented changes from last year's budget and needs for the new year. She stated that public health is what we as a society do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy. She announced that Cleveland Community College Board of Directors voted today that the college campus will become tobacco-free at the beginning of the 2007 Fall Semester and thanked the Board of Health for their support with this effort. Further comments were made regarding the effects of a tobacco free environment and that the actions of the Board of Health are making a difference in the lives of the citizens of the County.

In order to effectively address challenges to people's health, public health requires an organized and sustained population-based approach and the resources necessary to improve the health of the community.

Proposed budget changes were identified and discussed. These are: Animal Control Officer; Animal Control Attendant (Animal Welfare Act) USDA Standards; Medicine cost increases (vaccines, contraceptive pills, etc.); Accreditation expenses (IT support critical, consultant); Workforce development (training costs, travel); Decreased carry-over. Proposed additional budget items presented are: Environmental Health Position/Fee changes; Employee Health and Wellness Center; Dental Clinic; Decreased Pharmacy Revenue (Cleveland Pharmacy) Reduction in Force (Social Work Position).

Ms. Stallings stated that the community is expecting more from the Animal Control Program due to the increase in rabies cases. Capital improvements in the amount of \$412,000 are needed to meet USDA Standards at the shelter facility. The capital improvements request has been presented to the County Manager separately. Further information was shared and discussion was held.

Ms. Stallings stated that medicine cost increases are due to the Center for the Disease Control and North Carolina recommendation that all health care workers show evidence of having the varicella virus (Chicken Pox), or be vaccinated. Beth Moore stated that one of the major pushes from the Center for Disease Control is that all health care workers show proof of immunity to chicken pox through a titer, present documented evidence from a physician that the person has had chicken pox, or show documentation of the vaccine. The cost of the vaccine is \$70 per dose and 2 doses are required. Lab Corp has agreed to do titers for Health Department employees for \$19. Further information was shared and discussion was held.

Another increase in cost is for contraceptive pills, which is changing from approximately \$40,000 to \$75,000. This is state supplied and there is no control over this on the local level.

Ms. Stallings stated that she has said many times in the past that the Accreditation process will be very expensive. Funds have been included in the proposed budget to cover the costs of a full-time Information Technology support position and Accreditation consultation contract fees. Further information was shared.

Workforce development costs, which include mandated training costs and travel, are increasing due to the turnover in nurse positions. Further information was shared.

Each year, Medicaid revenue is carried-forward to the next year's budget. Last year's carry-over monies were used to decrease county dollars. This year there is not as much carry-over to off-set expenses.

The Environmental Health budget contains one additional position that was approved by the Board of Health at the February meeting. This budget also includes increases in fees for the Environmental Health Program. The increase in these fees brings our county's fees more in line with surrounding counties. Further information was provided.

The County Employee Health and Wellness Center is managed by the Health Department. Information was shared about the services that this program offers. Ms. Stallings stated that it is anticipated that the use of these services will increase due to a change in the County's insurance plan. Further information was shared and discussion was held.

The Dental Clinic budget is the same. A new dentist was hired in November. Recruitment efforts were presented to increase the number of clients in this program. Preschool screenings will be held at the Health Department and referrals will be made to the Dental Clinic from this effort. Ms. Stallings stated that the staff is doing a lot of outreach to try to market the Dental Clinic.

Ms. Stallings stated that there is a decrease in Pharmacy Program revenue due to the implementation of the Medicare Part D Program and the availability of generic drugs for \$4 at Wal-Mart and Target pharmacies. Prior to implementation of the Medicare Part D Program, the Health Department was serving a large number of the elderly population through the Indigent Pharmacy Program. These participants were being screened by a Social Worker on a routine basis to be eligible for the Indigent Pharmacy Program. Revenue from the generic prescriptions through this program was covering the expense of the Social Work position. Due to this decrease in revenue, a Reduction in Workforce (RIF) in a Social Worker position is being recommended from this program. Further information was shared and discussion was held regarding the position.

The proposed draft budget for FY 2007/08 has an increase in County dollars of \$156,056.00. The percentage of State and federal grants, Medicaid, Grants/Fees/and Medicare, and County funds in the overall budget was presented and discussed. This proposed draft budget does not include cost-of-living or medical insurance costs. Discussion was held regarding the County employee benefit package and the effect this may have on recruitment and retention of employees (change in Medical insurance).

The Solid Waste Management Program is an enterprise fund. Sam Lockridge stated that the Solid Waste Management Program has two funds. One is the Solid Waste Disposal Fund, better known as the Landfill, in which revenue is generated through tipping fees of waste going across the scales and from municipalities. The other fund is the Manned Sites and Collection Fund, which is funded primarily through household collection fees and various recycling revenues. Changes in the proposed Solid Waste Disposal Fund budget include an increase in fuel costs, maintenance and repair of equipment and professional services. The proposed Manned Sites and Collection Fund budget contains an increase in fuel costs, maintenance and repairs at the Oak Grove and Mid Pines sites, the replacement of two trash compactors, and automotive supplies. The \$1.6 million infrastructure construction budget is not included in this proposal. Construction of the infrastructure is underway and the project is still on course. Further information was shared regarding these requests.

The Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2007 in the Health Department parking lot. Brochures were included in the Board packet.

Ms. Stallings stated that public health is often invisible to the society it serves. Public health faces many challenges and our successes are well documented in the history of our Nation's progress. Education, Prevention and Protection is our Mission.

Motion: Philip Jiamachello moved, with a second by Bill Marsh, that the Cleveland County Board of Health approve the proposed 2007/2008 Cleveland County Health Department budget, as presented, and send to the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners for their consideration of approval. Motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Rodella Gold presented the following budget amendments for the Board's consideration for approval:

ITEM NUMBER ONE: The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources has allocated \$13,552.80 for the Food and Lodging Program. These funds are based upon the number of inspections in food and lodging establishments during the 2005-2006 FY. A request was made to budget these funds in the Environmental Health Department (541) for contracted services of an Environmental Health Specialist and operational expenses, such as office supplies and motor fuels and automotive supplies.

ITEM NUMBER TWO: In order to align the Smart Start Department (516) budget with the amount approved by the Cleveland County Partnership for Children, a decrease in the Smart Start Activities budget by \$17,377 (-\$3,087 Improved Health Care, -\$13,504 Dental Care and -\$786 Child Care Consultant) was requested.

ITEM NUMBER THREE: The Shelby Community Lions Club donated \$74 for the purchase of eyeglasses. A request to budget this donation in the General Budget (530), as designated, was made.

ITEM NUMBER FOUR: The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has awarded one-time Family Planning Title X bonus funds in the amount of \$9,620 to the Cleveland County Health Department. A request was made to budget these funds in the Family Planning Department (539) budget, for operational expenses associated with this clinic.

ITEM NUMBER FIVE: During the budget process last year, it was estimated that a total of \$2,000 would be received from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the Childhood Lead Program. When the allocation was received, it was only \$1,600. A request was made that \$400 be decreased in the Environmental Health Department (541) budget, in education expenses line item.

ITEM NUMBER SIX: The approved amount for the WiseWoman Cardiovascular Disease Program from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services was \$180 more than the amount that was budgeted in the original budget. A request to budget these funds in the professional services expense line item for lab services was made.

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

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Jack Hunt stated that he felt that the Cleveland County Health Department was the best in North Carolina, which is due to the leadership of Ms. Stallings and the Management Team.

Robert Miller commented on an article about Denese Stallings that was included in the Board of Health packet. He stated that the article is accurate in describing the leadership of Ms. Stallings and the Department, and commented that the County is blessed to have this type of leadership.

Ms. Stallings stated that Marie Whiteheart died this week. Ms. Whiteheart was a Clerk in the WIC Program for twenty years. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Denese Stallings stated that the Department had a great staff and thanked the Board of Health for their support.

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