

The Cleveland County Board of Health met on Tuesday, August 14, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cleveland Country Club.

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

Health Department staff present: Denese Stallings, Dorothea Wyant, Rodella Gold, Sam Lockridge, Marty Allen, Sheila Wellmon and Charlene Parker

Sam Craig, representing the County Attorney, and Andrea Leslie-Fite were present. Kathryn Larson, reporter with Cleveland Headline News, was also present.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Chair Spragins called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Andrea Leslie-Fite, a new attorney with Yelton, Farfour, McCartney, Lutz and Craig Law Firm, and Sheila Wellmon, Administrative Secretary with the Health Department, were introduced and welcomed. Bob Blackburn gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MAY 8, 2007 BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES:

There being no corrections, additions, nor deletions to the minutes of the May 8, 2007, Board of Health meeting, motion was made by Bob Blackburn and seconded by Robert Miller, that they be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF NURSING DIRECTOR, DOROTHEA WYANT
/ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

Denese Stallings introduced Dorothea Wyant, Nursing Director for the Health Department. She worked thirteen years with Catawba County Health Department and the past five years as Director of Infectious Disease for Catawba Memorial Hospital. She holds Masters Degrees in Business Administration and Health Administration from Phifer University. She also holds a Bachelors Degree in nursing.

An updated Cleveland County Health Department Organizational Chart was distributed to the Board. Ms. Stallings stated that administrative changes have been made to the Health Department. In the past the Health Director has had a large number of people reporting directly to her. She has been asked to serve on numerous boards and committees and has re-organized the structure of the Department by condensing the number of staff reporting directly to her.

A Community Health Services Director position has been created to assist the Health Director with allied health and community services. This position will also conduct customer satisfaction surveys to help the Health Director to determine needs. Jimmy Hines has agreed to fill this new position and also will continue to work with the Alliance For Health, the Smart Start Program, Staff Orientation, Strategic Planning and Health Education.

Karma Edwards will assume the responsibility of supervising the Health Education Unit and will serve on the Management Team.

Management Team members that report directly to the Health Director were identified.

2006/2007 ANNUAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT

Dorothea Wyant presented the 2006/2007 Annual Communicable Disease Report and provided information contained in the report. Discussion was held. The percentage of minorities in the report will be compiled and sent to the Board.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Dorothea Wyant presented a revised Cleveland County Health Department Employee Immunization Policy for consideration of adoption by the Board. Ms. Wyant provided information about the required immunizations or documentation of immunity. Discussion was held.

Motion: Philip Jiamachello moved that the Board of Health approve the revisions to the Cleveland County Health Department Staff/Student/Faculty Immunization Policy as presented. Motion was seconded by Robert Miller and passed unanimously.

SHINGLES VACCINE

Dorothea Wyant stated that the Health Department would like the Board of Health's approval to offer the shingles vaccine to the public. This is a new vaccine given to people 60 years of age or older to protect them from getting shingles. She stated that this request is based on the recommendation from the Center of Disease Control (CDC) and North Carolina Public Health. Documentation of the CDC recommendation will be provided to the Board of Health and will also be given to people that receive the vaccine. Discussion was held regarding the effectiveness of the vaccine, screening for risk factors, and payment sources. The Health Department has had a lot of calls from the public requesting this vaccine.

The public will be made aware of the availability of the vaccine at the Health Department and encourage eligible people to be vaccinated by providing a press release to local media and placing this information on the Health Department website. It was also requested that the public will be informed that the vaccine has a 50% effectiveness rating.

Guidance was provided by the County Attorney, who recommended that the information being given to the public contain information provided by the CDC and no other language be added.

Motion: Robert Miller moved that the Board of Health approve that the shingles vaccine be provided by the Cleveland County Health Department at a fee of \$160.00, based on the information presented and on approval of FDA and recommendation by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Motion was seconded by Betty Lingerfelt and passed unanimously.

**INFORMATION SHARED AT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION 8/7/07:
ANIMAL CONTROL AND LITTER PREVENTION**

Denese Stallings stated that she met with the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners at their work session on August 7, 2007 to talk about the Cleveland County Animal Control Ordinance and the Cleveland County Solid Waste Ordinance - litter prevention and tarp. She thanked Bob Blackburn for his support during the two hour session.

A public hearing has been set for September 4, 2007 to amend the Cleveland County Animal Control Ordinance to contain language that will allow legal fees to be collected by the County should someone be fined and not pay. If adopted by the County Commissioners, the Health Department will be able to collect court costs and legal fees, along with the fine. At the present time, there is approximately \$14,000 to \$15,000 in uncollected fines that would cost the county more to try to collect due to court costs and legal fees.

Ms. Stallings also informed the County Commissioners at this work session that the Health Department needed additional help in the Animal Control Department and requested two additional Animal Control Officers. The past two budgets have contained requests for additional Animal Control Officers. Ms. Stallings stated that she feels the County Commissioners are seriously looking at this request. Further information was shared.

The County Commissioners requested that the County Attorney change wording in the Solid Waste Ordinance. Sam Craig has been working with Ms. Stallings to define "covered load" in the ordinance. Also the word "tarpaulin" has been changed to "secured load" in the ordinance. Further information was shared with the Board and discussion held. Ms. Stallings' recommendation was that the load be "secured" and that the size of the load or number of bags the load contained did not matter, but that it had to be secured by some means.

The public hearing on September 4, 2007 will also include a proposal to collect legal fees and court costs for fines issued in violation of the Solid Waste Ordinance. The public hearing also contains a proposal to increase the fines for littering from \$100 to \$250 for the first offense and \$500 for the second offense.

Language was placed in the revised ordinance, at the request of a County Commissioner, to address the hauling and collection of waste by builders from construction sites. Before obtaining a building permit, the builders have to complete a form indicating how they plan to collect and dispose of their waste during the construction process.

A survey was conducted in December 2006 that showed 50% of people surveyed hauling trash to the manned sites were covering or securing their load. Another survey conducted in July 2007 showed that 71% of the people surveyed entering the manned sites were securing their loads. The manned sites and roadsides going to the sites are much cleaner. Ms. Stallings stated she is most proud of the fact that the citizens have been educated and made aware of the litter problem in the county. Approximately 400+ litter citations have been issued. She stated that the litter program has made a difference and that the Board of Health did the right thing. She hopes that the County Commissioners will move forward with the litter program.

Ms. Stallings stated that Jimmy Hines is working on a program that will be implemented in the four high schools in the County called "Just Bag It". Each high school will chose five students from each school to design a litter bag that will be produced and distributed to the student drivers at the high schools to place in their cars. Further information was shared about the new program.

Bob Blackburn stated that Denese Stallings and Sam Lockridge did an outstanding job in presenting information to the County Commissioners.

Ronnie Hawkins stated that the Board should be proud of the professionalism of the Health Department staff. He also discussed the Solid Waste Ordinance and the interpretation of the ordinance regarding a "secured" load and the Board of Health's position on the issue. Sam Craig provided information about the interpretation of definitions of the present ordinance and the proposed revised ordinance. Joel Spragins stated that the Board appreciated Ronnie Hawkins' support of the Board of Health's position regarding the ordinance. The proposed revised Solid Waste Ordinance was read and Attorney Craig added a slight change in wording at the request of Commissioner Boggs that says "wire tie-downs, hooks, latches, or like means". Robert Miller stated the Board knew that when the Ordinance was first adopted that it could be tweaked later. Further information was shared and discussion held.

Motion: Motion was made by Bob Blackburn, with a second by Robert Miller, that the Board of Health adopt the new language to the proposed revision of the Solid Waste Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

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

Item Number One: The Cleveland County Health Department has been awarded a three-year grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust in the amount of \$173,236. The first year grant amount is \$60,826. The purpose of this grant is to provide medical nutrition therapy to indigent clients in Cleveland County. We also expect to have a \$3,300 contribution from the Carolinas Healthcare System to support this endeavor. In addition to this revenue, we expect to be able to earn \$17,038 from Medicare. A request was made to budget \$71,364 for two Nutritionist II positions effective September 1, 2007, and \$13,450 operating expenses to support the positions in the Grants Budget (543).

Ms. Gold stated that an amended amount to the Medicare revenue should be \$20,688.00, rather than \$17,038.00.

Item Number Two: The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust has awarded a three year \$30,000 grant to support the Healthy Carolinians Partnership. The grant will be received in equal payments of \$10,000 each. A request was made to budget the first payment of \$10,000 in the Grants Budget (543) to support endeavors of the Alliance for Health.

Item Number Three: The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Women's and Children's Health Section has awarded a mini-grant in the amount of \$3,619 to the Cleveland County Health Department to purchase incentives and a Hewlett Packard LaserJet printer. A request was made to budget these funds in the WIC Department (540) for this purpose.

Item Number Four: The Community Care Program of North Carolina has awarded the Carolina Access Program a Mental Health Pilot Co-Location Grant in the amount of \$25,000. These funds are designated to be used to support the infrastructure of private practices that have a mental health provider. A request was made to budget these funds in the Carolina Access Department (546) to support practice infrastructure needs and costs related to non-patient care in the development of mental health services.

Item Number Five: The Community Care Program of North Carolina has increased the rate of reimbursement for enhanced case management services. However, in this increase they have also established a fee to cover the cost of the case management information system, audits, etc. Using the additional revenue we expect to earn in Carolina Access, a request was made to budget \$39,200 in the Carolina Access Department (546) for professional services.

Item Number Six: The Office of Rural Health and Community Care has awarded \$9,557 to the Cleveland County Health Department for medication assistance to indigent citizens in Cleveland County. These funds have been allocated to support personnel and operating expenses of the program. A request was made to budget these funds in the Adult Health Department (533).

During the past fiscal year, we provided medication to approximately 350 people through this program.

Item Number Seven: The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Women's and Children's Health Services Section, has allocated \$1,769 in Family Planning Bonus Funds in addition to what was included in the original budget for 2007/2008 FY. A request was made to budget these funds in the Family Planning Department (539) for operating expenses.

Item Number Eight: Due to an increase in caseload and scope of services of the Carolina Access Program, a request was made to increase a 50% Processing Assistant to 60% time effective September 1, 2007. The increase in time will require us to budget an additional \$2,647 for salary/fringe in the Carolina Access Department (546).

Item Number Nine: The total amount of funds approved by the Department of Health and Human Services for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program (BCCCP) was more than what was included in the original 2007/2008 FY budget. A request was made to budget \$2,630 for the BCCCP Cardiovascular Disease Program and \$2,730 for the BCCCP Screening Program in the Adult Health Department (533) for professional services to cover expenses for reference lab services and mammograms.

Motion: Motion was made by Robert Miller, with a second by Betty Lingerfelt, that the budget amendments be approved, as amended under Item #1, and as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Fit Together Program.

Robert Blackburn stated that the Fit Together/Alliance For Health Advisory Council meeting presented the success of the Obesity Program and Fit Together Program in the schools and day care centers in Cleveland County.

Legislation

Robert Blackburn presented legislative updates on SB 1226; the Children Nutrition Program; Smoking Bills; SB 625; and Tobacco-Free School Systems. Further information was shared about tobacco-free legislation and health related legislation.

Health Director's Annual Performance Evaluation

Chair Spragins thanked the Board of Health for their input regarding the Health Director's annual performance evaluation. He stated that he had met with Ms. Stallings' and had conducted her annual performance evaluation, which was very good.

Health Department Staff and Board of Health Recognition

Jack Hunt stated that he was impressed with the professionalism and service of a Cleveland County Animal Control Officer that he had contact with recently.

Jack Hunt commended the Board of Health members' participation and discussion during their meetings. He stated that he was very proud of the Board of Health and what they are able to accomplish.

Chair Spragins stated that Cleveland County had a good Board of Health and a wonderful Health Department staff. He stated that this is due to the leadership of the Health Director and he thanked her.

Robert Miller thanked the County Attorney for the involvement and direction he provided to the Board of Health.

Environmental Health Involvement in Food Recall

Marty Allen provided information about the Cleveland County Health Department's recent involvement in the food recall of Castleberry Food Products. A packet of information was distributed to Board members. Environmental Health Staff found recalled food in several daycares and a church in Cleveland County. Statistics were provided in the packet of information. Further information was shared.

Pam Ellwood Recognition

Pam Ellwood, Family Nurse Practitioner in Child Health Clinic, has received an award from the American Lung Association for her work with the Asthma Coalition in Cleveland County. She is also one of twenty finalists for the Nancy Susan Reynolds Award from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

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