

Stanly County Health Department

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STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

September 4, 2008

Meeting Minutes

The Stanly County Board of Health met on September 4th, 2008 at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room of the Stanly County Health Department. Board Members absent were Dr. Laura Mauldin, Dr. Lana Riemann, and Mrs. Margaret Rudisill. Staff present was Dennis Joyner, Health Director, Debbie Bennett, Judie DeMuth, David Ezzell, Patti Lewis and Becky McKeon. Guest in attendance was Mr. Andy Lucas, County Manager, and Leon Warren attended as media representative.

Board Chair Hathcock called the meeting to order and entertained a motion for approval of the August 7th board meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Commissioner McIntyre, seconded by Dr. Marshall, and approved by the board.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Joyner introduced the new County Manager, Andy Lucas to the board, welcoming him not only to the Health Department but to the County of Stanly. Mr. Lucas spoke briefly to everyone present and board members introduced themselves.

The Health Director updated the board on the agency's personnel status stating that currently recruitment for two positions is taking place. One is for the new Animal Control Officer position that was approved in this year's budget and the other position is for an Environmental Health Specialist left vacant with the resignation of Marya Johnson on 8-8-08.

A report on Health Department expenditures and revenues as of July 31st was reviewed. Mr. Joyner explained that these figures reflected the first month of a new fiscal year and future reports would be more useful in reviewing budgetary patterns.

The board was made aware that the Department Management Team attended a one day strategic planning meeting on August 20th at the Badin Inn. Mr. Joyner added that Mr. John Graham from the N.C. Institute for Public Health facilitated the meeting which will assist the Health Department in not only providing future goals and action plans but also in meeting requirements for local health department accreditation. Preliminary information from the planning meeting including a vision, mission and foundational strategic goals were share with the board.

Director Joyner informed the board that a Fee Setting Policy which based patient charges on Medicaid/Medicare rates was approved by the Board several years ago. However, after further review of state information and recommendations, patient charges should be on a cost basis therefore, a new Patient Fee Policy will be processed and presented to the board for their approved at the October board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The board discussed the upcoming flu season with Mr. Joyner explaining that flu vaccine ordered by the Health Department has been received. As in the past two years, a drive through flu clinic is being planned for October 3rd at the Agri-Civic Center which will also be conducted as a mass event/ preparedness activity and will involve employees from EMS and Sheriff Department along with Health Department staff. Other flu clinics will be held during the month of October at the Health Department, group homes, rest/retirement homes, etc., and will be given until the supply is exhausted. Mr. Joyner recommended that the charge for flu vaccinations remain at \$25.00, the same as last year as

there has been little or no change in the costs involved, and Board Members agreed with his recommendation. An invitation to receive a flu shot at the October meeting was extended to the board.

Mrs. Becky McKeon, the Health Department's Communicable Disease Nurse & Outreach Supervisor presented an investigation summary on last year's outbreak of pertussis in Stanly County. She explained that there was 1 probable and 15 cases confirmed which involved 2,061 contacts. Information was distributed to the board which contained various information including North Carolina reported cases of pertussis, cases by age and sex, and pertussis control measures. Next, Mrs. McKeon provided an annual report on communicable diseases in Stanly County and provided information and handouts which included sexually transmitted diseases, reported vaccine preventable communicable diseases as well as gastro-intestinal diseases, reported rocky mountain spotted fever and salmonellosis, etc. Board Members discussed the information and were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Board of Health members were given orientation packets which included the final approved FY08-09 Health Department budget and various information and guidelines for local Boards of Health. The Health Director reviewed each section of material which included legal responsibilities and authority of Boards of Health in N.C., guidelines and expectations of Board Members, review of the 10 Essential Services of Public Health, Core Functions of Public Health, N.C. 2010 Health Goals, State Public Health resources for local counties, the FY 09 Health Department Budget and BOH member contact/term information. Mr. Joyner also presented a CD titled "Orientation for Local Boards of Health: An Instructional Module" from the North Carolina Institute for Public Health, and invited them to take the information and review. The orientation information will be mailed to the three board members not present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Director Joyner gave an update on the Badin Lake Fish Study stating that collection of fish samples have taken place by DEHNR at two of the 3 collection sites. The third site samples should take place with the next two weeks, with the results possibly within 4 – 5 weeks. The county has agreed to pay up to \$10,000 to support the study. Although not final, conversations with State Department of Public Health officials indicate that the State will likely cover the remaining cost of the study.

OTHER BUSINESS

Board Members were updated on accreditation activities and the Health Director stated that staff is working on developing departmental policies some of which will be presented at the next board meeting for board members review and approval. He reminded the board that the accreditation review is scheduled for November 12th, 13th, and 14th, and site visitors will be interviewing Health Department Staff, the County Manager, and two Board of Health Members.

The Health Director informed the board that he had been contacted by Stanly County Department of Social Services staff requesting the name of a Board of Health member to serve on the Work First Planning Committee. He explained that there would only be 1 or 2 meetings and then asked for a volunteer from the board. Board member Margaret Rudisill served on this committee in the past and it was recommended that Mrs. Rudisill, who was not present, be asked to continue to serve. Mrs. Debby Johnston agreed to serve on the Work First Committee if Mrs. Rudisill was unable to commit to this request.

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner McIntyre made a motion for adjournment at 8:35 PM. The motion was seconded by Dr. Marshall, and passed by the board.