



Macon County Public Health

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

September 14, 2010

Members Present: Russell Stevenson, Ron Winecoff, Dr. David Farley, Tammy Dills, Dr. Roy Lenzo, Dr. David Silverstein, and Paul Higdon

Staff Present: Jim Bruckner, Dr. Jimmy Villiard, Tammy Keezer, Barry Patterson, Diane Keener, Missy Boston, Melissa Leatherman, and Lisa Marling

Media: Radio - WFSC/WNCC
The Franklin Press

Guests: Joean Dacayo

Public Comment Session - Vice Chairman Stevenson asked if anyone wished to address the board. No one responded.

Call to Order – Mr. Stevenson called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Approval of Agenda – The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Winecoff and seconded by Dr. Farley.

Welcome/Introductions/Departures/Recognition –

- Mr Bruckner introduced staff.
- Dr. Lenzo introduced his guest.

Presentation – Ms. Keezer opened the presentation with an overview of the Quality Improvement Initiative that the Macon County Public Health Center staff implemented in August. This QI initiative has concentrated on our Child Health Program. Ms. Keezer also explained about the training opportunities that staff participated in sponsored by the NC Division of Public Health and UNC SPH/Institute for Public Health.

Ms. Boston spoke on how the project focused on decreasing the amount of time that a patient is at the health center for a Child Health clinic visit, and to improve productivity of staff.

Ms. Leatherman spoke on how the team measured their outcomes. Ms. Marling spoke on the Kaizen event, a 4 day project to improve the existing Child Health program and to find ways to make it better. The Kaizen event dissected the current process and identified ways that the clinic could be improved.

Dr. Villiard presented a cost analysis of the initiative that showed cost savings per patient after this QI initiative was completed. As a result of this project, a QI council has been formed that will meet monthly and look at suggestions from the staff. The QI council will determine which QI initiatives to focus on and appoint staff to work on the projects and develop proposals.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting of August 10 - Minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Mr. Winecoff and seconded by Ms. Dills.

Old Business

- **Update Status of Service Delivery Plan** – Mr. Bruckner spoke on a MCPH Service Plan. He presented to each board member for their review, a copy of the Service Delivery Plan diagram. The information provided is a work in progress of the Budget/Core Service Report that was reviewed at the last Board of Health Meeting. The full Service Plan will be presented at the November Board meeting.

New Business

- **Problem Properties and Local PH's Authority** – Mr. Bruckner stated that MCPH has received several complaints in regard to problem properties. Problem properties were identified as abandoned property and homes that have become a concern to neighbors. Mr. Bruckner went on to say that MCPH Environmental Health staff would really like to help these people out, but our powers to clean up or condemn these properties are very limited. He went on to say that MCPH staff has been working with Code Enforcement (County and Town) and Solid Waste Management Department since each has a different level of authority when it comes to dealing with these issues. County and Town Code Enforcement Departments have far more authority (granted in the NCGS) when it comes to cleaning-up or condemning problem properties than does Public Health. Public Health Nuisance Rules are not clearly defined in the NCGS. This is supported by legal counsel though and the NC Institute of Government (IOG) and is outlined in a document published by the IOG. There are steps that can be taken within the community by other agencies to clean-up these properties and MCPH would welcome the opportunity to help these agencies in their efforts.
- **Scaly Mountain Dog Investigation** – Dr. Villiard discussed the investigation of dogs that have died or disappeared in the Scaly Mountain area. The investigation began after Environmental health received several complaints from Scaly residents. We have been in

touch with the State Veterinarian in Raleigh and the State Veterinary Laboratory in Arden. We have also contacted all of the veterinarians in the area (including Rabun County Georgia). A questionnaire was developed and Environmental Health staff are working with Animal Control in going door to door interviewing residents in the area of Scaly where the incidents have been reportedly occurring. Evidence of 11 dead dogs has been recovered. Residents of Scaly think the number of dead or missing dogs is closer to 26. At this time, no single source or common cause has been determined and to our knowledge, no humans have been affected. The investigation is continuing.

- **FY 2010/2011 Flu Season** – Ms. Leatherman talked about the upcoming flu clinics. This year the flu vaccine will also contain H1N1 vaccine. Ms. Leatherman gave an overview of the proposed flu vaccination schedule. The schedule will be sent out to the media tomorrow.
- **Rabies Clinic** – Mr. Patterson informed the board that Rabies Clinics will be scheduled in October. The first is scheduled for October 9th; the second date is yet to be determined.

Board Training and Information

- **NALBOH Newsbrief 3rd Quarter 2010**
- **ANCBH Special State Insert 3rd Quarter 2010**

Board members were encouraged to review their **copies** as provided in their packets.

Announcements - Mr. Bruckner referred to the **Monthly Performance Review** data in the BOH packets.

Executive Session – A motion to go into Executive Session was made at 7:35 pm by Mr. Winecoff and seconded by Dr. Farley to discuss pending legal issues. The motion passed unanimously. All staff except from Mr. Bruckner and Mr. Patterson were asked to be excused.

A motion was made at 7:58 pm by Mr. Higdon and seconded by Mr. Winecoff to return to open session and seal the minutes from the Executive Session.

Next Regular Meeting – The next regular meeting will be November 09, 2010 at 6:15 p.m. (dinner to be served at 6:00 p.m.). The location will be at the Senior Services Building for this meeting only.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the general meeting was made by Mr. Higdon and seconded by Mr. Winecoff. The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Keener, Management Support Supervisor for Jim Bruckner, MS, Health Director
Macon County Public Health Center

Minutes Approved: November 9, 2010