WILSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

The Wilson County Board of Health held a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 in the Board Room at the Wilson County Health Department. Members present were:

Ralph B. Perry, Jr., O.D. Norma Velasco Samuel Teruel-Velez Ronnie Sutton Richard Hudson Jonathon Dewald, M.D. Kathy L. Dixon, RN Dr. R. David Scott, D.V.M.

Others present:

Felix Meyer, Rebecca Hunt-Hawley, Debra Harris, Lida Blalock, Jenny Nicholson, Jennifer Bacon, Phyllis Rathbun, Cinnamon Narron, Christie White, newly appointed Board of Health member, Dr. Jessica McKee and Lynn Barnes.

Welcome

Dr. Ralph B. Perry, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and extended a welcome to attendees and also welcomed Dr. Jessica McKee who will be replacing Dr. Dewald on the Board. Dr. McKee will be sworn in at the August 2011 meeting.

Approval of Minutes of April 12, 2011 meeting

The minutes from the April 12, 2011 meeting were accepted without corrections, additions, or deletions.

Health Director's Report

Mr. Meyer welcomed everyone to the meeting. Dr. Boles, who was unable to attend the meeting tonight, has agreed to accept another term. Dr. Russell Stone will be replacing Dr. Perry, Jr. and Ms. Melinda Laird, Vice President of Clinical Services, will be replacing Richard Hudson. They will be sworn in along with Dr. McKee at the August meeting. All Board members were thanked for their valuable contributions. The Health Department now has a marquee sign out in front that has been purchased from grant and emergency preparedness funds. No county dollars were spent on the sign. The sign will be used for public health and emergency announcements. BB&T has provided a contribution to purchase furniture to be used in the front lobby. Bilingual signage is being installed throughout the patient care areas. Effective June 1, 2011, the legislature passed a bill making it a felony to possess or distribute synthetic cannabinoids known as K2 or Spice that were being sold in convenience stores. At this time there have been no arrests according to the Sheriff's Department. Legal updates were given on two personnel matters. SB433 was discussed; a bill introduced by Senator Hartzell to attain consolidation of human services (public health, social services and mental health) under one director, reporting to the county manager. The County Manager has been briefed, and a conference call with Senator Buck Newton was participated in by DSS and the Health Director on April 11, 2011 to discuss mutual concerns regarding SB433. Also Senator Hartzell introduced SB551 after significant resistance from DPH and DSS primarily. This bill was

introduced as a compromise bill. After negotiations with DPH and NCALHD, Hartzell introduced SB552, which passed by the Senate on June 10, 2011 with the support of DPH/NCALHD. More information to follow as it becomes available. The Strategic Plan was distributed and discussed. It was requested that the Board of Health approve the Strategic Plan. Ronnie Sutton made the motion to accept and Mr. Richard Hudson seconded. The budget was summarized. County Commissioners have not given final approval to the county budget. The Commissioners have one more public presentation planned on June 27th. WCHD has had 2 retirements, Nancy Adams (Personal Health) and Delois Miller (Home Health). One new employee began working June 1st, Chelsey Byers (Administration). Tammra Morrison completed 16 month Ladders to Leadership Fellowship. Rebecca Hunt-Hawley has completed requirements for Family Nurse Practioner and is awaiting certification by the Board of Nursing. Mr. Meyer stated he has been recertified (3 year) as Fellow, American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE). At Mr. Hudson's request, Dr. Perry, Jr. asked that it go on record to acknowledge appreciation of these achievements. Tammra Morrison, RN, Bioterrorism Coordinator gave a presentation on the B Flu mutation which was indentified by NC Sentinels. The influenza vaccine for 2011-2012 will be unchanged from last year. A discussion was held on the Strep A outbreak at a local assisted living facility. Local agencies, such as the Health Department as well as Environmental Health, State and the CDC were involved. The number of individuals involved: 90 residents, 57 employees and 7 home health employees. The final results of testing: 10 confirmed cases of Group A Strep were indentified, 4 employees and 6 nursing home residents. The source of the outbreak is under investigation and most likely caused by improper hand washing. Confirmed positive cases were re-tested on 5/31/11 and those with continued positive results will be retreated with different antibiotics. There is an ongoing surveillance of the facility that will continue for four months. Several potential infection control concerns were identified and control measures were gone over with management and staff. Everyone worked well together. A joint presentation will be made this fall at the NCPHA conference in Charlotte on outlining the cost of the Strep A outbreak. The NCDPH and CDC have commended WCHD for early and appropriate response and management on this outbreak. Operation Vaccination campaign was held in April. Three clinics were held, targeting 11-18 year olds. Various vaccinations were given, such as HPV, Tdap, Varicella, Hepatitis A and Meningococcal. The results were outstanding with a total of 333 vaccinations given. A report was given on the E Coli outbreak overseas thought to have originated in Germany. It has been related to a vegetable sprout. Three cases have been indentified in the US, with there being known travel to Hamburg, Germany. Debra Harris, RN, Home Health Director reported Home Health was doing well. Referral activity was given and there were no ethical situations during April-May 2011. The Board was invited to come out for a visit anytime. Home Health will be celebrating their annual Happy Everything to Everybody Day with a breakfast soon. The Environmental Health program update has been deferred to a later date. The Board was asked to look at page 26 of the slides to choose a topic they would be most interested in hearing about and let Mr. Meyer know.

At the conclusion of the meeting, plaques were presented by Ronnie Sutton, Vice-Chair, to Dr. Perry, Jr., Dr. Dewald and Mr. Hudson for their service to Board of Health.

Board Chairperson's Report

Dr. Perry reported it had been a fast 10 years he has served on the Board and he has been very happy to be associated with the Board and the Health Department. While serving on the Board, he has become familiar with the services offered and provided by the Health Department. He wanted to personally commend the Health Department for the services they are providing for the community. Everyone was wished the best while moving forward with the Board and the Health Department. Election of officers will be held at the August meeting.

Questions from the Board

Dr. Perry asked if there were any questions from the Board. No one, at this time, had any questions.

Concerns of the Public

No one present from the public.

<u>Adjournment</u>- There being no further business Dr. Perry adjourned the meeting at approximately at 7:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Felix Meyer, Secretary Wilson County Board of Health

AFM/lmb