

# WILSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

**Tuesday, February 8, 2011**

The Wilson County Board of Health held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 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  
Thomas Lucas

Richard Hudson  
Jonathon Dewald, M.D.  
Kathy L. Dixon, RN  
Ronnie Sutton

Others present:

Felix Meyer, Rebecca Hunt-Hawley, Lida Blalock, Jenny Nicholson, Karen Boyette, Jennifer Bacon, Phyllis Rathbun, Cinnamon Narron, Melinda Duke and Lynn Barnes.

## **Welcome**

Dr. Ralph B. Perry, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and extended a welcome to attendees. Also welcomed and introduced to the Board was County Commissioner Thomas Lucas who has been appointed to the Board of Health.

## **Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2010 meeting**

The minutes from the December 2010 meeting were accepted without corrections, additions, or deletions.

## **Health Director's Report**

Mr. Meyer reported that he and Tammra Morrison will jointly be presenting at NC Emergency Management Association ("Use of ICS Structure During 2009 H1N1 Pandemic-One Health Departments' Experience") which was previously presented at NCPHA. The County Commissioner's were briefed at their January 3, 2011 meeting on "Caffeinated Alcoholic Beverages" and synthetic Marijuana. Pocket guides to 2009 NC Health Statistics were distributed. At the State Health Director's meeting in January, the message was titled "Healthy NC 2020: A Vision for a Healthier State". Rebecca Hunt-Hawley discussed Blue Cross Blue Shield's site survey that was done on January 18, 2011. The assessment included medical record statements (a review of selected charts), Facility Standards (smoke free environment, handicap access, etc.) and Access to Care Standards (wait time for an urgent appointment, physical, waiting room time, etc.). The scores were as follows: Access to Care: 100%, Facility: 100% and Medical Record: 96%. At the conclusion, the Health Department was granted a full three year approval as a BCBS health care provider. The "Appeals Policy" was discussed and at the December 2010 Board of Health meeting, it was recommended to change the policy to remove BOH from the appeals process. This has been discussed with the County Manager and the County Commissioners by the Health Director. All parties have agreed that there is no requirement for the Board's involvement, subject to the Board's choice. An Appeals Policy has been drafted (distributed via website) which eliminates the Board from the appeals process. Motion was made for the Board of Health approval of the revised Appeals Policy by Richard Hudson, Samuel Teruel-Velez seconded. Cinnamon Narron, Local Public Health Administrator I, who started with the Health Department on January 3, 2011 was introduced to the Board. Updates were given on some ongoing legal actions. The decision to disengage from participating in the application process

regarding the Project Connect grant made by the Health Director, Rebecca Hunt-Hawley, Karen Boyette and Barbara Williams was discussed with the Board. There is a new synthetic drug emerging marketed as “Bath Salts” being sold online and in convenience stores (see handout). NC General Assembly has drafted bills to add K2 (synthetic marijuana) to a list of controlled substances and make it a felony to possess or sell (see handout). This bill is proposed to be effective April 2011. The Health Director recommends sending a letter from the Board of Health to the General Assembly on behalf of the Board of Health urging passage of proposed legislation making the sale or possession of K2 and “Bath Salts” a felony. A letter has already been drafted. Ronnie Sutton made a motion to send a letter of support on the proposed bill and Kathy Dixon seconded. An update on the flu was given and six deaths have occurred in NC last week. The 2010 Annual Immunization Rate Assessment (children 24-35 months of age) was given by Rebecca Hunt-Hawley. The Home Health report was given by the Health Director in the absence of Debra Harris, Home Health Director. Changes were discussed in Social Work that occurred in late 2009 and current updates were given. Some restructuring of current programs are expected. Karen Boyette, Social Work Supervisor discussed these updates to the Board members. Information along with a draft letters to the Honorable Jean Farmer-Butterfield and Judge Andrew Whitley requesting relief from Guardianship was sent out to all Board members prior to the BOH meeting via email. Richard Hudson made a motion to approve the draft letters and Dr. Jonathon Dewald seconded. Increasing Staff Awareness of Health Disparities Policy, Promoting Customer Friendly Service Policy and Policy on Polices have all been updated and distributed via the website to all Board members for review. Accreditation benchmarks require authorization from the Board of Health for the Health Director to represent the Board to the County Board of Commissioners on public health issues. Approval was requested from the Board of Health. Ronnie Sutton made a motion to request the approval and Richard Hudson seconded. Recruitment, Retention and Workforce Development Plan was distributed via the website to BOH members. No personal resources are required to implement this policy. Workforce development incentives are subject to budgetary constraints. No funds have been programmed for this purpose consistent with county finance guidelines. Approval was requested from the Board. Ronnie Sutton made the motion to approve and Kathy Dixon seconded. The Confidentiality Policy was distributed also via the website for the BOH to review. No additional resources are required to implement this policy.

### **Board Chairperson’s Report**

Dr. Perry had nothing to report.

### **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**

One visitor present and there were no concerns.

**Adjournment**- There being no further business Dr. Perry adjourned the meeting at approximately at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Felix Meyer, Secretary  
Wilson County Board of Health

