



Macon County
Public Health

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES**

April 26.2011

Members Present: Roberta Swank Chairman, Russell Stevenson - Vice Chairman, Ron Winecoff, Dr. David Farley, Paul Higdon, Dr. Frank Killian, Angie Stahl & Tammy Dills

Staff Present: Jim Bruckner, Dr. Jimmy Villiard, Tammy Keezer, Barry Patterson, Diane Keener, Rebecca Barr, Tonya Hodgins & Jennifer Garrett

Media: Vickie Carpenter, Macon News

Guests: Dr. San Ho Choi, Diane Brendle, Tommy Cabe, Jan Lee & Gwen Kelly

Public Comment Session: Ms. Swank, Chairman of the Board asked if anyone wished to address the Board. No one responded.

Call to Order: Ms. Swank called the meeting to order at 6:24pm.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved on a motion by Dr. Farley and seconded by Mr. Stevenson. All Board members present were in agreement.

Welcome/Introductions/Departures/Recognition:

- Mr. Bruckner stated that the guest would be introduced later in the meeting during the Public Health Hero Awards presentation.

Presentations:

Public Health Hero Award Presentation

Mr. Bruckner shared the importance of Public Health within the community and how the community needs to be more aware of the services that Public Health offers. The Community Appreciation Event that was held onsite earlier today was one such opportunity. This event gave the community the chance to see many of the different services that MCPH offers for our community.

Mr. Bruckner introduced the Public Health Hero award as an opportunity to honor those that assist with public health efforts within the community. The first nominees were Diane Brendle, Tommy Cabe, Jan Lee

and Dr. San Ho Choi. Each of the runner-ups were recognized individually as the nomination was read and, they were presented with a certificate of appreciation.

Ms. Diane Brendle was nominated by Wesley Price, pastor of Watauga Baptist Church. Ms. Brendle is the wellness coordinator for the Watauga church family. She coordinated the Walk to Jerusalem fitness program where church members log in their walking miles with a goal of reaching 6348 miles in 12 weeks. Ms. Brendle has also scheduled annual health screening events for the church members that focus on health and nutrition.

Mr. Tommy Cabe was nominated by Rhonda Blanton. Mr. Cabe has spent numerous hours volunteering his services for the young people of Macon County. He has spent hours at the annual school health fairs, helping with screenings and, he encourages youth to lead healthier lives and make healthier decisions. Mr. Cabe has volunteered his time to work with the tobacco education programs within the schools, has attended the Healthy Living Institute and serves on the School Health Advisory Counsel.

Ms. Jan Lee nominated by Jennifer Hollifield for her involvement with the wellness program at Holly Springs Baptist Church. Through the efforts and coordination of activities of Ms. Lee, Holly Springs has received a bronze certification from the Partners in Health and Wholeness, a group of the North Carolina Council of Churches. Ms. Lee promotes screenings and community education not only within her church community but through public speaking at such events as the Ladies Night Out Program.

Ms. Barr read the nomination that she submitted for Dr. San Ho Choi. Dr. Choi has worked as a physician in Macon County for many years. He has also set an example for his patients and is a proponent of physical fitness as witnessed by his commitment to running and hiking. But beyond that, he has volunteered his time, effort and financial support to build a healthier community for others.

In recent years, Dr. Choi has volunteered to provide many skin cancer screenings clinics. He has screened hundreds of individuals, many of whom did not have insurance or other options for seeing a physician; has gone above and beyond his duty to provide follow-up for some of the skin cancer screening patients that needed additional care; and has also supported Girls on the Run program that encourages young girls to choose healthy life skills, achieve high self-esteem, healthy eating habits and incorporate fitness into their lifestyle by providing scholarships to several young girls who could not afford to participate in this program.

Ms. Swank presented Dr Choi with this year's "Public Health Hero Award" and commented that Dr. Choi has contributed many years to the community and thanked him for his years of service.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting of March 22, 2011: Minutes from the March meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Winecoff and seconded by Mr. Stevenson. All Board members present were in agreement.

Old Business:

Budget Update

- **State**

Mr. Bruckner stated that there are several proposed cuts from the State Budget that could affect Local Public Health. Many of these cuts will result in elimination of positions at the state level. Healthy Carolinians will be transferred to the Division of Public Health Chronic Disease and Injury Section. There will also be a reduction in staff in state WADE (Wastewater Discharge Elimination Program).

School nursing funding may change with stipulations that school nurses can not be used for teaching positions or do anything within the school other than nursing duties.

- **Local**

Mr. Bruckner stated that he has had meetings recently that included the County Manager, a County Commissioner and the County Finance Officer. Additional information was requested and that information is being compiled. Much of the requested information being compiled is for the current budget year. There has not been a date set to present next year's budget to the commissioners.

Legislative update

Mr. Bruckner was asked by several Board Members to present a legislative update at this meeting. Mr. Bruckner stated that there are several bills in the House and Senate that are worthy of watching. The deadline for filing new bills has passed and the crossover deadline was May 12th. Mr. Bruckner encouraged the Board to keep up-to-date with the following bills: Senate Bill 425 Medicaid Billing in Local Health Departments, this bill would allow health departments to bill through HIS as they do now or choose to direct bill Medicaid. Senate Bill 433 and House Bill 580 County Level Consolidation which would allow counties to consolidate their human services departments into a single department under the County Manager (includes Department of Social Services, Health, and Mental Health). Mr. Stevenson asked where the support for this bill was coming from. Mr. Bruckner said that most of the support for this bill seems to be coming from the County Commission Association. House Bill 347 Notification of Treatment of Minors which focuses on the elimination of minors requesting confidential family planning services. Senate Bills 551 and 552 which focus on the establishment of state and regional public health authorities. If passed the majority of the functions of the local health departments would come under the control of the Authority Board.

New Business:

Prenatal Provider Contract

Mr. Bruckner stated that Dr. Bourscak resigned effective April 5, 2011. MCPH has signed a contract with MAHEC (Mountain Area Health Education Center) effective April 7, 2011. Dr. Kellett Letson is now coming on Tuesdays to provide Maternal Health services to our clients. MAHEC is working with Angel and Mission Hospitals to recruit an OB/GYN provider for Franklin.

County Health Rankings

Ms. Barr presented to the Board, an overview of the current County Health Rankings. These rankings look at all 100 counties in North Carolina. A copy of the report is located at www.countyhealthrankings.org Ms. Barr stated that this information is just a "snapshot in time" and can not compare one year to another since the datasets change from one year to the next.

Child Fatality Team Annual Report

Ms. Garrett, local chair for the Macon County Child Fatality Prevention Team, provided the Board with a copy of the CFPT Annual Report. CFPT review all child deaths for children under the age of 18. Ms. Garrett stated that the CFPT review cases quarterly for the corresponding previous year. The last quarter of 2009 the CFPT reviewed one case; the first quarter of 2010 review was 2 fatalities.

Ms. Garrett stated that the purpose of the CFPT is to: identify deficiencies in the delivery of services to children and families by public agencies; make and carry out recommendations for changes that will prevent future child deaths; and promote understanding of the causes of child deaths.

There are several projects that CFPT are involved in: Operation Pill Crusher; Risky Behavior Program for Students; and Kids Place. Macon County has two new SIDS counselors that work with families in case of SIDS related death. CFPT is educating key agencies and authorities to know how to contact these counselors.

Appointment of Dr. Foley to Macon County Child Fatality Prevention Team

A motion was made by Mr. Winecoff and seconded by Dr. Farley to appoint Dr. Foley as the new physician representative on the Child Fatality Team. All members present were in approval.

Board Training and Information:

Mr. Bruckner made the Board aware of articles that were in the information package this month:

Ground Water Protection: “A Clean Water Primer” Compiled by Linda Block, Clean Water for North Carolina http://gw.ehnr.state.nc.us/ADA_Webpage/PROTECT_ADA.HTM#Trans

Public Health Quality Improvement 101 Open Access: “What it is, and What is it Not” Presented by: NC State University IES; The North Carolina Institute for Public Health and Charlotte AHEC.

May 21, 2011 MCPH Rabies Clinic Schedule

Announcements:

None

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 6:15p.m.

Ms. Swank declared the meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Keener, Coordinator of Health Information for Jim Bruckner, MS, Health Director
Macon County Public Health

Minutes approved May 24, 2011 on a motion by Mr. Winecoff and seconded by Mr. Stevenson. All Board members present were in agreement.