



Macon County
Public Health

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
9/25/2018

Members: Nathan Brenner, Dentist and Chair; Teresa Murray, General Public and Vice-Chair; Melissa Bell, Pharmacist; Jeff Todd, Veterinarian; James Tate, County Commissioner; Julie Farrow, Physician; Mitchell Bishop, Engineer; Gena Futral, General Public

Members Absent: Gena Futral, James Tate

Staff Present: Jim Bruckner, Tammy Keezer, Jennifer Garrett, Kathy McGaha, Jaclyn Mathis, Kelly Pla

Guests: Stephanie Almeida, Stacie Bruckner

Media: Mr. Ryan Hanchett, The Franklin Press; Ms. Kristen Karcher, WNCC Radio

Public Comment: N/A

Call To Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:28 P.M. by Dr. Brenner.

Approve Agenda: Melissa Bell made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Dr. Todd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Welcome/Intro/Departures/Recognition: N/A

Presentations: Stephanie Almeida with Full Circle Recovery and WNCAP (Western North Carolina AIDS Project) presented Mr. Bruckner with an award, naming him Harm Reduction Hero, for the work he has done with her on harm reduction and help in getting grants to bring a different approach to people who use drugs in this county. They just received a \$200K grant to go directly to the western counties to bring some planning to the area for substance abuse. Will allow for three new staff people, an administrator, and enable them to remain open all day.

Dr. Brenner presented Mr. Bruckner with a plaque from the Board members thanking him for his service to the county.

Approve Minute of Previous Meeting: Dr. Todd made a motion to accept the minutes as approved. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Kathy McGaha presented an update on Adult Dental – As of this week, Dr. Elliston has returned as the Adult Dental Contract Dentist. He will be here for 3 weeks, and Physician Solutions will continue to look for a dentist beyond that time. We are continuing to search for a full time dentist; part of it is the struggle with the salary amount. There is a new dental assistant, so with the contract dentist they are fully staffed. Dr. Todd asked at what point do we, as a Board or as County Commissioners, realize that we are not going to fill that position at our price point. Mr. Bruckner told the Board that he presented Derek Roland with a salary study on dentists a couple of months ago and in our region the price point is \$150K, and that there had been some discussion this morning to have the Board go to the commissioners to fix that gap, both for the adult dental and the existing child dentist. It would have to be approved by the county and have to come out of the county budget at this point. The health department already put some money into the dental budget to offset the cost of coverage for this year. The County would have to come up with the rest for an increase in base salary. They're both productive clinics. The revenue with the addition of Cost Settlement exceeds the cost of the program, however, some of those revenues are used to offset costs in other areas

New Business: Jennifer Garrett presented the flu plan for this year. State of the State of Flu shows you how many cases, hospitalizations, and deaths from 2010-2016. The Vaccine components of the 18-19 year were also shared and what is contained in Trivalent vs. Quadrivalent. MCPH has preservative free, high dose (high dose is trivalent), and regular quadrivalent available at present. She explained that Internasal has also made a return to the market, but we did not order any this year. It was taken off the market the last 2 years and the ages for receipt of the vaccine have also changed. Current flu activity: some countries are seeing flu A and some are seeing AH3, and we've heard of an uptick in the NC detect statewide. Have heard there's flu in Macon County, but nothing confirmed. Some A and B statewide and rhinovirus was up slightly in mid-August and now. New this year, the CD branch of DHHS will be reviewing flu outpatient data with syndromic data, it will give us a better picture of what flu activity is coming. Flu positives are not reportable, but flu deaths, outbreaks and novel flus are all reportable. What are we doing this year? Given 145 quad, 10 pres, 17 high dose, and more vaccine came in today. There is a copy of our flu clinic schedule in the BOH book. The first public site will be September 27th at SCC from 9am-1pm. There is also a community clinic scheduled in Highlands. We have some private clinics scheduled that we are obligated to do already and we have left an opening to do another community clinic if we have the capacity. People can check in at the front desk and receive a flu vaccination also with a nurse walk-in appointment.

Kathy McGaha presented on the upcoming Medication Assistance event in the county. Mr. Bruckner offered NC MedAssist the assistance of our health department to bring a mobile pharmacy event to the community. On October 11th residents of our community can come and get OTC medicine free. Several of the MCPH staff will go and help that day. It's estimated that each person will get about \$150 in medicine. There will also offer a screening for reader glasses and skin cancer screening. The sheriff's office will have a medication drop off at same time. The event is free to any community member.

Closed Session: Dr. Brenner made a motion to go into closed session citing a Personnel Matter in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11a(7) and for Mr. Bruckner, Macon County Health Director, to stay in the room. Mr. Todd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Brenner called the meeting back into session at 7:10 p.m.

Mr. Bruckner read the following statement regarding the decision of the Board to appoint and interim Health Director.

Motion to appoint Carmine Rocco as the Interim Health Director for the Macon County Health Department subject to the following express terms and conditions:

A. Such appointment is conditioned upon the Macon County Board of Health first advising the Macon County Board of Commissioners of the same and securing from the Macon County Board of Commission approval of such appointment on such terms and conditions;

B. That the newly appointed Interim Health Director shall begin the appointment to serve as Interim Health Director for Macon County, North Carolina effective October 1, 2018, and report to work at the Macon County Health Department on October 2, 2018. He shall serve at the pleasure of the Macon County Board of Health and if not sooner terminated from such appointment by the Macon County Board of Health within its discretion, the newly appointed Interim Health Director's appointment shall end upon the Macon County Board of Health hiring a new Health Director;

C. That the newly appointed Interim Health Director shall be work 32 hours per week between Mondays through Fridays and shall be paid the sum of \$75.00 per hour for work performed for the Macon County Health Department after arrival at the Macon County Health Department;

D. That the newly appointed Interim Health Director resides in Haywood County, North Carolina, and will be paid mileage reimbursement for his miles traveled to and from the Macon County Health Department from his residence as well as other travels on behalf of the Macon County Health Department at the State of North Carolina Mileage Reimbursement Rate; and

E. That there shall be an employment contract prepared between the Macon County Board of Health and the newly appointed Interim Health Director that is consistent with the foregoing terms and conditions and which is approved by the Macon County Attorney. Upon approval by the Macon County Attorney, the Chairman of the Macon County Board of Health is hereby authorized to execute such contract on behalf of the Macon County Board of Health.

Board Training and Information: N/A

Announcements: N/A

Next Meeting Date: 10/23/2018

Adjourn: Teresa Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Todd seconded the motion. The motioned passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.