MACON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
May 27, 2014

Members Present: Russell Stevenson – Chair, Frank Killian MD - Vice-Chairman, Teresa Murray, Emily Bowers Nathan Brenner DDS, Sheila Price RN & Roy Lenzo DVM.

Absent: Frederick Berger MD, Molly Phillips, Stacy Shannon Pharm. D, and Commissioner Paul Higdon

Staff Present: Jim Bruckner, Becky Barr, Jimmy Villiard, Kathy McGaha, Tammy Keezer, Tonya Hodgings, Kyle Jennings, Jennifer Garrett & Charlene Bellavance.

Public Comment: There were no members of the public present.

Media: There were no members of the press in attendance.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Stevenson.

Approve Agenda: Mr. Bruckner asked to add a presentation for E-Cigarettes by Becky Barr, new business for lab service discussion and old business Kyle Jennings will be giving the Rabies update in place of Barry Patterson. A motion was made by Dr. Killian and seconded by Emily Bowers to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Welcome/Intro/Departures/Recognition:

Mr. Bruckner congratulated Jennifer Garrett on her appointment as the new Nursing Supervisor in place of Missy Moffitt.

Presentations:

Legislative action regarding ENDS products: Ms. Barr gave a report discussing the use and taxation of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, Or ENDS products. Ms. Barr explained that there are a variety of products and that offerings have extended beyond electronic cigarettes. Due to lack of current regulations on the products, there are no labeling guidelines, warning guidelines, or restrictions on marketing like the tobacco industry must adhere to. Ms. Barr gave a brief update on how the products work, the possible risks associated with the products, and current marketing practices. Ms. Barr discussed the provisions of NC House Bill 1050. The bill proposes a very low taxation rate of 5 cents per 1 milliliter on the nicotine liquid. 1 ml of the nicotine liquid is roughly equivalent to the nicotine found in 1 pack of cigarettes, which is taxed at 45 cents per pack. Ms. Barr also reported that recent amendments to the bill have changed the definition of the ENDS products from “vapor products” to “tobacco products” and that a second amendment has been accepted which will allow future FDA regulation, if the FDA is ever allowed to regulate. The bill has been forwarded to the Senate for consideration.

Child Fatality Prevention Report: Ms. Garrett referred the members to the handout in their packets. She indicated that the team has been working with the state to provide suicide information based on the results of the report. The team made recommendations based on the reviews and all of the accidental deaths were treated in the appropriate manner. The team
continues to keep the Safe Surrender Law as their primary focus. The Child Fatality and Substance Abuse Task Force are working together on Project Lazarrus. It is a grant to try to get help for people that may be at high risk for prescription or drug overdose. The Child Fatality and Substance Abuse Task Force are also looking at partnering to bring in the “Bedroom Project” which demonstrates to parents the ways that youth can abuse and hide prescription meds. Another project that Child Fatality is considering is to provide a social media training for parents. Mr. Stevenson asked if they were able to connect social media to bullying. Ms. Garrett reported that there was a connection to social media and bullying in both parents of other children and also of child bullying child. A copy of Ms. Garrett’s report is attached to these minutes.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings: Dr. Killian indicated the time the meeting was called to order should be changed from 7:27 to 6:27. A motion was made by Dr. Killian and seconded by Dr. Brenner to approve the minutes of April 29, 2014 meeting as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Budget Update: Ms. Hodgins referred the members to the report of expenditures and revenue in their packets. She indicated that we were under the projected spending for the year to date. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes. Mr. Stevenson asked how our dental revenue was at this time. Mr. Bruckner indicated that our adult dental numbers were a little below what they have been in the past but that we have not yet received our Medicaid Cost Settlement dollars. He expects that we will end up meeting our projected revenue by the fiscal year end.

Rabies Clinic Update: Mr. Jennings referred the members to the report of total rabies vaccines given from 1992 to 2014. He indicated that the numbers were down at the May clinic due to several factors. Mr. Stevenson asked if the increased fee to $10.00 may have been a determining factor. Mr. Jennings indicated it was hard to say at this time as this was the first clinic at the new fee.

Update Dental QI: Ms. McGaha reported that Blue Cross & Blue Shield is partnering with the Center for Quality in Public Health and our dental program has been awarded the grant. We have representatives from both the child dental and adult dental programs on the team. They have been provided assessment results of their business plans for both clinics and they are working on making both programs as efficient as possible. The team has participated in QI training with a facilitator from NC State. This facilitator will be coming to Macon County Public Health to help with a Kaizen project. The Baby Oral Health Program & the Prenatal Oral Health Program are workshops on how to engage children in oral health and treatment.

New Business:

NCALHD Legal Conference Update: Ms. Keezer indicated that the yearly legal update for health directors was held in April and she attended along with Mr. Bruckner. She referred the members to the handout in their packets. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes. Ms. Keezer presented/reviewed all everything in the handout with the Board. A short discussion of several of the topics covered followed the presentation. Mr. Bruckner covered several legislative items that were discussed at the legal conference. He referred the members to the handout in their packets. He presented a brief explanation of each of the bills in their packet including the impact these bills could have on local public health. Mr. Bruckner asked the members if there were questions and there were none.

QI Projects Update: Ms. McGaha reported that we have a project team for Coordinated Medical Provider Outreach. They are focusing on educating the providers on the services that we provide and also how to get referrals from them to us for our services. The positive Feedback Committee is focused on how we can collect positive stories that can be shared with different groups like the Board of Health or even used for marketing. We are piloting some tools in the agency to collect this information. She reported that she collected three positive responses in one week. The most recent project is in connection to scheduling. This committee is focusing on the best way to fill appointment slots to make sure we are making the best use of our PA & nurses time. It will also help to improve the generation of revenue.

Laboratory Services: Mr. Bruckner indicated that he has a meeting with Angel Medical Center Administration (CEO, COO and Lab Director) in regard to a short term management contract for laboratory services. They will also be discussing the possibility of a joint health department and outpatient hospital lab collaboration. Mr. Bruckner asked the board for permission to discuss these options with the hospital. A motion was made by Ms. Bowers and seconded by Dr.
Lenzo to approve a discussion between Macon County Public Health and Angel Medical Center regarding lab service options. There were six affirmative votes with Ms. Price abstaining.

**Update Community Health Assessment:** This item was postponed until the next meeting.

**MERS Update:** Mr. Villiard stated that the virus was identified in Saudi Arabia back in September of 2012. The first and second confirmed cases in the US were this month. Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome is a Coronavirus. Case fatality rate is approximately 30% of confirmed, symptomatic patients. It is a concern to the CDC due to the large number of travelers that may be returning from countries where confirmed cases of the virus have been reported. A copy of Mr. Villiard’s report is attached to these minutes.

**Board Training and Information:** The members were referred to the handouts in their packets: NC Medical Journal Article written by Mr. Bruckner and Ms. Barr published this month titled - Data-Driven Population Health: Collaboration Between MCPH and Community Hospitals; and additional legislative updates. Mr. Bruckner asked the Board Members to take some time to read them and if they had questions to give him a call.

**Announcements:** Mr. Bruckner announced that they have requested that the Board of Commissioners re-appoint Russell Stevenson, Dr. Brenner and Dr. Berger for additional three year terms beginning July 1, 2014. He thanked them for their willingness to continue to serve the community as Board of Health members.

**Next Meeting Date:** May 27, 2014

**Adjourn** – A motion to adjourn was made at 8:12 by Dr. Killian and seconded by Ms. Bowers. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Bellavance

These minutes were approved on June 24, 2014 with a motion by Ms. Bowers and seconded by Dr. Killian. The motion passed unanimously.