

**Buncombe County Department of Health  
Board Minutes  
May 10, 2012**

The Buncombe County Board of Health held the April Meeting at 200 College St., on April 10, 2012.

**Board Members Present:** Susanne Swanger, Dr. John Whitener, Dr. Richard Oliver, Dr. Bart Martin, L.C. Ray, Bill McElrath, Winnie Zeigler Suzanne Malloy, Dr. David McClain and Linda Morgan.

**Health Staff Present:** Eddie Shook, Nelle Gregory, Jennifer Mullendore, Julie Montanea, Rich Munger, Linda Tettambel, Lisa Eby, Karan Smith, Sue Ellen Morrison, Ellis Vaughn, Susan Creed, Deya Ramos, Gaylen Ehrlichman, Marian Arledge, Terri March, Christina McEntee, Tim Rhodes, Rob Merrill, Kelly McDonald and Terri Rogers.

Board of Health Chair, Ms. Swanger called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**DISCUSSION & REVISION OF PROPOSED AGENDA/ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Swanger shared that Health Director Gibbie Harris would not be present at this meeting and that Eddie Shook will be standing in for her. Ms. Swanger does have a change in the agenda of removing the Directory Report of State Budget Concerns and suggested to move up the Outbreak Update to after the approval of minutes and asked if there were any revisions to the agenda, with no other revisions a motion was made to accept the changes by Dr. Oliver and seconded by Ms. Zeigler.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the Board of Health Meeting on April 10, 2012 are in the packets. Ms. Swanger presented the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Dr. Oliver and seconded by Ms. Peterson. Motion passed and minutes approved.

**OUTBREAK UPDATE**

Eddie Shook began with thanking each staff that had a part in working on the salmonella outbreak. This particular outbreak began on Feb 28<sup>th</sup> with the investigation and confirmed a positive salmonella lab test. Between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> there were a total of 12 positive cases, then in mid April another 10 cases surfaced with a total of 46 on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Disease Control staff began from the start by interviewing each individual and filing out pages of questions to see what common factors were and how these cases could possibly be linked and with many hours committed to this it was determined that “Tempeh” was a common link.

Health & Human Services staff were also appreciated during the outbreak, they assisted with workers at some of the eating establishments that were out of work during the investigation, when they don’t work, then they don’t get paid. These people were given gift cards to use while not working.

The company that makes the tempeh voluntarily stopped production of the product and began pulling it from all vendors. It had been determined that the culture product was the cause of the outbreak.

Sue Ellen Morrison, Disease Control Public Health Nurse Supervisor shared with more detail to the Board how the process began and has continued around the clock with staff and the commitment involved in this perfect example of what public health really is.

Gaylen Ehrlichman, Community Health Promotions Public Health Educator shared what communications developed on an ever changing almost daily as to how to let the public and media know of this outbreak. What to do as far as reporting symptoms, how to properly clean and prepare foods, etc. Along with that work the media from all over NC and SC were calling in to get interviews

with our Health Director for even more information. Gaylen said the amazing work performed by Gibbie Harris is something that our staff and the Board should be very proud of, without her knowledge and experience in public health we would have not been so fortunate to do so well during this event.

### **QUESTION and ANSWER MONTHLY REPORTS:**

#### **Financial Report**

The expenditure report shows we are at 83.33% of the way into the budget year. The grand totals for expenditures are at 85.27%. The expenditures are right on track with the budget. The revenues are actually below target, it is not yet known when the Medicaid Cost Settlement will be in and it will be done by percentages which currently are not available to us, Jim Holland is hoping that by the June meeting we will know more.

#### **HR Report**

No HR Report this month everything is quiet in human resources for health.

#### **Performance Analysis Review**

There is a new PAR in the packets. This PAR report will be used from here on and is full of Health and Human Services reporting areas along with Behavioral Health. There is a section that will be for special events or projects each month as Breaking News events or updates. We hope that you will look at this new report and let us know of your thoughts and or suggestions.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **FY 2013 Budget** - Jim Holland

This budget was presented to the board last month for review.

A motion was made by Mr. Ray to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Dr. Whitener. Ms. Peterson abstained from the vote. All others were in favor, motion passed. Jim Holland said that this budget will now be presented to the County Commissioners for approval.

#### **Billing Guide** – Jim Holland

The FY 2013 Billing Guide is included in the packets for the Board. Mr. McElrath asked how Buncombe County Department of Health compared to other counties in the billing aspect. Jim said we are right in line and are at the 90% Medicaid rate and only charge a small administrative fee for certain services.

A motion was made by Dr. Oliver to approve the Billing Guide for FY 2013, seconded by Mr. Ray. Ms. Peterson abstained for the vote. All other were in favor, motion passed.

#### **Policy for Community Involvement in Public Health**

Gaylen Ehrlichman shared the policy with the board that covers the Community Involvement in Public Health. This policy has change very little but has changed the CHA cycle, changed the mission of the BCDH and added a reference to accreditation.

A motion was made by Ms. Zeigler to approve policy on Community Involvement in Public Health, seconded by Dr. McClain. All in favor, motion passed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Healthy Buncombe Update**- Terri March

A Healthy Buncombe Update presentation was given. Terri March shared goals that are underway in Buncombe County that will help with the obesity in the community. One out of three children and two out of three adults are overweight or obese in the nation. A cost of 190.2 billion dollars is estimated costs annually that relate to obesity related medical issues. The areas that need improvement are Physical Activity, Food and Beverage consumption, Marketing of Food and Beverages, Health Care and Workplace programs and School programs. Five solutions for changing the community are

integrating physical activities, Activate employers and Health Care Providers, Strengthening schools, Marketing of what matters for a healthy lifestyle and Making healthy foods available everywhere.

Currently in Buncombe County there is a project in the works that will develop sidewalks in the Emma community to assist children to walk to the school. This is being done by a grant and coordination with the DOT and Buncombe County Schools.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comments

**DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Eddie Shook shared a brief update about the recent Exotic Pet issue that was in the media. This involved a Monkey that was a pet of a homeowner that got loose and bit people in the neighborhood. An order was done by the Health Director to have the monkey tested for rabies. As in past issues with exotic animals, there are many that are not candidates for the rabies vaccine. This monkey is one of the exotic pets that fall into that category.

**CHAIR COMMENT:**

Ms. Swanger thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next Board of Health Meeting will be June 14, 2012.

A motion was made by Ms. Swanger to Adjourn, seconded by, Dr. Oliver, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Gibbie Harris, Secretary

Adopted:

Susanne Swanger, Chair