

PENDER COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
March 14,2013

The Pender County Board of Health held a regular meeting on Thursday March 14,2013 at 5:00p.m. in the conference room of the Pender County Health Department.

Board Members Attending: Mr. Jimmy Holland Ms. Jan Dawson
Mr. George Brown Mrs. Kimberly Collins
Mr. Jack Swann Pammela Baker

Board Members Absent: Dr. Michael Cherubini
Jewell Horton,Excused
Darlene Lewis,Excused

Health Department Staff Attending:Carolyn Moser, Pender County Health Director
Shirley Steele,Director of Nursing
Lora *Imes*, Administrative Assistant II

Guest: Trey Thurman, County Attorney

Meeting called to order by Mr. Holland at 5:06p.m.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Agenda: Ms. Dawson motioned for approval of the agenda and Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Dawson made a motion for the minutes to be approved and Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Closed Session Pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11,(3),(4)

The board went into closed session to discuss contracts and personnel. Mr. Thurman was asked to attend. After the closed session,the board resumed the regular meeting.

Action Items:

Annual Review and Approval of Health Director's Job Description: The board reviewed the health director's job description. A discussion was held regarding changes that would need to be made if the county chose to consolidate human services. Mr. Brown made the motion to accept the job description. Ms. Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- >- **Review and Approval of Proposed FY 13/14 Budget:** Ms. Moser presented an overview of the health department budget to be presented to the commissioners for approval. The board reviewed the handouts. The budget was created according to the county manager's instructions, with no salary increases included. Ms. Moser noted that Medicaid reimbursement estimates were decreased based on the uncertainty of the Division of Medicaid's direction under the new administration. Ms. Dawson made the motion to accept the proposed budget and Ms. Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- >- **Cost Settlement Funds:** Ms. Moser provided an overview of a handout *Cost Settlement 101* for the board to consider. The health department received over \$650,000 in Medicaid Cost Settlement dollars. These funds must be placed in the programs they were earned in (i.e.-child health revenues must be placed in the child health line item budget). Ms. Moser met with Erik Harvey, IT Director and Butch Watch, Finance Director regarding these funds. With the purchase of CureMD, electronic medical record, the county's IT infrastructure needs improvements. Ms. Moser asked the board to approve over \$300,000 to be spent in this endeavor. While meeting the need of the health department, these funds would also have a positive impact on the overall county IT system. Ms. Dawson made the motion to approve the plan to fund IT needs and Ms. Collins seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items:

- >- **Maple Hill Project Collaborative:** Ms. Moser described the state's health promotion and chronic disease prevention efforts that are occurring. The health department received additional health promotion funding. Ms. Moser met with Kyle Breuer, Planning Director, Shirley Steele, DON, Dee Turner, Parks and Recreation, and health education staff at the health department to review needs across the county and ways to address chronic disease. Utilizing prioritization factors such as poverty, race, mortality rates for stroke, heart disease and diabetes, the Maple Hill community had the highest scores in relation to need. In 2010, a community plan for Maple Hill noted that residents were interested in a walking trail. The community is involved in the planning stages and the health department plans to participate in a collaborative manner with the community, volunteers, and other county departments to proceed with trail development utilizing health promotion funds. The board reviewed the community statistics and agreed this was a great opportunity. Ms. Moser plans to present this project to commissioners in one of their upcoming meetings.

Informational Items:

Electronic Medical Record, CureMD: Ms. Moser stated the health department is moving toward implementation of the electronic record. This has required a great deal of coordination between the health department and the IT Department but all is going well.

"Get Alarmed" Grant: Amanda Barbee, RN, Health Educator and a volunteer firefighter from Rocky Point are to begin installation of smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors next week.

National Public Health Week: Public Health Week is April-7, 2013. The theme is Return on Investment. For every dollar spent in public health, there is \$5.60 in health benefits. Public health saves money and saves lives. The health department is planning a staff picnic lunch for Friday, April 5th to celebrate.

Other:

Change of Meeting Date for May: Ms. Moser requested the board change the May meeting from May 9th to May 2nd as she will be attending the Eastern North Carolina Public Health Association meeting at that time. The board agreed to the change. The meeting time will remain at 5:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

Next meeting: May 2, 2013 at 5:00 pm

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The board voted unanimously to go into closed session per the request of Carolyn Moser, **Closed Session Pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11, (3), (4)**. Closed session was held to discuss contracts and personnel. Mr. Thurman was asked to attend.

1. Prenatal Contract with Dr. Joseph Cooper was discussed. Ms. Moser had chosen to discontinue this contract and obtain similar services with Coastal Southeastern Health Education Center. Residents from this agency currently deliver the health department's prenatal clients. Dr. Cooper does not deliver. He recently lost hospital privileges at New Hanover Regional. Ms. Moser felt it was in the best interest of the health department to end the contract, resulting in some discord with Dr. Cooper. The new contract saves the health department over \$20,000 per year. The board expressed support for Ms. Moser's actions and how the situation had been handled.
2. The Janice Canady administrative court hearing related to her dismissal was held on February 14, 2013. Attorney Trey Thurman presented the hearing process and the arguments by the county and by Ms. Canady's attorney. There were concerns about how the judge would proceed with a ruling. Ms. Canady requests back pay and her job back. There is always the potential of losing this case and Ms. Moser requested the board decide how to proceed if that were to occur. After a lengthy discussion regarding the pros and cons of suggesting a settlement, the board voted unanimously to contest a ruling in Ms. Canady's favor. Mr. Thurman expected there would be a ruling in April. Ms. Moser will keep the board apprised. The board voted to return to open session.