



Macon County
Public Health

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
July 23, 2013**

Members Present: Russell Stevenson - Chair, Frank Killian MD, Roy Lenzo DVM, Frederick Berger MD, Stacy Shannon, Molly Phillips, Teresa Murray, Emily Bowers & Sheila Price RN.

Absent: Paul Higdon & David Silverstein DDS,

Staff Present: Jim Bruckner, Tammy Keezer, Becky Barr, Jimmy Villiard, Barry Patterson, Diane Keener and Charlene Bellavance.

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

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stevenson at 6:18.

Approve Agenda: A motion was made by Dr. Killian and seconded by Stacy Shannon to add the minutes of June 25th for approval under “Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings”. The motion passed unanimously.

Welcome/Intro/Departures/Recognition: Mr. Stevenson welcomed Teresa Murray, Sheila Price and Emily Bowers as the newest board of health members and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Presentations: None

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings: A motion was made by Ms. Phillips and seconded by Dr. Killian to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 28th, 2013 as submitted. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Dr. Killian and seconded by Dr. Berger to approve the minutes of June 25th, 2013 as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Budget Update: Ms. Hodgins referred everyone to the handout in their packet and asked if anyone had any questions. She indicated that the shortfall for both expenditures and revenue was primarily due to the Community Transformation Grant. Ms. Price asked for an explanation of what the CTG grant was. Mr. Bruckner gave a brief overview of what the grant involved and indicated that the money the state allocated to us for this grant was not all spent so the remaining funds revert back to the CDC. The grant is overseen by the eight health directors in the western region.

Accreditation Update: Mr. Bruckner indicated that the accreditation review committee arrived this afternoon. They were taken on a tour of the agency as well as the Adult Dental Clinic and the Molar Roller. He told the board about the credentials of the individuals on the committee and let them know they would be here through Thursday the 25th. He indicated that the biggest change to the accreditation process would be that we would not know if we passed or failed until we received the accreditation review team's recommendation sometime in the next ten days. However, we will not know the official results until the next meeting of the state accreditation board scheduled for December 20, 2013. Mr. Stevenson asked what the issues were if we did not pass the accreditation process. Mr. Bruckner indicated that we have ten days from when we receive the accreditation team's recommendation to provide additional evidence regarding any areas for improvement. If the new information is still not acceptable, then we will have an opportunity to address the accreditation Board at their December meeting.

Mr. Stevenson mentioned to the new members that if they are participants on other community boards or committees, that the information may be useful in meeting benchmarks for the accreditation process in the future and they should advise Ms. Bellavance so she can add them to their list.

Possible State Budget Cuts: Mr. Bruckner explained that he had not had the opportunity to review the changes received this past Monday due to accreditation preparation. He did indicate that there were several proposed cuts; however, he did not think these cuts would significantly impact our agency at this time. Dr. Berger asked how our reimbursement rate from Medicaid was affected by the Affordable Care Act changes as he was hearing from community providers that there were delays in claims payments to providers. Mr. Bruckner indicated Medicaid was approximately 25 percent of our budgeted revenues for next year and that we were experiencing a lot of the same challenges as private practices.

Private Well Drillers Program Update: Mr. Patterson updated the new members regarding the lead in wells study the environmental health section is involved in. Mr. Patterson stated that he, Mr. Bruckner and several of his staff had a meeting July 10th with staff from DENR and DPH and the meeting went very well. Mr. Stevenson advised the board members that they should be communicating and advocating for the board of health and telling people they know to have their well water tested annually. Dr. Lenzo thanked Mr. Patterson and his staff for being diligent and bringing this problem to the forefront and prompting the state to respond to correct the problem. The meeting with the state representatives was in response to the letter the Board requested Mr. Bruckner send to the state DPH and a face-to-face meeting Mr. Bruckner had with the State Environmental Health Director. This was instrumental in the organization of the principals who needed to be in attendance for this meeting. Next steps include:

1. Continue working on technical study and data development – Form a technical review committee with staff from DENR (DWQ), DHP (EH & EPI sections), regional DWQ and DPH staff, Well Commission staff, and local EH specialists. DWQ, Landon Davidson to work on a standard sampling procedure to be used in further researching the issue. DPH, Dr. Ken Rudo - objective for this group should be: Develop a consistent sampling criteria; and conduct a study to obtain/further develop evidence necessary to pursue legislative change related to eliminating from use any lead containing components in the construction of drinking water wells. Develop communications tools – what and how we most effectively communicate to the drillers, administrators, and the public.
2. DWQ, to work with Attorney General's Office to obtain an opinion on existing 2C rules and the use of lead containing components (which don't currently meet federal requirements for drinking water systems) in well construction.
3. DPH EH, Layton Long to contact California for history of this type of legislation. To work on developing correct statutory language to eliminate confusion and assure compliance and enforce?

Mr. Bruckner emailed the notes from the meeting to those who attended for review and when he gets a response from the state he will forward those on to the members of the board of health.

Mr. Stevenson asked where the department was with regard to the old Franklin landfill property. Mr. Bruckner and Mr. Patterson informed the Board they were continuing to work with the county regarding this property. After a short discussion by the Board a motion was made by Dr. Lenzo to request that the County Manager, County Attorney, Chris Stahl and Chairmen of the Board of County Commissioner attend a future meeting of the Board of Health to discuss the old landfill. The motion was seconded by Dr. Berger. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Billing Guide & Fees: Ms. Hodgins referred the members to the draft copy of the billing guide in their packets, noting the changes were indicated by yellow highlight. She stated that the biggest change was in connection to family planning patient billing. We are now required to ask for proof of income from these patients and if they cannot provide proof they will be full pay. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Killian and seconded by Ms. Price to approve the billing guide as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hodgins referred the members to the updated fee plan in their packets noting the changes in red. The main changes being made at this time were the addition of codes for reporting purposes. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Berger and seconded by Ms. Porter-Bowers to approve the fee plan as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Bad Debt Write-Off: Ms. Hodgins requested the board's approval to write off \$10,636 of outstanding account balances. These clients have been delinquent since before August of 2010. Most of the accounts have been submitted to a collection agency and they have had no success in collecting this money. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Phillips and seconded by Dr. Berger to approve the bad debt write off as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

NCTracks: Ms. Keener reported that we now have a new billing system for Medicaid. However, we have not been able to bill this month. She stated that the pilot counties have received some reimbursement and that we sent in a sample test few days ago, but we won't know until Monday whether or not our test billing was processed. She told the Board that once this system is working we will begin processing approximately \$77,000 in claims for July.

Board Training and Information: Mr. Stevenson requested that the board members update their notebooks with the new list of members & updated schedule which was included in their packets.

Announcements: The September Board meeting will be held at the Environmental Services Building.

Mr. Bruckner mentioned that Mr. Horton has submitted his resignation to be effective September 1, 2013.

Next Meeting Date: August 27, 2013

Adjourn – A motion was made by Dr. Killian and seconded by Ms. Phillips to adjourn the meeting at 7:30. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bellavance

These minutes were approved on September 24, 2013 with a motion by Dr. Killian and seconded by Dr. Silverstein. The motion passed unanimously.