



Macon County  
Public Health

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES  
July 26, 2011**

**Members Present:** Roberta Swank - Chair, Russell Stevenson - Vice Chair, David Silverstein DDS, Frank Killian MD, Commissioner Brian McClellan, S. Douglas Egge MD, Roy Lenzo DVM, and Ron Winecoff

**Staff Present:** Jim Bruckner, Jimmy Villiard DVM, Tammy Keezer, Diane Keener, Tonya Hodgins, & Charlene Bellavance

**Media:** None

**Guests:** None

**Public Comment Session:** Ms. Swank, Board Chair asked if anyone wished to address the Board. No one responded.

**Call to Order:** Ms. Swank called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm.

**Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Bruckner requested that an addition be made to the Agenda to include under Old Business – Environmental Health Online Payments, and under New Business – La Crosse Encephalitis. The agenda was approved with the addition on a motion by Mr. Stevenson and seconded by Mr. Winecoff. All Board members present were in agreement.

**Welcome/Introductions/Departures/Recognition:**

Mr. Bruckner recognized Stan Polanski, who was not able to be present, for receiving his certification for Colposcopy from the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology.

Mr. Bruckner recognized Diane Keener for completing her certificate for Health Informatics.

Dr. Egge was introduced by chair, Roberta Swank and thanked for serving.

**Presentations**

Ms. Hodgins gave an update of the budget referring to a handout in the board packets. The expenditures for 10-11 came in under budget. Our revenues for 10-11 were slightly under what had been projected for the year. The projected expenditures for 11-12 are currently under the anticipated amount. Revenues collected so far for July are very slim due to funds that have not come in yet from State funding. Mr. Bruckner indicated that \$92,000 of revenue was taken from FY 10-11 and applied retroactively to FY 09-10 by county finance. Mr. Bruckner spoke with Ms. Evelyn Southard, County Finance Officer, today regarding this matter and advised her state contract addenda doesn't support this and therefore should not happen again this year.

## **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: June 28, 2011**

A motion was made by Commissioner McClellan and second by Mr. Winecoff to accept the minutes of the June 28, 2011 meeting as submitted. All Board members present were in agreement.

### **Old Business**

**Update on Dentist Position-** Dr. Villiard informed the Board that we were able to cover every day but one in the clinic so far this month. Dr. Council has agreed to work two days under his current contract. We still have three days that we do not have a dentist. We have an applicant that is a possibility but he would not be available until November.

Ms. Keezer presented a spreadsheet showing the advertising the department has been doing in the attempt to recruit a dentist. From this we have received 8 applicants. We had 3 applicants that were asking for loan forgiveness and another that was referred. Another applicant was offered the position with moving expenses and she decided, due to personal reasons, she could not accept the offer. There are still several active ads as well as the employment security website and the county website. These are free so they will not expire until they are filled. Dr. Villiard suggested we may want to consider posting the position in the American Dental Association magazine. Dr. Silverstein also suggested that the Western Carolina Dental Society may also be a good resource.

There has been conversation with Mr. Jack Horton County Manager regarding loan forgiveness for the applicants. He is willing to discuss a compromise to help entice applicants but so far we have not found the right combination for the right person.

A suggestion was made that a letter be sent to local dentists asking if they might be willing to work a day once a month or so.

**On Line Billing** – It was mentioned at the last meeting that we would like to offer clients the availability to pay bills on line with a credit card. Ms. Keezer informed the Board that the only other facility in the area that has this type of system is the tax office. We would like our system to be as simple as possible. Any decisions that are made regarding this would have to be approved by the county finance officer and the Board of County Commissioners. There are fees involved and the tax office is passing these off on the client. The county has not budgeted to consume these fees so we would also have to pass these off to the clients. Guilford County has a model for this technology that looks good but we might have to duplicate a lot of information in order to make this a feasible option. Wachovia Bank has this technology and because the county uses this bank for their financial needs Ms. Keezer suggested this might be a good place to start. We are currently taking credit card information over the phone for food permits and it was suggested that this would make it much easier for those vendors that are coming to town for a particular event that are not from this area. The potential is there for high volume use.

### **New Business**

**Changes in Cost Settlement – Fee Changes -Sliding Fee Scale** – Mr. Bruckner informed the Board that there will be some significant changes in the statewide Medicaid aggregate cost settlement for Public Health. Settlements will be with individual health departments in the future. They are looking at the base rate with an enhancement. Medicaid is saying we can charge between 1% and 5% differential above the Medicaid rate. We are looking to change our rates so they are more in line with what they are suggesting so we can continue to qualify for the cost settlement.

**Health Director Annual Performance Review** – Ms. Swank mentioned that she would like to meet with the committee that was set up for this before the August meeting. She suggested they discuss a date and time after the meeting.

**Board Training and Accreditation** – Mr. Bruckner informed the Board that as part of the accreditation process the state contracts to do training for the county's Boards of Health. UNC now has the contract for this training. Three counties here in the west challenged the requirement that this was the only training that would qualify for

accreditation. The state Health Directors office agrees with the three counties. Training must be conducted; however the individual county is responsible for conducting it.

**Technology – Electronic Health Record** – Mr. Bruckner informed the Board that there is a push to move toward electronic health records by 2014 in order to qualify for Medicare and Medicaid payment. This is a federal mandate. We have been trying to work with HIS for this technology but they have not been forthcoming. It has been decided that we would start pursuing other avenues if HIS did not contract within a short period of time. Whatever system is selected it is required that it meet the meaningful use requirements.

**La Crosse Encephalitis** – The first recorded case this year was a child in Macon County. Dr. Villiard suggested we publish something locally advising how to prevent mosquito bites. Less than 1% of cases are fatal.

**Board Training and Information**

Mr. Bruckner referred the board members to the handouts in their packets that list Powers and Duties of a Local Board of Health and Powers and Duties of the Local Health Director.

**Announcements**

Mr. Bruckner encouraged all members of the board to attend the Community Assessment Meeting on August 24, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m. to 1:00. It will be held at the new Macon Bank.

**Next Meeting Date:** August 23, 2011

**Adjourn** Ms. Swank declared the meeting was adjourned at 7:30

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bellavance, Administrative Assistant to Jim Bruckner, MSHS, Health Director  
Macon County Public Health

Minutes approved August 23, 2011 with a motion from Mr. McClellan, seconded by Mr. Winecoff. All members present were in agreement.