

**Buncombe County Department of Health  
Integrated Board Minutes  
July 23, 2010**

The Buncombe County Integrated Board held its Semi Annual meeting at the First Baptist Church at 5 Oak St., Asheville, NC on July 23, 2010.

**Department of Health Board Members Present:** Dr. Richard Oliver, Bill McElrath, Dr. David McClain, Carol Peterson, Mike Goodson, L.C. Ray, Dr. Bart Martin, Susanne Swanger, Linda Morgan and Gibbie Harris.

**Department of Social Services Board Members Present:** Bill McElrath, Dr. David McClain, L.C. Ray, Susanne Swanger, Travis Durham and Mandy Stone.

**Staff Present:** Julie Montanea, Erin Henderlight, Dr. Yancey, Eddie Shook, Nelle Gregory, Lisa Eby, Jim Holland, Angie Pittman, Christina Papesh, Amy Harmon, Terri Rogers and Celeste Landel.

Chair, Dr. Oliver called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 10, 2010 Meeting were reviewed. Dr. Oliver asked that the minutes reflect that the Operating Procedures state that they were not approved by the Board until they have been reviewed by the County Attorney Michael Frue. Susanne Swanger moved to accept this change, with all in favor. The minutes of the June Meeting will be placed on the August meeting agenda.

Mr. McElrath, Chair for the Dept. of Social Services board read aloud the following:

*In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict.*

He asked the Boards if anyone in attendance had a conflict. Mr. McElrath also noted that the agenda had an adjustment. Angie Pittman will be speaking about the Human Services Strategic Plan Direction in place of Ms. Stone.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**FY10 Year in Review-Gibbie Harris**

**Accomplishments**

Ms. Harris shared many of the highlighted accomplishments from 2010 for the Department of Health. Buncombe County government honored the H1N1 Team as the year's Most Outstanding Team and Karen Caldwell (Project ASSIST Public Health Educator) as the Most Outstanding Professional. We distributed 10,393 H1N1 vaccine doses to 73 community partner agencies plus administered 7,686 H1N1 vaccinations in schools, on-site clinics, shopping center events, and through outreach to child care providers, homeless shelters, local confinement facilities, and the judicial system. Managed and accounted for \$700,000 in federal H1N1 funds.

The BCCCP department screened over 1400 uninsured low-income women through BCCCP program and diagnosed 37 breast or cervical cancers; clients enrolled in BCCCP Medicaid and entered into treatment.

This year the State of North Carolina enacted the "Smoke-Free Restaurants and Bars Law" after years of counties' education and advocacy. BCDH has educated local businesses and the public on the new law and established an enforcement system. Buncombe County and City of Asheville buildings and grounds are now smoke-free.

In the past year the BCDH implemented a nationally acclaimed Nurse Family Partnership program offering comprehensive and collaborative long-term support to at-risk first time mothers and reached the target enrollment of 100 women within first 9 months operations. The first data will be out in August for this programs first 6 months of operation.

The Department of Health in Buncombe County ranked #1 in North Carolina on immunization rates for 2-year olds, at 99% for BCDH clients and 53% countywide. We also administered seasonal flu vaccine to 50% of all K-5 students (7,299 vaccinations) on-site at all elementary schools.

This year the department also had the implementation of the transition of Primary Care patients that are now having services offered by Western North Carolina Community Health Services (WNCCHS).

These are just the highlights of many other accomplishments that the staff at the Department of Health have made with the diligent work conducted for the citizens of Buncombe County in the past year.

### **Challenges**

We have some challenges ahead of us for the upcoming year. The State budget is one of them and not knowing at this point what will or will not affect Public Health we are staying on top of things as the issues arise dealing with funding and budgets. Developing new partnerships that are strategic and effective for improving community health is a challenge for us in 2011 also.

Relocating our service locations due to impending construction of the current location that we are housed at, will be a challenge for staff in maintaining cohesiveness, assuring continuity of client care and communication with the residents and community partners that they don't forego any need of public services.

Our Clinical Services Division is going to be developing a collaborative community system of prenatal care for pregnant women and working with local medical practices to assure all children full access to immunizations in light of changes in the NC Immunization Program that restrict state-supplied vaccine for required child immunizations.

The Community Health Services Division is going to be sustaining and growing Nurse Family Partnership in tight budget times; keeping NFP clients enrolled in and connected with community resources, especially with BCDH programs moving to multiple sites.

Continuing School-Based Health Center services at three sites with a decrease in clinician and clerical hours that resulted from a loss of funding for school-based centers by the NC Division of Public Health is an additional challenge for 2011.

We are expanding WIC with 3 new community sites and assuring clients know where to go for their WIC services.

To coincide with our Rabies policy we will work with municipalities to raise awareness of rabies and better coordinate control and response measures, while respecting jurisdictional differences in animal control laws.

Getting the training for Environmental Health staff on new FDA Model Food Code, in preparation for adoption in FY2012 is another challenge.

We will be updating the comprehensive All Hazard Plan to reflect changes in BCDH service locations.

The need to deploy and managing program support staff – Lab, Medical Records, Clerical and Interpreters at multiple sites will be challenging as we move into 2011.

### **Health Points of Access - Gibbie Harris**

In 2005, the County Commissioners Strategic Plan included the need for growth of the County Services with the idea to centrally locate services to assist the community and the need to upgrade the safety of the County Courthouse. Due to the construction that will begin soon on the Courthouse there are departments that will need to move around within the County to allow such construction to begin. The current Department of Health Building on Woodfin will house other county offices and the Department of Health will be re-locating to interim offices and have a final location of the Coxe Ave building where the Social Services department is located. This will ultimately be easier access for the clients that are seen for services.

The Department of Health will be re-locating services in a few different locations during the interim. There will be a WIC office located at Leicester Crossing on Leicester Hwy., another one located on Haywood St. at the intersection of Haywood and Patton Ave. at the Central United Methodist Church buildings, and there is currently a WIC location at WNCCHS on Biltmore Ave. The Prenatal, BCCCP and Family Planning services will move to 53 South French Broad Ave. The Disease Control, Immunizations and Lab along with remainder of the staff at the current location will move to the basement level on Woodfin St. to allow for the beginning of construction on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors. Some staff that do not have to be located in the other services are being home based.

Commissioner Carol Peterson shared with the Board that the goal of the strategic planning by the commissioners was done for the healthy, safe, protection and environmentally good for the citizens of Buncombe County. Ms. Peterson said she was proud to be a part of making the changes to assist all citizens in Buncombe County.

Chair, Dr. Oliver asked about the timeline of the moves with the Department of Health and asked that the Board be informed of the “who, when and where” dates.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next meeting will be held on August 12, 2010 at the Hughes Building.

Chair, Richard Oliver adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Gibbie Harris, Secretary

Adopted:

Richard Oliver, Chair