

RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
RANDOLPH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
2222-B South Fayetteville Street, Asheboro, NC
Monday, March 13, 2017

Members Present

Charles Lee, DVM, Chair
Daryl Hill, DDS, Vice Chair
Robert Brown, MD
William Walker, OD
Julie Mabe, RN
Marty Trotter, Community Member
Cathy Waddell, Community Member
Lyn Richardson, Community Member
Stan Haywood, County Commissioner
Marianne Evans, PharmD

Staff Present

Susan Hayes, Health Director
Tara Aker, Assistant Health Director
Arey Rash, RN, Director of Nursing
Brooke Hogan, Assistant Secretary to the Board
Donna Hunt, RN, PH Nurse II
Wesley Vann, Animal Control Supervisor
Aimee Scotton, Randolph County Staff Attorney

I. Call to Order

The Randolph County Board of Health met Monday, March 13, 2017 in the health department conference room. Dr. Lee, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Public Comment Period

Dr. Lee opened the public comment period. Hearing no requests for public comment, the period was closed.

III. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Lee presented minutes for approval from the February 2nd, 2017 board meeting. No discrepancies were noted. Dr. Walker made a motion to “*approve the minutes as presented.*” Dr. Brown seconded the motion and the motion carried.

IV. Legal Update on Duties, Powers & Authorities for Local Boards of Health

Legal training was provided to board members by Aimee Scotton, Randolph County Staff Attorney regarding the duties, powers, and authorities given to local boards of health. Ms. Scotton conveyed to the board that she is available to them for legal counsel regarding any public health issue, concern or topic with regards to rule making, appeals, adjudication, etc.

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Ms. Scotton explained that local boards of health can adopt certain rules by reference such as the recent rabies compendium rule passed by the Randolph County Board of Health in September 2016. She stated that the NC General Assembly is currently looking at the Rabies Compendium rule. If the rabies compendium rule is passed by the legislature, then the rule made by Randolph County Board of Health, and any other NC local boards of health who may have adopted that rule, will need to be repealed because the local rules would no longer be necessary. She explained that rules adopted by local boards of health must relate to health and apply county wide. Copies of all rules must be on file with the Secretary to the Board of Health. Ms. Scotton explained case law stating that local boards of health cannot make rulings traditionally reserved for legislative bodies.

The local health director can impose administrative penalties. A citizen can appeal an administrative penalty to the Board of Health. Ms. Scotton outlined the appeals process and noted that it is a tight turnaround time frame. Citizens can also appeal any rule made by the local Board of Health as outlined in NCGS 130A-24 and referenced in the Randolph County Board of Health Adjudication Policy. The local health director can apply for injunctive relief for the defendant to stop a specified act or behavior. Local boards of health may impose fees to be rendered by the health department except for the imposition of fees prohibited by statutes or where services are performed as an agent of the state. Fees are based on a plan recommended by the local health director. Fees are reviewed and approved by the local board of health and approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Dr. Lee inquired about the process for repealing a rule adopted by the Board of Health. Ms. Scotton explained that it's handled in the same manner as making and adopting a rule. She offered further guidance with the repeals process if necessary.

There were various comments and discussions across the board concerning duties, powers and authorities by local boards of health.

V. Clinical Services Update

Arey Rash, Director of Nursing updated the board on changes and events taking place in the general clinic area of the health department. The addition of Tami Raynor, PA has proven

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beneficial to provide services to male clients in the STD and Family Planning clinics. A Friday clinic has also been added to the schedule which has also proven helpful to clients. In addition, the health department received a grant from Randolph Health which has allowed general clinic to offer urine testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea to asymptomatic male clients. Since October 2016, 120 males have been tested for STI's with 12 being identified as positive for gonorrhea and 17 identified positive for chlamydia.

Ms. Rash shared that clients were recently surveyed regarding interest in an extended hour clinic. The survey results revealed that 62% of English speaking clients stated an interest in coming to a clinic offered after 5:00 p.m. and 79% of Spanish speaking clients expressed an interest in the after-hours clinic. Ms. Rash stated that the decision has been made to add two extended hour clinics per month and will be expanded according to demand.

Ms. Rash reported two flu deaths in Randolph County during this flu season. Currently, there is a flu outbreak at Woodland Hills retirement home. Three residents tested positive for flu. Tamiflu is being administered to residents and staff. The health department is in the process of purchasing influenza vaccine for next year's flu season. Vaccine is purchased for staff and Ms. Rash offered the vaccine to any interested board members as well. Currently, one individual in Randolph County is self-monitoring for Avian influenza. He has not reported any symptoms so far; the incubation period for his date of exposure will conclude on March 16th.

Training for the new electronic health record, Cure MD begins this week. The live date for the clerical and billing piece is April 25th. Clinical staff will have a go live date by the end of July/beginning of August.

Ms. Rash was contacted by UNC Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology to consider participation in an HPV vaccine study for women ages 18 to 55 who have been diagnosed with the two main cancer causing types of HPV: type 16 and/or 18 with resulting abnormal pap smears of CIN 2-3 (high grade lesions) confirmed by cervical biopsy. Human Papilloma Virus is a sexually transmitted virus that in types 16 & 18 can cause cervical cancer. There is a financial stipend for participation and if biopsies/LEEP are required, the associated cost will be covered. More discussions on the particulars of this study with the agent will be discussed next week. The contact for this study is Dr. Lisa Rahangdale with the UNC Dept. of OB/GYN.

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Ms. Rash informed the board that Your Choices Randolph (formerly known as Randolph Pregnancy Care Center) is in the planning stages of offering some STD (urine test for gonorrhea/chlamydia) and rapid HIV testing. Health department staff met with Your Choices Randolph to ensure staff is aware of STD reporting/treatment laws. Information regarding the services of the health department was also provided and information on how their staff can refer clients to the health department if more testing is indicated for communicable diseases such as syphilis, Hepatitis B, etc.

Public Health Response Team members participated in Operation Open Arms which was a full scale multicounty, multi-agency exercise event on February 28, 2017. A practice scenario was given of an approaching hurricane causing coastal flooding with evacuations inland. Board of Health member Julie Mabe also participated in this event representing Randolph Health. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was opened in the conference room here at the health department and was fully staff within 30 minutes of receiving the REACT notification. A lot of good thoughts, ideas and concerns evolved from this exercise. A review of the Continuity of Operations Plan will take place to ensure that everything has been covered. Ms. Rash stated that we have a good knowledge of community resources and partners with good relationships as well. There is also a staff shelter team list already in place and updated regularly should an emergency event take place.

VI. 2017-2019 Strategic Plan Presentation

Tara Aker, Assistant Health Director, presented each board member with a copy of the Randolph County Health Department strategic plan for years 2017 – 2019 (*see handout following the minutes*). The strategic plan advisory committee met at Randolph Community College in December 2016. The committee was comprised of health department management team, Board of Health member Marty Trotter, and several community partners. Based on issues identified in the 2016 Randolph County Strategic Plan, input from the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee, and the community through the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment, the Randolph County Health Department identified four strategic priorities. Mariannne Evans asked if some of the priorities identified in the 2017-19 strategic plan were the same as priorities identified in the 2014-

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16 strategic plan. Susan Hayes responded that priorities for years 2014-16 have been met and the 2017-19 priorities are different but have minor overlap. Four priorities were identified; to obtain funding through grants and health department revenue to meet and/or exceed revenue budget targets, enhance communication and marketing, promote wellness and lifestyle changes, and enhance integrated clinic services. Dr. Hill asked about only receiving \$5000.00 STD grant from Randolph Health as opposed to the \$10-12,000.00 outlined in the plan. Ms. Aker explained that the health department originally applied for a \$10-12,000.00 grant but was encouraged by the Randolph Health Foundation to reduce the dollar amount, so Randolph County Health Department asked for and received the STD grant for \$5,000.00. Ms. Aker will update the board of health at least annually on the progress for the strategic plan.

Dr. Hill made a motion to *“approve the 2017-19 health department strategic plan as presented.”* Dr. Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried. Ms. Aker asked board members to update their manuals with the 2017-19 Strategic Plan as approved.

VII. Spay/Neuter of Adoptable Dogs & Cats Draft Policy

Susan Hayes, Health Director, presented the Board of Health with a draft policy regarding an in-house a spay/neuter program at the Randolph County Animal Shelter. Currently new owners of adopted animals have 30 days to get their animal spayed or neutered. If owners fail to comply, they receive a citation and may be taken to court. The new policy would require an increase in adoption fees to allow animals to receive spay or neuter prior to adoption. Ms. Hayes explained that she would like to be pro-active in controlling the over population of dogs and cats in Randolph County. She stated that many other animal shelters in NC already have a similar spay/neuter program in place. A local veterinarian in Randleman has agreed to spay and neuter dogs and cats at a reduced cost for the shelter. Donated funds will be used to initiate the program and to help offset the cost of spay and neuter in the future. There were many concerns voiced across the board regarding the requirement of an increase in adoption fees. Ms. Hayes explained that presently it costs approximately \$107.00 for every animal cared for by the shelter. The current adoption fee of \$25.00 doesn't come close to the actual cost involved and with the addition of the costs of follow-up and court (if it becomes necessary) the true cost is even more. She stated

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that the increase would be required to ensure sustainability of the program. The board requested more information on adoption rates, euthanasia rates, specifics of what other counties are charging, and adoption agreement violation numbers. This information will be presented and discussed at the May board of health meeting. Dr. Lee and other board members also requested an update on shelter statistics every month during the health director's report. The decision for approving the Spay/Neuter of Adoptable Dogs and Cats Policy with associated fee increase was tabled until further information is presented in May.

VIII. Health Director's Report

Child Fatality Report:

- Susan Hayes presented a report from the Child Fatality Prevention Team. NC General Statute requires every county to have a child fatality prevention team and child protection team. The fatality team meets to discuss and review deaths from the previous calendar year. The goal of both teams is to identify gaps or needs that might prevent fatalities. In the last year safe sleep environments have been identified as a concern due to an increase in safe sleep related deaths. To address safe sleep the health department offered bassinets to families who did not have cribs or other safe sleep resources. Education on safe sleep will be provided to new families at the hospital via the "Books for Babies" campaign, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Randolph County Partnership for Children. The health department is also sending a nurse to a national safe sleep conference in April. Ms. Hayes will present this report from the Child Fatality Prevention Team to the county commissioners in April.

Opioid Community Coalition:

- The health department has implemented a community collaborative aimed at addressing the opioid misuse and overdose crisis in Randolph County. Ms. Hayes shared hospitalization data from the North Carolina Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool (NC DETECT), as well as prescription and overdose statistics from the NC Injury Prevention Branch. Ms. Hayes stated that the goal for this collaborative was to encourage stakeholders, partners and the community to work together to identify solutions

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to prevent overdoses, overdose deaths and improve access to treatment services for Randolph County residents. Ms. Hayes noted that opioid addiction is a public health concern on many levels, including premature death and increase in communicable disease. Dr. Hill stated that he would be willing to arrange an education session for the Randolph County Dental Society (which consists of about 30 Randolph County dentists) if someone from the state would be willing to speak on the topic. Ms. Hayes noted that the next meeting is at the health department on March 20th at 2:00 and invited all board members to attend.

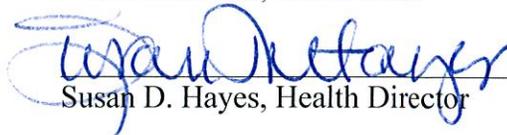
Letter to Senator Burr for Federal Preventive Health Funds

- Susan Hayes reported that a lot of boards of health across NC are writing letters to congress members to encourage them to protect the money that is included in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) as prevention funds for public health. A lot of those funds are block grant funds for maternal and child health as well as other areas of public health. Health departments fear the loss of those funds if the ACA were repealed. There is about 93 million dollars involved in these funds affecting a great number of health departments. The board collectively agreed upon sending a letter to Senator Burr encouraging the protection of Public Health Prevention Funds (*see letter to Senator Burr following the minutes*).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m. The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for May 8th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.



Dr. Charles Lee, Board Chair



Susan D. Hayes, Health Director