

**CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES  
March 5, 2012**

The Catawba County Board of Health met on Monday, March 5, 2012. The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom located at Catawba County Public Health, 3070 11<sup>th</sup> Av Dr SE, Hickory, NC 28602.

**Members present:** Dr. Robert Rights, Chairman  
Ms. Brenda H. Watson, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Dan Hunsucker  
Dr. Sharon Monday  
Dr. William Geideman  
Ms. Susan Witherspoon  
Mr. William Mixon  
Dr. David Kulesia

**Members absent:** Mr. Thomas Fannin

**Staff present:** Mr. Douglas Urland, Health Director  
Ms. Kelly Isenhour, Assistant Health Director  
Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Health Services Manager  
Ms. Amy McCauley, Community Outreach Manager  
Ms. Chantae Lail, Medical Lab Manager  
Ms. Lynne Laws, Community Health Nurse Supervisor  
Mr. Scott Carpenter, Environmental Health Supervisor  
Mr. Mike Cash, Environmental Health Supervisor  
Ms. Karina Hernandez Zamora, Program Assistant  
Ms. Corie Harris, Program Assistant  
Ms. Martha Knox, Administrative Assistant III

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Robert Rights, Chairman, called the meeting of the Catawba County Board of Health to order at 7:00 pm. Dr. Rights welcomed staff to the meeting of the Board of Health.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. William Mixon moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Dan Hunsucker seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Rights, Chairman asked if there were any changes to the January 30, 2012 minutes. Hearing none, Dr. Rights asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dan Hunsucker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Sharon Monday seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one presented to speak to the Board.

**NEW EMPLOYEES**

Dr. Rights asked Martha Knox to introduce new employees to the Board. Ms. Knox stated that there were two new staff member present. She introduced Ms. Corie Harris, Program Assistant to the Board. Corie worked for Public Health as an hourly office support specialist, and on December 28, 2011, she joined public health as a ½ time Program Assistant in our Eligibility area.

Ms. Knox also introduced Ms. Karina Hernandez Zamora to the Board. Ms. Zamora is a Bilingual Program Assistant with Public Health's WIC program. Ms. Zamora previously worked with Burke County in their WIC program.

Ms. Knox stated that Public Health is pleased to have both of these employees join our staff. Dr. Rights welcomed the new employees to Public Health.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner, stated that he had no report for the Board at this meeting.

#### **BOARD OF HEALTH NOMINATIONS AND OPERATING PROCEDURE SUBCOMMITTEE**

Dr. William Geideman, Chairman of the Nominations and Operating Procedure Subcommittee, stated that the Catawba County Board of Health Operating Procedures had been reviewed by the subcommittee and recommends no changes at this time.

Dr. Sharon Monday made a motion that the Board approve the recommendation of the subcommittee that the Operating Procedures remain unchanged. Mr. Dan Hunsucker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### **2011 COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT**

Ms. Lynne Laws, Community Health Nurse Supervisor, gave a brief report of the Communicable Disease yearly Statistics for 2009-2011. She stated that this annual report is a requirement for Accreditation of Public Health.

The report which is Attachment I in the Board members packets shows that the number of investigations of communicable diseases is much higher than actual confirmed cases in the report. Ms. Laws stated that an example of this difference is Tuberculosis (TB) cases. Whereas, there were 30 or more investigations of TB, the actual numbers were 4 in 2009 and 2 cases for 2010 and 2011.

Doug Urland, Health Director, stated that the numbers look small for Tuberculosis (TB), however, much time and energy goes into the investigations when reports are received about TB. When a report results in a confirmed case then staff will monitor that case and ensure that the patient takes the prescribed medication to treat the disease. He added that this monitoring is very labor intensive.

#### **CHILD FATALITY PROTECTION TEAM UPDATE**

Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Health Services Manager, gave a brief report on the Catawba County Child Fatality Prevention Team. She stated that the CFPT was established in 1993 by State statute and mandates one team for each county. This group reviews child fatalities in the county and makes recommendations on how to prevent child deaths.

The team is made of diverse agencies and disciplines with the goals of identifying system problems, make recommendations, and act to prevent child deaths. The Catawba County CFPT consists of the following members:

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County Health Director  
County Social Services Director  
District Court Judge  
Law Enforcement Officer  
Local Guardian Ad Litem

Medical Examiner  
Local Health Care provider  
Fire Fighter/EMS  
School Superintendent (or designee)  
other Community Child Advocates

In 2010 the following causes of child deaths were identified: 13 due to prenatal issues/perinatal conditions; 8 due to illness; 2 due to motor vehicle accidents; 2 due to SIDS; 2 due to physical injury or homicide; and 1 drowning.

The focus in 2012 will be to continue to advocate for early entry into prenatal care and to educate the public about prevention such as co-sleeping/safe sleeping environments. Enhance the community awareness about the dangers of Distracted Driving and continue efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Ms. McCracken shared the winning video of the 2011 Distracted Driving Video contest. Maiden High School won 1<sup>st</sup> prize and St. Stephen's High School won the viewer's choice award. She stated that the students at the high schools were very enthusiastic and involved in the project. The project increased the knowledge about this important subject by 52%. The use of social media site to view the videos helped to spread the message to a wider audience.

The flyer about the 2012 Distracted Driving Video contest is posted on the Facebook and can be accessed by [www.facebook.com/distracteddrivingvideocontest](http://www.facebook.com/distracteddrivingvideocontest) , then click "like". After viewing the 2011 winning video, the students followed several rules including researching music to make sure it did not infringe on copyrights and including the appropriate information about distracted driving. The research they did to produce their entries increased their knowledge on the subject.

Several community sponsors supported the project such as, The Green Room, a local insurance company, and others.

Dr. Robert Rights asked if this was 2010 numbers for the CFPT report, and Ms. McCracken stated that yes. The medical examiner's office must complete their process on some of the deaths; therefore, the committee reviews the deaths that occurred during the previous year. She stated that the committee meeting in February, 2012 reviewed the deaths that occurred in Nov, Jan and Feb, 2011. Mr. Dan Hunsucker asked if the deaths were in NC and Ms. McCracken stated that they occurred in Catawba County and that there were a total of 28 deaths and 17 of those deaths were under the age of 1.

Ms. McCracken concluded her report by stating that there have not been any significant changes in the numbers and no major trends have been identified.

**HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Norovirus** – Doug Urland, Health Director, gave the Board a report on the recent Norovirus outbreak. Dr. Griesy from the NC Division of Public Health assisted Public Health with the investigation and case study. There were 166 reports of customers who ate at Harbor Inn from January 13 – January 22. The findings showed people who ate tossed salad were 27% more likely to become ill.

Doug commended staff and Lenoir Rhyne University students that assisted with all of the phone calls during the investigation. The goal of the case study was to learn how to prevent such outbreaks from occurring. There were other outbreaks of the Norovirus in long-term care facilities that were not connected to the Harbor Inn case study.

October – March are the high susceptibility months for outbreaks of the Norovirus and long-term facilities are required to report outbreaks to Public Health.

The final report will be issued by the N.C. Division of Public Health. Dr. Greisy commended staff for their hard work and assistance with the case study.

Mr. William Mixon asked if this was an unusual year and Mr. Urland stated he was not sure, however, there may be an answer to that question when the final report is released.

**Budget** – Mr. Urland stated that at the last Board of Health meeting, the Board approved the Public Health budget for 2012-13. Since that meeting a conference call has been held with Mr. Paul Murray, Budget Analyst and the meeting with the County Manager will be held in March, 2012. Therefore, the budget work continues toward the June 4, 2012 meeting of the Board of Commissioners that will approve the budget for the coming fiscal year.

**Dental Practice Tour** – Doug stated that a tour of the renovated Dental Practice will be conducted after the Board of Health meeting is adjourned. Any Board members and staff that would like a tour of the Dental Practice are invited to stay.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr. Rights asked if there was any further business for the Board, hearing none he asked for the motion to adjourn.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Catawba County Board of Health will be on Monday, April 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Dan Hunsucker made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Sharon Monday seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Submitted by:

  
Doug Urland  
Health Director

DWU: mjk