

**Catawba County Board of Health
Minutes
May 6, 2013; 7:00pm (Revised)**

The Catawba County Board of Health met on Monday, May 6, 2013. The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. at Catawba County Public Health, 3070 11th Av Dr SE, Hickory, NC 28602 in the Boardroom.

Members present: Ms. Brenda H. Watson, Chair
Dr. William Geideman, Vice-Chair
Mr. Dan Hunsucker, Commissioner
Mr. John Dollar
Dr. Robert Rights
Dr. David Kulesia
Dr. Sharon Monday
Ms. Susan Witherspoon
Mr. William Mixon
Ms. Naomi East

Staff Present: Mr. Doug Urand, Health Director
Ms. Kelly Isenhour, Assistant Health Director
Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Health Services Manager
Mr. Mike Cash, Environmental Health Supervisor
Ms. Amy McCauley, Community Outreach Manager
Ms. Rhonda Stikeleather, Children's Services Nursing Supervisor
Ms. Alice Layne, Home Health Manager
Ms. Julie Byrd, WIC Supervisor
Ms. Sindie Sigmon, Business Manager
Ms. Meghan Brown, WIC Nutritionist II
Ms. Martha Knox, Administrative Assistant III

Visitors: the Honorable Nathaniel Poovey, Superior Court Judge, Ms. Debra Bechtel, County Attorney, and Ms. Dawn Wilson, Social Services Program Manager.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Brenda Watson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and asked the Honorable Nathaniel Poovey, Superior Court Judge to step forward to administer the Oath of Office to Ms. Naomi East. Ms. East was appointed to the Board of Health at the Catawba County Board of Commissioners meeting held at 9:30 a.m. on this date.

OATH OF OFFICE

The Honorable Nathaniel Poovey, Superior Court Judge, greeted the Board and stated he enjoyed having the opportunity to come and administer the oath of office to new board members. Judge Poovey asked Ms. Naomi East to step forward and he administered the oath of office as follows:

I, **Naomi East**, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States; so help me God.

I, **Naomi East**, do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability, so help me, God.

I, **Naomi East**, do further swear that I will well and truly execute the duties as a Catawba County Board of Health member according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me God.

Judge Poovey congratulated Ms. East on her appointment and excused himself to attend another meeting.

Ms. Brenda Watson, Chair thanked Judge Poovey for his service and welcomed Ms. East to the Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Martha Knox stated that the Agenda needs to be amended to add the Commissioners Comments – Item G. Ms. Watson asked if there were any further additions or changes to the agenda. Hearing none, she requested a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Mr. William Mixon so moved and Dr. Robert Rights seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Brenda Watson, Chair, asked if there were any corrections to the April 8, 2013, Board of Health Minutes included in the Board packets. Ms. Watson asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. William Mixon so moved and Dr. William Geideman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Watson asked if anyone presented to speak before the board. Ms. Martha Knox, Administrative Assistant, stated that no one had presented to speak.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Ms. Brenda Watson, Chair, asked Ms. Martha Knox to introduce any visitors and new employees to the Board. Ms. Knox stated that Ms. Debra Bechtel, County Attorney is present to present her Legal Update to the Board. Also in attendance, Ms. Dawn Wilson, Social Services Program Manager. Ms. Wilson is a participant in the Leadership Academy Program and we are pleased to have her at our Board of Health meeting.

Martha Knox asked Julie Byrd, Nutrition Supervisor, to introduce Ms. Meghan Brown, Nutritionist to the Board of Health. Meghan has been with Public Health since April 29th. She is completing her Master's degree at Western Carolina University and comes to Public Health with Nutrition clinical experience and we are pleased to have her join our Women's Infants and Children Program. Mr. Mixon asked what her Master's degree was in and Ms. Byrd stated Nutrition.

Ms. Watson welcomed the visitors to the Board of Health meeting.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner, gave his report to the Board. He stated that he was pleased to recommend Ms. Naomi East as a Board Member for the Board of Health. He stated the following three proclamations were made by the Catawba County Board of Commissioners:

1. The Board proclaimed May 19-25, 2013 as Emergency Medical Services Week. This is in recognition of the provision of lifesaving care for those in need, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and spotlights the benefits Americans receive from these highly trained, knowledgeable individuals.
2. The Board proclaimed May 5-11, 2013 as Public Service Recognition Week to recognize local, state and federal government employees as an integral part of the quality of life in Catawba County. Local government leaves the strongest impression on its recipients, placing a greater responsibility on County employees to provide exemplary customer service with compassion, empathy, and understanding. The Catawba County Board of Commissioners expressed their "deep appreciation for the innovation and daily contributions Catawba County employees make to the lives of county citizens."
3. The Board also issued a proclamation recognizing the impact of early childhood education and the importance of parents' awareness of early childhood education options available to them. The proclamation encouraged parents, grandparents and caregivers to take every opportunity to read to their children and cultivate a love of learning.

Mr. Hunsucker stated that was his report to the board.

HOME HEALTH GOVERNING BODY AND ADVISORY BOARD (Attachment I)

Dr. Robert Rights made a motion to suspend the regular meeting of the Catawba County Board of Health and reconvene as the Home Health Governing Body and Professional Advisory Board. Dr. William Geideman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. William Geideman made a motion to return to the regular meeting of the Catawba County Board of Health. Mr. Dan Hunsucker seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF OPERATING PROCEDURES

Dr. William Geideman, Chair of the Nominations and Operating Procedures Subcommittee, stated that the committee had reviewed the Operating Procedures and recommends that they be approved without change at this time.

Mr. Dan Hunsucker so moved and Mr. John Dollar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Doug Urland, Health Director, stated he had a brief report for the Board. He stated that over 1,700 bills have been filed in this session of the NC General Assembly. Many bills of interest to Public Health are being watched closely. The crossover deadline for some of the bills will continue to be monitored and Mr. Urland stated he will update the Board on any significant activity at future board meetings.

Budget- Mr. Tom Lundy is scheduled to release his budget recommendation to the Board of Commissioner and his normal press release on or after Monday, May 13, 2013. Public Health staff continues to work with the County Budget office to answer questions and finalize information pertaining to the budget. Mr. Urland offered to answer any questions the Board members may have. Hearing no questions, Ms. Watson introduced Ms. Debra Bechtel and asked her to present the Legal Update.

LEGAL UPDATE FROM HEALTH DIRECTOR'S LEGAL CONFERENCE (Minutes Attachment I)

Ms. Debra Bechtel, County Attorney, stated that prior to giving her presentation she wanted to inform the Board the Ms. Kitty Barnes, Chair of the Catawba County Board of Commissioners, signed a declaration a "State of Emergency" order. She stated that this was necessary due to flooding in the Catawba county areas around the Catawba River basin. The Catawba River crested and has impacted 30+ homes in the area. The County must declare a "State of Emergency" to allow residents' access to aid that may be needed.

Ms. Bechtel stated that regarding the Legal Update, Doug Urland and Ms. Bechtel attended the State Health Director's Legal Conference. She stated that this was her 15 consecutive Public Health Legal conference.

Ms. Bechtel shared information regarding some criminal laws pertaining to drugs that went into effect April 9, 2013. She stated that NCGS 90-106.2 Provides civil and criminal liability (Good Samaritan) for prescribing or administering naloxone hydrochloride, which is a treatment for drug overdose.

Next she shared information on legislation that seems likely to be adopted and gave proposed dates for bills to become effective. Such as October 1, 2013, SB 675/HB 693 if passed will go into effect and that legislation would eliminate exceptions for parental consent for diagnosis and treatment of:

- Venereal diseases
- Substance abuse, including alcohol
- Emotional disturbance
- Pregnancy

The Local Health Director's Association is working hard on this legislation. Doug Urland stated that the parameters to treat minors will be shut. Ms. Bechtel stated this could result in teens not seeking help until it is too late.

SB 417 – Regional Public Health Authority - A State Public Health Authority (July 1, 2013) would be governed by a 13 member Board, which would have powers and duties that local Boards of Health currently have and would establish regional public health authorities. There would be four regions and Catawba County would be included in the Cabarrus Regional Public Health Authority. Ms. Bechtel stated that this legislation is removing local control. Local boards of health and commissioners have a better understanding of what the needs are of Catawba County citizens.

SB500/HB832 – Expanded Immunization Authority of Pharmacists – this legislation would expand the immunizations that local pharmacists could administer and could include: Pneumococcal, Herpes, Hepatitis B, Meningococcal, Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis, and Influenza. She stated that pharmacists currently have authority to administer some of these vaccines. The only new immunization is the Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis.

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SB486 – Increased Pertussis Awareness – if it becomes law will require hospitals to provide information about disease prior to mother’s discharge along with availability. Hospitals will not be required to provide or pay for the vaccine.

HB481 – if it becomes effective will Reduce Needle Stick Injuries – this would remove

HB 933 – if it becomes effective will ensure informed consent for HIV/AIDS testing – this bill gives a broader definition of healthcare provider and includes: Physician, Physician Assistant, Nurse, Chiropractor, Dentist, and Podiatrist. The Healthcare provider must obtain consent prior to administering a test for HIV/AIDS.

SB703 – Outdoor Smoking – this proposed legislation prohibits local governments and community colleges from adopting more stringent regulations than the State related to smoking on grounds.

Ms. Bechtel also outlined legislation regarding gun laws in North Carolina, and Restrictions on Sex Offenders. Ms. Bechtel explained the range of grades of Misdemeanors and Felonies in North Carolina. Please refer to the Minutes Attachment I for further information.

Ms. Bechtel stated that she is always available to the Board of Health to provide legal counsel on matters they may need to consider in their official capacity.

Ms. Watson thanked Ms. Bechtel for her presentation.

OTHER BUSINESS

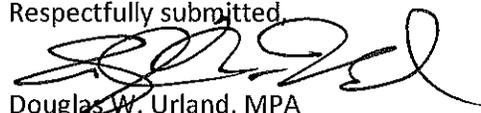
Ms. Brenda Watson, Chair, asked if there was any further business for the Board. Ms. Debra Bechtel, County Attorney, stated: “ I would ask that the Board consider a closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a3, to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney/client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. I do not anticipate any action required of the board following that closed session.”

Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner made a motion for the Catawba County Board of Health to go into closed session. Dr. Sharon Monday seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Board went into closed session at 8:00 P.M

ADJOURNMENT

The Catawba County Board of Health returned from Closed Session without taking any action at 8:18 P.M. Dr. Sharon Monday made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Catawba County Board of Health and Dr. William Geideman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas W. Urland, MPA
Health Director

DWU:mjk

