

Moore County Board of Health
December 9, 2019

Members Present: Warren Lewis, Chair
Betty J. Goodridge, MHA, CMA
Louis Gregory
Severt Jacobson, MD
Michele Keel, OD
William Mang, PharmD, Vice Chair
Kamron Monroe, DDS
Max Muse, RN, ME
Leo Santowasso, PE, PLS
Robert R. Wittmann, MPH, Secretary to the Board

Members Absent: Tim Boyte, DVM; Sharon Odom, RT

Chair Warren Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m.

Introductions/Recognitions:

Health Department staff present were: Teresa Forrest, Administrative Officer; Melissa Fraley, Nursing Director; Jeanie Garcia, Administrative Assistant; Matt Garner, Health Educator; and guest speaker Mary Gillett, MS.

Oath of Office:

Jeanie Garcia administered the Oath of Office for Louis Gregory.

Invocation:

Robert Wittmann noted that, once a year, FirstHealth of the Carolinas hosts the Board of Health dinner meeting. He will forward an official letter of thanks from the Board. He thanked Chair Warren Lewis for choosing the best dinner options. Robert Wittmann gave the invocation.

Conflict of Interest:

Robert Wittmann read the following statement: *Does any Board Member have a conflict of interest concerning agenda items the Board will address in this meeting?* None were noted.

Approval of Agenda:

No changes were proposed for the agenda.

Presentations:

- **Vaping and Severe Acute Pulmonary Disease and Emerging Products:** Mary Gillett, MS, Region 5 Tobacco Prevention Manager spoke to the Board on tobacco prevention and issues with vaping. The NC smoking rate in 2016 was lower than the national average. Tobacco prevention efforts for the State include all e-cigarette products, which have been available in the US since 2007. E-cigarettes, also known as vapes or mods, are

battery-powered devices that allow users to inhale aerosolized liquid, which usually contains nicotine. E-cigarette aerosol can also contain other harmful substances, such as cancer-causing chemicals. E-cigarettes can be used to deliver marijuana and other drugs. They can cause unintended injuries, with defective batteries causing fires or explosions. Youth e-cigarette use is an emerging public health threat. Robert Wittmann recommended that the Board consider adopting a resolution or policy in January regarding the use of e-cigarettes. Warren Lewis asked if the Board should take stronger action and Robert Wittmann stated that it should be reviewed with the County Attorney. The NC Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch web site is tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov. Board members discussed ways to disseminate this information to the public. Mary Gillette suggested these methods: letters to the editor, PTA meetings, school involvement and press releases. She stated that the issue should be approached by policy and education. Robert Wittmann noted that e-cigarette use is banned on Health Department grounds and also on school property. Robert Wittmann stated that, due to his involvement with Drug Free Moore County, Matt Garner is in an excellent position to review opportunities, in the spring, to work with the school system to provide this information.

- **Medication and Drug Overdose in Moore County, 1999-2016:** Matt Garner spoke to the Board about overdose statistics. He noted that overdose deaths overtook motor vehicle death rates in NC around 2010. In the last 10 years, there has been a 110% increase in medication and drug overdose deaths. It was noted that heroin is currently cheaper than pills and a lot of the heroin is cut with fentanyl or fentanyl analogues. There have been corresponding increases in both Hepatitis C cases and heart valve infections. North Carolina's Opioid Action Plan 2.0, issued in June of 2019, updates the 2017 plan with feedback from partners and stakeholders. It includes local strategies that counties, coalitions and stakeholders can use to fight the opioid epidemic, which claimed five lives a day in North Carolina to unintentional overdose in 2017. The plan focuses on three areas of focus to fight the epidemic: prevention, reducing harm and connecting to care. Warren Lewis asked Matt Garner what he thought was the most important action. Matt Garner stated that it would be to reduce the stigma of addiction and treat it as a disease or disorder. We also need more treatment and recovery options.
- **Your Health Department Staff: Management Support:** Jeanie Garcia reviewed Management Support staff members, as follows: Jeannette Ellorda, 6 years; Sharon Boone, 1 year; Dina Viburs, 3 months; and Edwina Brisbon, 1.5 years. All staff are Processing Assistant Vs and are cross-trained. Jeanie Garcia, 18 years, works with Vital Records and the Patagonia electronic medical system.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Board of Health Education/Staff Reports:

- **State of the County Health (SOTCH) Report:** Matt Garner reviewed the SOTCH Report with the Board. He noted that the SOTCH Report is done in the intermediate years between 3-year Community Health Assessments (CHA). The next CHA is due in 2020. The health priorities focused on are obesity, substance abuse and aging. Between the CHAs, the SOTCH Reports reflect updates on data, action plans and work plans, as well as explore emerging issues. The SOTCH Report will be distributed to the community, available on the Health Department website and presented to the Board of Commissioners and other groups.

- **Nursing Director's Report:** The Health Department had their Communicable Disease (CD) audit, inclusive of all CD except Tuberculosis (TB), in July with the report issued in August. The Department is compliant except for one area. Regarding reporting CD to the State within 30 days of an investigation, we were at 50% and the State wants 80%. Our lower number was due to staffing issues earlier in the year. The ERN (expanded role nurse) is now monitoring STD reports for Moore County. The TB audit was in October and the Department was compliant, with one exception. Regarding DOT (directly observed therapy) for the duration of treatment, 2 out of 3 were completed. One was not diagnosed with TB until after death. Last week, we were notified that in the western part of Harnett County there are 7 active cases of pertussis, which is considered an outbreak. No cases have been reported yet in Moore County. Warren Lewis asked if the extended hours for Monday clinics were working well. Melissa Fraley replied that the staff liked it and the provider felt like there is more quality time for the patients.
- **Health Director's Report:** In order to enhance communication with staff, there is a new standing agenda item for Management Team and Staff Meetings, for the Health Director, Management Team and staff to update everyone on important items/activities. There are also email updates sent to staff. There is a vacant Medical Laboratory Technician 1 position, available after an in-house promotion. There is also a vacant Registered Environmental Health Specialist and Administrative Assistant I, due to the retirement of Carolyn Steed. In the interim, Jeanie Garcia has taken over duties for Vital Records and is working with the Child Fatality Task Force. Jeanie Garcia, Jennifer Wallace and Teresa Forrest are all Deputy Registrars for Vital Records. A Public Health Nurse (PHN) II has applied for the vacant PHN III position. Robert Wittmann shared the concussion update submitted by Seth Powers with Moore County Schools. Robert Wittmann shared a draft proposal of the Health Director evaluation, with goals included, to be reviewed at the January Board meeting. The State has indefinitely suspended moving forward with managed care for Medicaid recipients. Medicaid will continue to operate under the current fees for services model. Moore County Health Department participated with the South Central Health Directors Group in a tabletop exercise for Hepatitis A. This was on October 29th at the Cumberland County Health Department. Regarding the fluoride mouth rinse project for the school system, it is not necessary this fiscal year to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Kamron Monroe. Robert Wittmann thanked Kamron Monroe for her offer to serve. The Section Chief of the State's Oral Health Program approved Ward Patrick to sign off on the program for the remainder of this fiscal year. Moore County Government is renovating an office building in the Westmoore area and the Health Department is planning to be involved with future services. The building has been proposed as a shelter site and the site for clinic services. Emergency radio communication will be available with the assistance of the Moore County Amateur Radio Society. Press releases are available on the Health Department website. A generator for the Health Department will be installed this fiscal year. Warren Lewis asked about lighting for staff when leaving the building after the extended hours clinics on Mondays. Robert Wittmann had spoken with Janet Parris and Bobby Lake and was notified that the cost was not in the budget for this year. For health and safety purposes, he asked that lights be put in front of the building and on the side where patients park.

Staff can park on the side with patients. In addition, the Carthage Chief of Police will have a patrol car in the area at 7:00 pm, unless there is a priority call. Melissa Fraley stated that there is now a chime on the front door to alert staff for after-hours entry. Louis Gregory asked if there was a cost analysis for the requested lights. Robert Wittmann stated that Property Management was researching the issue. Louis Gregory asked if it had been identified as a safety issue and if the proposal was submitted in writing. Robert Wittmann stated that it was. Louis Gregory said that he would follow up on it. Robert Wittmann noted that January is Radon Action Month. A proclamation regarding this was sent to include on the Board of Commissioners agenda. He stated that he appreciated the support of the Board of Health.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Max Muse made a motion, seconded by Leo Santowasso, to approve the October 7, 2019 Board of Health minutes. All members were in favor and the motion passed.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Adoption of 2020 Board of Health Meeting Schedule: The Board reviewed the proposed schedule. The Board chose the 13th of July for the July, 2020 meeting. For 2021, the Board chose January 11th for the first meeting. Leo Santowasso made a motion to approve the schedule, seconded by Michele Keel. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Bad Debt Write Off Resolution: The Bad Debt Write Off Resolution for \$561.34, see attached, was presented. Max Muse made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Leo Santowasso. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Evidence-based Programs Resolution: Max Muse made a motion to approve the resolution, see attached, seconded by Leo Santowasso. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Community Partners Support Resolution: Leo Santowasso made a motion to approve the resolution, see attached, seconded by BJ Goodridge. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Max Muse made a motion to adjourn and the meeting ended at 8:28 pm.