

Moore County Board of Health
May 9, 2016

Members Present: Tim Boyte, DVM
Betty J. Goodridge, MHA, CMA
Severt Jacobson, MD, Vice Chair
Dennis Mabe, PE, Chair
William Mang, PharmD
Kamron Monroe, DDS
Max Muse, RN, ME
Sharon Odom, RT (R)
Nick Picerno
Robert R. Wittmann, MPH, Secretary to the Board

Members Absent: Warren Lewis
Michele Keel, OD

Chair Dennis Mabe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Introductions/Recognitions:

Staff present were: Allison Brown, Public Health Nurse III - Family Planning Coordinator; Molly Crossman – Nurse Practitioner; and Teresa Forrest, Planning Manager. Sabree Burbage, a University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill pharmacy student, was also present.

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 stated.

Invocation:

Robert Wittmann gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda:

There were no requested additions or adjustments to the agenda. Nick Picerno made a motion, seconded by Tim Boyte, to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor.

Presentations:

- **Family Planning and Maternal Health Programs:** Allison Brown briefed the Board on the Family Planning Program. Patients are seen by appointment on Monday afternoon, Wednesday morning and Thursday morning. IUD (intrauterine device) and

Nexplanon, both of which are long-term birth control devices, procedures are scheduled on Monday morning, Wednesday afternoon and Tuesday morning. Problem visits are also scheduled on Tuesday morning. Both service fees and fees for any birth control method prescribed are based on a sliding fee scale. Services include preventative and comprehensive visits, as well as problem and supply visits. Staff make every effort to work in patients who present without an appointment. Molly Crossman spoke about the Maternal Health Program. The Health Department contracts with two board-certified obstetricians, Dr. John Byron and Dr. Walter Fasolak. Comprehensive prenatal care is provided, from the patient's first visit through to their postpartum visit. Patients are scheduled on Monday morning and Wednesday afternoon. High risk patients are referred, when necessary, to Maternal Fetal Medicine at FirstHealth. Health Department Maternity patients are charged according to a sliding fee scale. Medicaid is accepted for payment. We have two bilingual clinical support staff who act as Spanish interpreters and work with both the Family Planning and Maternal Health Clinics. There is also access to a language line for other languages. Nick Picerno asked what percentage of patients do not speak English. Molly Crossman replied that about twenty-five percent of our patients are Spanish-speaking. Appropriate family members can be used to interpret, if the patient requests. Tim Boyte asked if there was anything recommended that patients could not afford. Allison Brown replied that a sliding fee scale is used and that patients can receive services and supplies, while making payments on a schedule. We see patients regardless of their ability to pay. Severt Jacobson asked how people get to know about the services. Allison Brown replied that we have flyers in schools and at Social Services, information is on our website, and we have a social media campaign, with information on both Twitter and Facebook. Some of our patients hear about services via word of mouth. Robert Wittmann had information available at the Carthage Buggy Festival on the previous weekend. Bill Mang asked if there was a privacy issue if someone liked the Facebook page. Robert Wittmann noted that the County has a social media policy that the Health Department adheres to, which was reviewed by the County Attorney's Office and passed by the Board of Commissioners. Max Muse asked what age group used the services most. Molly Crossman stated that it would be 18-year olds and patients in their 20s. Robert Wittmann stated that Moore County has made great strides in preventing unintended pregnancies. It was noted that Montgomery County Health Department has advertised in the Pilot for family planning services. Tim Boyte asked if the Health Department provided emergency contraception. Allison Brown replied that, within a certain amount of time, that can be provided. Molly Crossman noted that emergency contraception would not terminate a pregnancy if it was already there. A pregnancy test would be performed first and recipients would be extensively counselled. Robert Wittmann noted that we don't have to rely on patient compliance with long-term methods of contraception. However, these methods are costly but well worth the expense to prevent an unintended pregnancy.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Board of Health Education/Staff Reports:

- **FY 17 Budget Update:** The County Manager has presented the proposed budget for FY 17 to the Board of Commissioners. We had to decrease anticipated revenues slightly for

next year's budget. Robert Wittmann stated that, after having met with the County Manager, he believes the proposed budget will be a challenge for the Health Department but that we can work with it. There are no more cuts in staffing than we had already anticipated. (There is no funding for the Public Health Nurse II that we lost in the current fiscal year.) We will be allowed to recruit and fill positions for the vacant Nursing Director and Public Health Nurse III for Maternal Health. There is a plan to give four existing staff an opportunity for a promotion, within this year's budget. There is a position being advertised in-house and different positions would have a chance to move up, ending with a vacant position which we will not fill. The County Manager has said that we could ask the Board of Commissioners to re-instate the position later, if needed. Severt Jacobson asked if there was a merit program in the County. Nick Picerno stated that, for Step 5 employees, there was a 1% bonus in March. If employees are not at Step 5, then there is always the opportunity to move up. Also, everyone in the County received a 1% pay raise. The guiding principle of the Budget is to take care of employees. Robert Wittmann noted that, years ago, evaluations contributed to salary through a merit system.

- **Third Quarter Activity Report:** Robert Wittmann noted that the numbers are moving up in some clinics. Environmental Health on-site activity is picking up due to improved weather. Robert Wittmann spoke about Environmental Health and how the staff handled a difficult situation. A new hotel in the area had failed to apply to Environmental Health to get their plans reviewed and the establishment inspected, which would have kept them from opening as scheduled. Our office contacted the State Office to get permission to review the plans locally since the State was backlogged. After the review, a team of our staff inspected the site and were able to issue the permits in time for the hotel to have their grand opening. Tim Boyte asked why there was no current data for WIC. Robert Wittmann stated that the State software system, Crossroads, used by WIC for tracking their services is always behind.
- **Third Quarter FY 16 Financial Report:** Robert Wittmann stated that funds are tight but the Department expects to be within budget at year-end. We are working with the State on the Medicaid Cost Settlement.
- **Health Director's Report:**
 - Robert Wittmann updated the Board on the number of pages scanned into the EHR (Electronic Health Records) system.
 - The Health Department currently has a Quality Improvement (QI) project in place, to organize the Department's Intranet Network "I Drive". The project should be completed in June.
 - There is a retreat planned on Friday morning, August 12, for the Management Team to review required accreditation activities. Board of Health members are invited to attend.
 - Lauren Rakes, Nutritionist, has been promoted as WIC Supervisor. WIC currently has all positions filled. One part-time processing assistant position was eliminated. WIC is federally funded.
 - Our dental hygienist, Tammie Fox, just finished a sealant project at Carthage Elementary. Through the collaborative efforts of the North Carolina Oral Health Section and our local program, 95 sealants were placed on 28 children.

- In Environmental Health, on-site staff have been redirected to help out food and lodging staff. Wait time for on-site services may lengthen if the food and lodging program continues to grow.
- On the Health Department website, there are links regarding mosquito control and the prevention of mosquito-borne viruses. One program to educate the public is called 'Tip it and Toss it' which educates on how to eliminate mosquito breeding areas.
- Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) are now being regulated by the FDA. Sales of e-cigarettes are now banned to minors. There have been safety issues with young children swallowing the devices. The research about these products is on-going.
- The Board was reminded that there is information on the Health Department website from Environmental Health titled 'Food Bytes'.
- May 6 – 12 is National Nurses Week. The Health Department is proud of the nurses in this Department and across the country.
- Regarding marketing of our services, Robert Wittmann had information available at the Carthage Buggy Festival. There is a QR code for the Health Department, a barcode which can be scanned by smartphones, which outlines our services. The Public Health Response trailer was deployed for the Festival. Local amateur radio operators also participated. Montgomery County has posted their clinic schedule in some of their local restaurants. Our Environmental Health staff are going to ask permission to post our QR Code in local restaurants, laundromats, beauty shops, etc. We also plan to enhance our social media to market our services.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Dennis Mabe asked for a motion regarding the March 8, 2016 Board of Health minutes. Nick Picerno stated that the minutes required a revision. In the 'Members Present' section, the 'Chair' and 'Vice Chair' designations needed to be corrected. He made a motion to approve the minutes with this correction, seconded by Kamron Monroe. All members were in favor and the motion was approved.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Tim Boyte had observed an AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meeting in Lee County and asked the Board to consider the topic of addiction and how lives are affected by it. Severt Jacobson noted that he had dealt with pain problems with patients for years. Overuse of pain medication is in part due to a fault in the system, since doctors can be sued for not giving enough pain medication. BJ Goodridge noted that there are new guidelines in place for prescribing pain medication. Robert Wittmann stated that Matt Garner, Health Education Supervisor/Deputy Health Director, is the current President of Drug Free Moore County and has given presentations

on substance abuse. Substance abuse is one of the health priorities identified in our CHA (Community Health Assessment), therefore MooreHealth, Inc. has formed a task force to address this issue. BJ Goodridge noted that Moore County has a strong AA presence. There is an 800 number to call with location information and a hotline for help with a crisis. Sharon Odom asked if the public knows how to access available resources. Robert Wittmann noted that the subject of treatment falls in the purview of Mental Health, rather than Public Health. Nick Picerno stated that the County helps to fund Sandhills Mental Health. Local law enforcement officers are being trained in crisis intervention. Governor McCrory has created a task force to determine how we can better address Mental Health issues in North Carolina. BJ Goodridge stated that the Sandhills Center is a wonderful resource and works on a sliding scale based on income. Robert Wittmann stated that substance abuse is a huge Mental Health problem and that we don't have the resources and/or expertise to deal with it here. William Mang noted that Operation Medicine Drop is helpful. Robert Wittmann said that if Board members would email him information on different resources then he could have links added to the Health Department website. Tim Boyte asked if information could be placed where people pick up wine and beer. Nick Picerno suggested the ABC Board or Mental Health Board.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Tim Boyte made a motion, seconded by BJ Goodridge, to adjourn. All were in favor and Dennis Mabe adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.