



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Transylvania County  
Department of Public Health**

## Transylvania County Board of Health

*To improve and protect the health of all people in Transylvania County*

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### MINUTES

#### TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

September 13, 2011

**Meeting Location:** Department of Social Services Conference Room

**Board Members Present:** Mr. Allen, Ms. Byrne, Dr. Boatwright, Dr. Cozart, Mr. Creasman, Dr. Folger, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Schieve and Dr. Wells.

**Board Members Absent:** Mr. Becker and Ms. Deppe.

**Staff Members and Guests Present:** Mr. Smith, Ms. Cameron (TCDPH Nursing Director), Ms. Cooper (PCM Nurse) and Ms. Lambert (CC4C Nurse).

**Welcome and Announcements:** Mr. Creasman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and welcomed everyone present.

**Amendments to Agenda/Adoption of Agenda:** Mr. Creasman asked if there were any amendments or necessary changes to the agenda. Dr. Folger asked if an update about local influenza vaccinations could be included. Mr. Creasman proposed to add this topic as Item C. under Unfinished Business since influenza had been a general topic of discussion during recent meetings. Staff recommended forwarding to the Pregnancy Medical Home agenda item (in terms of sequence) since staff were present for that portion. Ms. Byrne made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Dr. Folger seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Minutes:** Board members reviewed and discussed the August 9, 2011 minutes. Dr. Folger noted needed corrections under Administrative Reports (removing a duplicate "provided") and clarifying language under New Business, Item A. changing "until December 2011" to "through December 2011". Dr. Folger made a motion to approve the minutes with the requested revisions and Ms. Byrne seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Public Hearings:** None.

#### **Administrative Reports:**

- A. Health Director's Report – Mr. Smith referenced the handout which covered basic details of the recent Healthy Living mobile screening effort, metabolic clinic, dialysis center, waterfall accidents and the ongoing wellness task force. Mr. Smith also shared the memorandum to the Board of Commissioners which requested the ability to provide free flu vaccine to the uninsured (including the Free Clinic). That request was approved by the Board of Commissioners.

**Committee Reports:** None.

**Unfinished Business:**

- A. Fluoride/Public Input Process – The board was informed that the Library Rogow Room was not available for any regular board of health meeting dates in the near term. Board members were advised about the available dates in November which fell on a Tuesday or Thursday. Board members agreed to hold the public hearing on November 15, 2011 with this time also serving as their regular meeting date.
- B. Free Clinic of Transylvania County – The board was informed of ongoing discussions by Transylvania Regional Hospital, the Community Foundation of Western NC, the Free Clinic, United Way of Transylvania County, Department of Public Health, Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, Blue Ridge Community Health Services and the Office of Community Care and Rural Health regarding strategic steps to serve the uninsured. Many challenges remain, but it seems likely that supporting the Free Clinic for the near term is the best strategy until we can determine the potential for BRCHS to acquire new access point funding in the future.
- C. Dr. Folger inquired about the status of community access for flu vaccinations. Mr. Creasman commented that the hospital was covering most of the long term care facilities, hospital staff and home care patients. Mr. Smith added that the department was covering county employees and walk in traffic into the clinic. The other priority was completing the FluMist vaccination campaign in the school system. Pursuant to the strategic discussions last year and the widespread availability of flu vaccine at many retail centers, a decision was made to stop holding general community vaccination clinics which are no longer necessary.

**New Business:**


- A. Pregnancy Medical Home/Pregnancy Care Management (also Care Coordination for Children/CC4C) – Ms. Cooper and Ms. Lambert (lead public health nurses for PCM and CC4C respectively) provided information about the newly remodeled case management programs for pregnant women and children. Dr. Barrow of Sylvan Valley OB/GYN provided comments about the PCM model via a digital recording. Several success stories were relayed by both nurses and the Nursing Director, Ms. Cameron. Both models integrate the roles of private sector providers, public health and Community Care of WNC to achieve the best outcomes for patients by incentivizing proactive efforts by all participants. All stakeholders to date had a positive impression of the program and were actively engaged with achieving the expected deliverables.
- B. Child Fatality Prevention Team 2010 Annual Report - Mr. Smith explained that the annual report (see attachment) had been delayed due to ongoing discussions about a problematic case review that started in 2010 and carried forward into 2011. Direct discussions have occurred with the involved stakeholders and the concerns were forwarded to the State Child Fatality Prevention Team for review. There were no system deficiencies identified for the other 3 cases that were reviewed in 2010. Multiple opportunities were identified for improved education and outreach surrounding parenting, substance abuse and risk taking behavior. Dr. Wells made a motion to accept the annual report and Mr. Byrne seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

- C. Community Child Protection/Child Fatality Prevention Team appointment – The board was advised that they had the statutory responsibility for appointing a local health care provider to this local team. Dr. Wells has served in this capacity for years, but needed to dedicate his time to some additional work demands associated with his practice. Dr. Wells recommended Dr. Ann Farash as a potential appointee for the board to consider. Her professional accomplishments include a strong medical pediatric background and similar obligations for death investigations while serving in the military. Ms. Byrne made a motion to appoint Dr. Farash as the board's appointee to the team and Dr. Cozart seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Board members thanked Dr. Wells for his extended service on the team and his efforts to protect children.
- D. Debt reconciliation (bad debt write off) – Mr. Smith informed the board that accounts information from the antiquated Health Information Services (HIS) database and the current Health Services Information System (HSIS) were not able to be reconciled prior to the board meeting. Mr. Smith stated that this information should be available for review and consideration at the next board meeting.
- E. Board of Health 2012 membership roster – Mr. Smith reminded board members about terms of service with 3 members having terms that expire in December 2011. The timeline was referenced since the board of health would need to forward any recommendations for appointments to the board of commissioners during November 2011.

**Informal Discussion and Public Comment:** Board members discussed the metabolic clinic and the need to sustain the supports being provided to that population. It was agreed that more exploration was needed for the most cost effective way to provide insulin and test strips for those that could not afford them. Board members also reiterated their desire to develop a resolution or similar document of support for the Free Clinic since the mission of public health was aligned with addressing these kinds of needs.

**Adjournment:** Ms. Schieve made a motion to adjourn and Dr. Boatwright seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

  
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Mark Creasman, Chairperson

  
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Date

  
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Steve Smith, Secretary

  
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Date