



**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 March 8, 2011

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

**Board Members Absent:** Ms. Deppe.

**Staff Members and Guests Present:** Mr. Smith and Ms. Pepinsky. Mr. Wilson, Transylvania County Manager, was also present.

**Welcome and Announcements:** Mr. Creasman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Mr. Creasman stated that he was appreciative of the board's confidence in him to serve as chairperson.

**Amendments to Agenda/Adoption of Agenda:** Mr. Creasman asked if there were any amendments or necessary changes to the agenda. Staff requested that an update regarding fluoride be added as Item F. under New Business. Mr. Creasman proposed adding an agenda format change as Item G. under New Business. Dr. Wells made a motion to approve the agenda with the recommended additions. Ms. Schieve seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Minutes:** Board members reviewed and discussed the minutes for the February 8, 2011 meeting. Ms. Byrne made a motion for the minutes to be approved. Dr. Boatwright seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Public Hearings:** None.

#### **Administrative Reports:**

- A. Health Director's Report: Mr. Smith referenced the written report which included information about recent obesity prevention planning efforts with a stakeholder group, substance abuse prevention efforts and the department's ongoing involvement with TRAIN (Transylvania Resource, Access and Information Network). Mr. Smith added that he had recently been informed by the NC Immunization Branch that the county might be able to continue the FluMist campaign in the schools again next year.

**Committee Reports:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** None.


**New Business:**

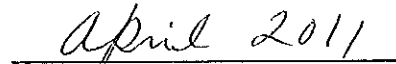
- A. FY 12 Budget Considerations for Transylvania County – County Manager: Mr. Wilson shared a PowerPoint presentation with the board of health and provided a general overview of the county's current fiscal position and some of the challenges for the FY 12 budget process. He emphasized that the county had been responsible stewards of taxpayers dollars alluding to budget reductions that started back in 2002 due to the loss of major manufacturing industry employers. Mr. Wilson added that all departments had been actively engaged in doing their part to define efficiencies and streamline services which reduced overall operational expenses. Significant challenges for the next budget included potential cost shifts from the state to the county level and the proposed reductions to education funding. Mr. Wilson ended on a very positive note by saying that the county had faced major challenges in the past and is capable of managing these impacts with prudent planning and prioritization of services. Board members asked a variety of questions about fund balance, the potential of carry forward dollars and the Governor's proposed budget. Mr. Creasman summarized the input of many board members by stating that public health was willing to do its part during these difficult times, but still emphasized that current public health services were vital for many citizens. All board members thanked Mr. Wilson for his presentation and willingness to share some of the background fiscal information.
- B. Communicable Disease Reports: Mr. Smith reviewed the written report for communicable diseases. Board members discussed several elements of the report including the ongoing challenges with pertussis outbreaks and time dedicated to multiple active TB cases. It was noted that these unpredictable events impacted other service delivery because of the substantial time required for nursing staff and others to address.
- C. Governor's proposed budget: Mr. Smith shared the potential fiscal impacts of the proposed budget including the loss of substantial general aid to county dollars. That proposed cut was particularly harmful because the state currently only pays a minor portion of the true costs of mandated services and in some cases statutorily prohibits counties from acquiring revenues associated with these services. Communicable disease control was used as an example. This is a mandated service required by NC and the department currently receives about \$13,000 from the state to support the service. Communicable disease control efforts in this fiscal year are projected to be over \$115,000.
- D. School nurse monitoring report: Mr. Smith shared the summary report from the Regional School Nurse Consultant noting the exemplary performance of local school nurses in terms of establishing access to care for students and generating individualized health plans for children with significant health challenges or high risk health conditions. Mr. Creasman stated that he was very pleased to see tangible evidence and acknowledgement of the improved health outcomes generated by school nurses. Board members also stated their support of the school health program and noted that our local school nurse to student ratio is still less than the desired level of one nurse to every 750 students.

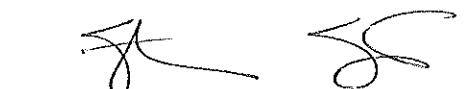
- E. NALBOH membership: Mr. Smith inquired if the board would like to continue their membership with NALBOH (National Association of Local Boards of Health). Members did not express any strong preference either way and left the matter to the Director.
- F. Fluoride: The board was informed that Brevard City Council had agreed with the city manager's proposal to develop a structured process with public health staff to acquire public input on the issue along with an evaluation of stated concerns. It appeared likely that the board of health would be the natural choice to hold that public hearing and were asked if they were receptive to the concept. Board members supported further development of the process which would hopefully incorporate a linkage to the Town of Rosman which currently does not fluoridate its water supply. Given that clarification, Dr. Folger made a motion for public health staff to proceed. Dr. Cozart seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.
- G. Agenda format change: Mr. Creasman expressed his preference to reorganize the current agenda format so that standard business items could be addressed under a singular consent agenda to allow more time for discussion and pressing business matters. Board members supported this change. Mr. Phillips made a motion to make the agenda change. Dr. Boatwright seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

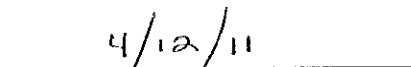
**Informal Discussion and Public Comment:** None.

**Adjournment:** Ms. Schieve made the 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