

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
Association Business Meeting
August 18, 2016
NC DPH – Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road Raleigh, NC

Minutes

Meeting Called To Order – Colleen Bridger

9:30 a.m. Dr. Bridger called the meeting to order and inquired if there were any new or retiring health directors present. Dianne Creek introduced herself as the new health director for the Toe River Health District. Glenn Martin introduced Susan Joyce as the interim health director in Rockingham County. Other new health directors acknowledged included Shelley Carraway for Jackson County, Susan McRoy as the interim health director for Pamlico County and Kristen Patterson for Scotland County. Lynda Kinnane announced this would be her last meeting with the Association and expressed her appreciation for the support of her fellow health directors.

Approval of Minutes – Steve Smith

Motion to approve minutes of the July 21, 2016 meeting was made and seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer's/Financial Report – Steve Smith

Motion to approve the Treasurer's/Financial Report as of July 31, 2016 was made and seconded; motion approved.

President's Report – Colleen Bridger

- Thank you to Lisa Harrison, Dave Jenkins and Dennis Joyner for presentations at the recent NCACC annual meeting. Others including Jim Bruckner and Buck Wilson helped staff the public health booth.
- Joy Reed wanted to acknowledge all of the health directors that helped with the 2.0 accreditation review. Chris Dobbins served on that committee and added that health directors would be pleased with a proposed change regarding standards for personnel records. In the future, departments will not have to achieve 100% for all audited personnel records to get credit for the accreditation activity.
- Billing...review Medicaid billing accuracy given the guidance that was sent out via email by Colleen Bridger, 2 new groups being put together for billing..first headed up by Jim Bruckner and Phyllis Rocco which will focus on details of billing processes in health departments with attention to training that is needed...second will be centered around Jim Flowers with DMA to initiate changes within NC Tracks to accommodate unique billing elements associated with public health.
- Issue of Dr. Megan Davies recent resignation and continuum of thoughts on the matter, should focus on what the majority of health directors are comfortable with...doesn't prevent individual health directors or boards of health from doing what they would like to do on their own. A broad range of comments were shared including avoidance of actions that would be interpreted as having political implications; multiple comments advocating for some type of letter of support to be generated for Dr. Davies which recognized her contributions to public health; avoidance of any particular stance with the state health director position...stay focused on the issues; county level concerns (particularly those with coal ash pond sites) regarding whether the current drinking water guidance is acceptable; need to focus and understand the science associated with the concern since the collective credibility of public health was at stake; desire for informal conversations to occur with the DHHS Secretary and State Health Director regarding the issue and our concerns; ultimate responsibility of public health to ensure drinking water standards that provide protection and minimize risks (do what is right); desire to have more involvement from the NC Public Health Commission as the appropriate oversight body for these kinds of decisions; consider option of engaging neutral third party to vet all evidence and scientific

information to make a final determination on the appropriate drinking water standard; need to address the issue to achieve some consensus resolution to uphold credibility of local public health; need to resolve confusion for public and elected officials at local level given the change with standards...public still leary about the risk they assume by drinking the water; big picture prompt for all of public health to move toward more objective and transparent processes for these kinds of policy decisions; history of this type of circumstance in North Carolina due to inconsistent standards between state and federal agencies and that it would be prudent to partner with other front line organizations to address the issue. Mr. Urland made a motion to provide a letter of appreciation to Dr. Davies for her contributions to public health and for the President of the Association to meet with the DHHS Secretary and State Health Director to address concerns. Motion was seconded. A request came from the floor to separate the 2 actions. Revised motion which was seconded to provide letter of appreciation to Dr. Davies; motion approved. Next motion which was seconded to request that the President of the Association meet with the DHHS Secretary and State Health Director to share collective concerns; motion approved. Dr. Daly said it would be helpful to have the timeline of key decisions related to this issue. Lisa Harrison said she would send out Rose Hoban's article for all. Dr. Bridger said her interpretation of the discussion was to move forward and insist on an objective credible process for these kinds of matters and to resolve the concerns about the process and decisions related to hexavalent chromium.

NC Division of Public Health Report – Danny Staley

- Last few weeks have been challenging for state and local public health.
- Have a public trust issue...have to address, must continue to emphasize the importance of public health.
- Referenced recent addition of Kelly Kimple, new section chief for women and children's health.
- Working on needle exchange bill, forms and a website being put in place to fulfill requirements of the legislation.
- Preparing RFP for diabetes, specifically minority populations (DPP, health equity)...about \$2 million.
- Oral health survey...interesting preliminary information.
- \$3.2 million dollar shortfall for lab that happened via legislation.
- Introduced Dr. Zack Moore...transitioning into State Epidemiologist role.

NC Division of Public Health Report – Phyllis Rocco

- In July, assisted with 3 regional accreditation coordinator trainings.
- Recently became approved providers for AANC (valid delivery of accepted CEU's)
- New tools now out there for practice management, new workbooks including immunizations (on website).
- X modifiers – should be able to be billed with new xe modifier...now connected to taxonomy (nutrition, behavioral health).
- Formula for distribution of funds (HIS EHR counties)...will be about \$20k per county.

State Environmental Health Report – Larry Michael

- EOP, on the road at 7 different sites across the state to talk about this new option.
- Crypto outbreak season (pools)...importance of pool operators getting this information (CDC just updated their procedures including hyperchlorination).
- Salmonella outbreak associated with creamery in Orange County..made cheese, etc....80+ cases from this outbreak.
- Another salmonella outbreak in several western NC counties associated with a particular food chain (14 establishments).
- Some lead exposure issues in a couple of counties (associated with industry).
- Thanks to Mecklenburg county for their efforts in dealing with the whitewater center.

Executive Director's Report – Lynette Tolson

- Presidents and president elects of all 3 associations met last night...discussed several items including how to establish and protect history of public health in NC...contacted UNC TV...interested in doing documentary on this issue..price tag of \$66,000 for effort....Bob Seligson of NC Medical Society also attended meeting...shared public health concerns about need for science and objective decision making in policy.
- Dr. Williams and others convened meeting for 19 counties that do not have an ob/gyn physician.
- NC HHS Legislative Oversight Committee has scheduled a meeting for September...not sure what will be on the agenda yet.
- Let Lynette know about visits with legislators so Association can be aware of these conversations and coordinate.

Government Relations Coordinator Report – Buck Wilson

- No report.

Partner Reports

NCAPHA Report – Lynette Tolson for Jerry Parks

- Reminder of Alliance meeting immediately after Association meeting.
- Upcoming annual meeting on September 13...health directors are invited.

NCPHA Report – Suzanne Lea

- Reminder of annual meeting in New Bern next month.
- Jim Madsen and Vidant Health will be talking about regional community health assessment in eastern NC.

Committee Reports

Core Public Health – Denise Michaud

Action:

Information:

- Wi-fi now available in the room, thanks to DPH.
- Dr. Kelly Kimple, new WCH section chief, kindergarten immunization update...upcoming immunization surveys.
- DHHS Secretary and State Superintendent planning on sending joint letter supporting immunizations.

Technology – Beth Lovette (will submit written report...see attached)

Action:

Information:

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Policy and Finance – Jim Bruckner

Action: Motion from committee to provide letter of endorsement for African American Tobacco Control coalition. Motion approved.

Information:

- Discussed 2017 legislative agenda, developing draft....added rabies compendium, public funding for needle exchange, stricter enforcement about illegal tattooing, etc.. Need feedback from membership about initial draft, will disseminate via email.

Planning and Innovation – Dennis Joyner

Action:

Information:

- Slide presentation regarding Health Information Exchange Authority and current status.
- Heard from Bob Martin about upcoming HIPAA training (in New Bern)...session now closed, over 200 registered.

Public Health Prevention and Promotion – Janet Clayton

Action:

Information: No report.

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Nomination and Bylaws – Buck Wilson

Action:

Information: No report.

Education and Awards – David Jenkins (did not meet)

Action:

Information:

- Upcoming call on September 7th at 3:00pm with Jill Moore regarding topics for 2017 legal conference. Reminder of call will be sent via email.

Public Health Regions

No action items or information.

Region 1	Janice Patterson	Region 6	Robert Wittman
Region 2	Lynda Kinnane	Region 7	Lisa Harrison
Region 3	Ann Absher	Region 8	Carolyn Moser
Region 4	Dorothea Wyant	Region 9	Jerry Parks
Region 5	Merle Green	Region 10	Davin Madden

Liaison Reports

ANCBH – Barbara Ann Hughes

- Have had 2 recent meetings...state board meetings here and NALBOH conference (Merle and Steve).
- Still need board of health members for slots on accreditation board.
- Also need board members for ANCBH board.
- Challenge of achieving PHAB accreditation for all health departments given existing NC process.

North Carolina Institute for Public Health – Amy Thomas Belflower

- Over 165 staff attended one of the 3 accreditation coordinator trainings
- Accreditation 2.0 committee has concluded its work, recommendations won't change those that already have scheduled site visits.
- Director position at Institute still open.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting

September 13, 2016 2:00 p.m.

Location: New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, Ballroom C (in conjunction with NCPHA conference)
New Bern, NC