

The Fayette County Board of Health met on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 in the Public Meeting Room of the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia.

Board of Health Members Present:

David Barlow
Joseph Barrow
Thomas Faulkner, MD
Vanessa Fleisch
Lynette Peterson
Lyn Redwood
Michael Strain, MD

Staff Members Present:

Glenda Bryant, RN, MN, FNP
Merle Crowe, BA, CCFO
Dennis Davenport, Attorney
Robert Kurbes

District Members Present:

David Ajayi, MD
Duane Fields
Debbi Heard
Wendy LeVan
Olugbenga Obasanjo, MD
Caroline Powers RD LD
Brigid Smith

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Strain called the meeting to order at 7:28 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM July 14, 2014: Motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Ms. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Barlow. The minutes were unanimously approved.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ PUBLIC COMMENT:

Board of Health 2015 Meeting Schedule: The board of health reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for calendar year 2015 (*attachment #1*). The April 14, 2015 meeting conflicted with the annual Georgia Public Health Association (GPHA) meeting and needed to be rescheduled to the following week, April 21, 2014. Motion to reschedule the April meeting was made by Dr. Faulkner, seconded by Ms. Redwood, and was unanimously approved with no further discussion.

Public Health Accreditation: Dr. Obasanjo introduced Dawn Walker, who was brought on board as the new Director of Quality and Accreditation. Ms. Walker gave her background and thanked the board for allowing her time to speak. Dr. Obasanjo said the trend was for state governments to require public health departments to be accredited and that funding

in the future might depend upon achieving that goal, as had happened in other states. He said that accreditation would document the procedures used in public health. He said Ms. Walker had made an impressive start, and the accreditation process would most likely take about three years to complete. He said that the community health needs assessment recently completed for Fayette County was a major requirement of accreditation, and would be needed for all District 4 counties. He mentioned that the accreditation process would address 12 domains, and governance would be covered in Domain 12. He said the board would be involved with Domain 12 and that there would probably be a retreat scheduled for the board to discuss these issues. He felt that all counties in the district would benefit from the lessons learned from the Fayette community needs assessment. Ms. Walker thanked the board for welcoming her and mentioned that Ms. Crowe would be assisting her with the accreditation process.

NEW BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no new business or Public Comment.

STAFF REPORTS: Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Ms. Caroline Powers gave the board a report on WIC numbers (*attachment #2*). She said that the Fayette WIC office staff had worked hard to meet the state goal of 97% of assigned caseload and had indeed succeeded. She said Fayette County still had 14 vendors accepting WIC vouchers, and vouchers cashed added \$95,000 to the local economy. She said that the "Cooking Matters" onsite classes would begin in November on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, and shopping tours would begin whenever arrangements could be made with vendors. She mentioned that the Registered Dietician (RD) student had passed her exam and it was hoped that she would become another RD in the district.

Nursing Report: Ms. Bryant presented the board with the *Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report (attachment #3)*, thanked all the staff who provided data for that report, and said that the results of the community needs assessment would be presented when complete. She discussed the *Back to School Expo (attachment #4)*: 300 children attended and 41 children received Hearing, Vision, Dental and Nutrition exams and immunizations at no charge, due to a donation from a community partner to help offset that expense. She mentioned the Quarterly Staff meeting that was held on August 19th, and said that staff enjoyed a pot luck lunch and fellowship, with another Quarterly meeting to be held in November. One nurse attended the immunization conference and shared the information when she returned. Ms. Bryant and Mr. Kurbes attended the National Night out event. Health department staff will be at the Fayette County Face-to-Face event set for October 24th, where locals can meet their government representatives and learn about services offered. She said that Dr. David Ajayi would be providing clinical services in the Fayette clinic twice a month in the upcoming months. She was not able to collect enough donations to qualify to walk in the *Hope for a Day Walk*, but did donate her time on that day to do breast exams for women in need. She said that organization donated funds to supplement state funding to provide mammograms for low income women; state funding normally would not be enough to provide services for the year without other funding. She said Fayette County Health department was set to again participate in the NOFLU4U project to provide flu vaccine for children in school. Ms. Bryant said she would attend an upcoming Teen Moms class at Fayette Piedmont Hospital.

Environmental Health (EH): Mr. Kurbes said while compiling the numbers for the annual report he noticed that Fayette County had the third highest number of permits for septic systems in the state, and that 54 sets of plans for food service were received for Fiscal Year 2014. He discussed several new restaurants that had recently either opened or remodeled, and said many staff hours were needed for these inspections. He felt that these numbers indicated that the South Metro area was beginning to recover from the building recession. He updated the board on ongoing training for the two newly hired staff, and was pleased to report that rehiring retiree Jeff Kilgore had been a tremendous help with not only training new staff, but that Mr. Kilgore would also help out with septic permits as well. He thanked the Fayette County Commissioners and the County Manager, Steve Rapson, for their assistance with providing a vehicle for the new EH staff member, which will allow her to be mobile as soon as she was signed off on her training.

Financial: Ms. Brigid Smith updated the board on the current fiscal position of the health department. She said that there had been a time lag in receiving Grant-in-Aid funding, which explained the difference between revenue for this year and last year, and that expenses were up by a little over \$9000 due to an ad placed in the local movie theater for the entire next year and the expense of the new EH staff. She said Fayette County health department was in good fiscal shape.

District 4/Public Health: Dr. Obasanjo re-introduced Dawn Walker, and said she had done amazing things in the few weeks she had been on board. Ms. Walker showed the board the new District 4 website (www.district4health.org) and went over the Fayette pages. She encouraged the board to contribute their ideas and said the website would be a tool to help with accreditation; it would serve as a place to store the documents necessary for that process. She showed the short video that set to run for a year in the local movie theater. Dr. Obasanjo emphasized that the website remained a work in progress and would be a good resource.

Dr. Obasanjo encouraged the board members to attend next year's Georgia Public Health Association (GPHA) conference on April 12-13, 2015. He said it would be an opportunity to network and get to know other board members. He mentioned the upcoming Wellness Day for staff set for January 16, 2015 and invited the board to attend. He gave board members a copy of a health policy reference manual for their review.

Ms. Redwood asked how matters stood with the ongoing Ebola crisis. Dr. Obasanjo explained that the current question of a breach in procedure for the nurse who became infected and that had been in the news was not a question of her failing in use of proper Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), it was a matter of less than optimal protocol. He thought that PPE protocols would be rewritten to be more stringent, especially when removing PPE. He said very little was known about this virus, since in the past it was contained in Africa. He emphasized that the public health system's response was correct: all the infected nurse's contacts - even her dog - were immediately isolated and under observation. He said identifying and isolating infected people was the key to controlling the disease, and that it would probably be necessary to go to the origin of the disease in

Africa to eradicate it. He said that hospitals were usually not set up to quarantine patients and that new protocols would need to be put in place. He stressed that in the past Ebola occurred in East Africa, where people were less mobile, so usually the illness was contained in the local area. This time it occurred in West Africa, where the population was more mobile and therefore more likely to spread the illness. He mentioned that certain cultural practices could make it difficult to contain Ebola as well. The board thanked Dr. Obasanjo for the information.

Mr. Barlow brought up the question of changing the meeting time to 8:00 AM rather than 7:30, and asked if the board would consider opening the meeting with an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag. Ms. Peterson was uncomfortable with opening with an invocation and the board decided to have both items on the agenda for the January 2015 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Redwood, seconded by Dr. Barrow. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 AM.

Michael Strain, MD Chair

Submitted by: Merle Crowe, BA, CCFO