

# Forsyth County Board of Health



- Dr. Linda L. Petrou, PhD, Chair
- Dr. James K. Doub, OD, Vice Chair
- Ms. Judy Briggs
- Mr. John Davenport, Jr., PE
- Ms. Carrie D. Fernald, RN, MSN, AGPCNP-BC, FCN
- Dr. Charles F. Massler, DDS, M.Ed.
- Dr. Willard L. McCloud, Jr., MD
- Dr. Scott E. Schroeder, DVM
- Mr. J. Phil Seats, R.Ph., MBA
- Dr. Ricky Sides, DC
- Ms. Gloria D. Whisenhunt, County Commissioner

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## BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES October 1, 2014

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Linda Petrou, Chair  
Dr. James Doub  
Ms. Judy Briggs  
Mr. John Davenport  
Ms. Carrie Fernald  
Dr. Charles Massler  
Dr. Willard McCloud  
Dr. Scott Schroeder  
Mr. J. Phil Seats  
Dr. Ricky Sides  
Ms. Gloria Whisenhunt

### MEMBERS ABSENT

None

### OTHERS PRESENT

None

### **Call to Order:**

On Wednesday, October 1, 2014, the Forsyth County Board of Health held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting in the Board Room at the Forsyth County Department of Public Health (FCDPH). Dr. Linda Petrou called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

### **Consideration of Minutes:**

The minutes of the September 3, 2014 Board of Health Meeting were reviewed by the Board. Dr. Petrou asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. James Doub made a motion to approve and Mr. J. Phil Seats seconded. The rest of the members agreed and the minutes were approved by the Board.

### **Public Comment Section:**

Board Members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

### STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Marlon Hunter  
Ms. Ayo Ademoyero  
Ms. Lorrie Christie  
Ms. Sandra Clodfelter  
Ms. Quintana Stewart  
Mr. Bob Whitwam  
Ms. Ethel Evans

**Health Director's Comments** - Mr. Marlon Hunter thanked Board members for their comments on his Performance Appraisal last month and added he has now completed three years.

Mr. Hunter informed Board members that Ms. Sandra Clodfelter had flu vaccine available at the meeting if they wanted to get their flu shot that night. Ms. Clodfelter announced that flu clinics were ready and open to the public. She reported they gave 385 shots today, compared to 336 last year. Ms. Clodfelter added that the hours are posted on the website and are: Mon./Tues./Wed. 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Thurs. 9:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. She reminded Board members to let their colleagues know that the vaccine is available here at the department.

Mr. Hunter reported they had a hot wash at Oak Forest Health and Rehabilitation facility and he and Mr. Bob Whitwam have been out on the site most of the night. He thanked Mr. Whitwam and his staff for their work with the Legionella outbreak at Oak Forest. Mr. Whitwam added that staff had been instrumental in getting Oak Forest back up and running. There have been seven cases identified at the facility. A contingency plan has been put in place. Ms. Carrie Fernald asked how the disease was dispersed and Mr. Whitwam responded a patient with pneumonia. Mr. Seats then asked how does it spread and Mr. Whitwam responded it grows in warm water – people can become infected when they breathe in a contaminated mist or vapor that has been contaminated. Mr. Hunter advised the Board to let us know if they wanted more details.

Mr. Hunter stated he will be participating in a conference call of all Health Directors tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. on Ebola, adding that the first travel associated case of Ebola was in Dallas, Texas. Mr. Hunter stated “this is public health at its best”. Dr. Petrou asked if the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are prepared to handle Ebola. Mr. Hunter responded yes and said contact tracing is going on now.

Mr. Hunter referenced the Infant Mortality rates that came out and pointed out we are below Guilford County – he added, we can celebrate but the rates are still high.

Mr. Hunter thanked Ms. Quintana Stewart, adding we got our cost settlement back and received \$800,000 more this year than last year. Also, thanks to Ms. Stewart, we saved the county \$250,000 over the next five years through our Electronic Medical Records. He announced that some of the Internal Health Services, Administrative staff have moved to the Government Center.

### **New Business:**

**Communicable Disease Report** – Ms. Ayo Ademoyero started her presentation on the 2014 Communicable Disease Report by saying the core function of public health is to monitor health status; diagnose/investigate health problems/hazards; and inform, educate, empower people about health status. Ms. Ademoyero stated that communicable diseases are illnesses caused by infectious agents (bacteria, viruses, parasites, fungi or prions) or their toxins. They are transmitted from an infected person, animal, plant or from the environment. She added, communicable diseases are tracked and analyzed and this is called surveillance. There are over 70 reportable communicable diseases. Ms. Ademoyero stated the numbers do not fluctuate too much, only if there is an outbreak (ex. Pertussis and Syphilis). As of the 14<sup>th</sup> of last month, Chikungunya has been added to the list of communicable diseases. Ms. Ademoyero reported that

for **influenza**, on average, there are 7,000 doses given annually to health department clients.

Ms. Gloria Whisenhunt asked out of that 7,000, how many are out of our county. Ms.

Ademoyero responded she was not sure but would find out. Ms. Ademoyero continued on to say that 48 million people get sick from **foodborne illnesses** (eating contaminated food/drink);

**STI's** make up 95% of all reported diseases (rates of Chlamydia, HIV, Gonorrhea cases and Syphilis have decreased since 2009-2013); **Tuberculosis** from 2009-2013 there have been 43 diagnosed cases (2/3 are foreign born and 2/3 are over 45 years of age); **Enterovirus D68** (nationally, 472 cases tested positive in 41 states – all but one was among children – in NC there has been 7 confirmed cases under 10 years of age with respiratory illness – disease is not limited to any particular region of the state); **Ebola**, is a viral infection that is a rare and deadly disease that is transmitted by blood/bloody fluids, infected animals and contaminated needles/syringes. There has been 6,574 cases in West Africa (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Senegal and Liberia), with 3,091 deaths (copy of handouts on file in the Administrative Binder). Ms. Ademoyero concluded her presentation by thanking the Board.

Mr. Hunter added the Mayor is working on a relief project and has asked the health department to participate. There will be a press release talking about relief, later this month.

**Old Business:**

None

**Committee Reports:**

**Adjourn:**

A request for a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Petrou. A motion was made by Dr. Ricky Sides and seconded by Mr. Seats. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.



Marlon B. Hunter  
Secretary to the Board  
MBH/lgc