

Clayton County Board of Health Bi-Monthly Board Meeting July 21, 2015 10:00 AM

Board Members Present:

Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner Superintendent Luvenia Jackson Dr. Aundria Cheever Dr. Timothy Brown Jim Woods

Board Members Absent:

Mayor David Lockhart

Board of Health Staff:

Alpha Fowler Bryan, MD, District Health Director
Rosalyn Bacon, MPH, Deputy Director
Olatanwa Adewale, Epidemiologist
Karen Babineau, Administrative Operations Manager
Samuel Dudley, MIS Manager
Freddie Dugger, Emergency Preparedness and Response Director
Carmella Hood, Budget Analyst Paraprofessional
Samuel McCullough, Environmental Health Manager
Rodney Stinson, District Administrator
Angela West, Administrative Assistant

Meeting Called to Order

The Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Turner at 10:02 AM.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the Board meeting held on May 19, 2015 were approved. Superintendent Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Chairman Turner. A unanimous vote was received from the remainder of the Board members.

Introduction Chairman Turner

Chairman Turner introduced the newest board member, Dr. Timothy Brown with Southern Regional Medical Center to the Board members.

Director's Report

Alpha Fowler Bryan, M.D.

Dr. Bryan reported that we are filling some key positions within the agency and have successfully recruited a District Nursing and Clinical Director. We are recruiting for the Personnel Director and have some really good candidates whose interviews will be conducted in a couple of weeks.

We celebrated the end of 5 year grant from HRSA, our teen pregnancy prevention program, Clayton Can Soar to the Top event. We have seen a reduction in our teen pregnancy rate in Clayton County. We are not being re-funded for this program. The Chairman commended Dr. Bryan and staff on the CCST program, it was a great program!

Superintendent Jackson stated that she is partly pleased CCBOH did not receive the Teen Pregnancy and Prevention grant; this is a positive outcome that we are doing so much to reduce the numbers of teen pregnancy which was our goal. Superintendent Jackson asked, "Are we going to continue to do something in that area with our teens"?

Dr. Bryan responded that we have an adolescent program. One of our goals since we have established a relationship with the school system is that we could have some type of sustainability efforts once CCST was no longer available. It is important that we continue to work with the school system because we don't want to see rates rise again.

Dr. Cheever stated CCST has been a part of their site and it has been extremely helpful. The comments that she has received from children and their parents; they are so excited and continue to stay in contact after the first session is over. Dr. Cheever added that it has been a tremendous benefit to the community and CSB will continue be a participant in any way possible.

Chairman Turner responded that's great! They are having fun and learning something. The funding has gone away for a good reason but we still need to find a way to continue those efforts.

Chairman Turner stated that he had a conversation with Yusef Poole whom provides legal assistance to the agency and asked Dr. Bryan "why Mr. Poole does not receive a stifling from the Board of Health"? Dr. Bryan responded that she has spoken with Mr. Poole's supervisor, Christy Barnes and provided her an analysis but has not received a response back from her.

Financial Report Karen Babineau

Mrs. Babineau reported that we did not have a chance to do a budget revision. The state gave us until July 10th this year to close for the year which allowed us more time to spend the money in the programs but then cut it by two days. We did not have time to get all the budget revisions and journal entries entered so that is why balances are reflected. The middle column is the Year-to-date, that is the actual revenue and expenses that indicates that out revenue is over our expenses which is very unusual. One explanation is this was Year 4 of Grant-in-Aid's new formulated policy. We received about \$400k extra that we did know about but did not budget for. We had a turnover in employees so that's why salaries are down. This indicates \$4000 for an emergency fund and \$233k in Admin. Claiming which is added in with Medicaid revenue. The funds are not entered until we receive them and we did not receive them until the end of the fiscal year. At the end of the year it goes into our fund balance.

Dr. Bryan responded that how the monies are allocated is determined by leadership and the Board.

- We have a major problem with our medical records system. The Medical Records room is overcrowded and not modernized. We would like to bring in someone with Medical Records expertise to review our current situation and make strong recommendations about how best to proceed with modernizing the medical records system. An electronic medical records system is what we must consider. We have a (semi-electronic) hybrid system at this time. Our Mitchell and McCormick (M&M) system we have had for years, and half of the districts with the state utilize M&M system. Part of the history and examinations are captured in the electronic system but our staff still has manual records.
- A Quality Improvement person is needed; we are in the age of accreditation. Public Health is proceeding with accreditation efforts throughout the state. The first and only accredited district in Georgia is Cobb/Douglas who started the process five or six years ago and it took them until this year to be successful with it. The many activities involved in the Accreditation process require someone capable of marshalling the staff and leading that process.
- Last year in September, the Board approved 3% for employees with salaries over \$50k and 4% for those who had lower earnings; which was the first increase in salary in the last eight years. This resulted in increased fringe rates plus when some of these key positions are filled that too will adsorb funding.
- The telephone system needs to be replaced and modernized to Voice over IP throughout our building. We do not have a complete FY16 budget because we do not have all the final dollars from the different annexes that come to us from programmatic grant-in-aid programs. Once we have those figures we will bring back FY16 budget to the Board.

Karen mentioned the reformulation of the grant-in-aid which has not been reformulated since the late 1970's. The additional dollars are based on poverty, the percentage of poverty and population. We have seen the grant-in-aid rise, that too has given us additional dollars. The down side is the formula has been going up and so has the benefits structure to the point where we are paying sixty-two cents on every dollar that we spend for salaries.

Mr. Wood stated that he read in the newspaper that our local hospital is bankrupt which is a horrific situation. We need the president or Chairman to give us a report on the financial situation of the hospital because if the hospital goes bankrupt Clayton County is in terrible shape. We all know that a third of the patients cannot pay for services so what can we do; turn them away or treat them and go further in debt. We need an educational program so that the public understands the real issues of the hospital.

Chairman Turner responded that the hospital can go bankrupt and remain open. He is not at liberty to discuss at this time but has more incite of this situation and hopefully will have an answer soon. More information is forth coming; Clayton County has been working hand in hand with the Hospital Authority Board. We could talk with our Governor and ask him to sign off on the Medicaid Bill that will help us as well.

Adjournment

There being no further business the regular meeting was adjourned. A motion to adjourn was made by Superintendent Jackson and seconded by Dr. Brown. This meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.

Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner