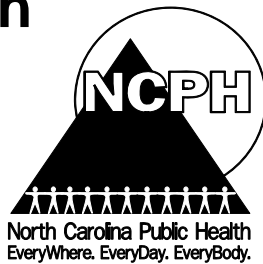


Forsyth County Board of Health



- Vera S. Robinson, OTR, Chair
- Dr. Ricky Sides, DC, Vice-Chair
- Beaufort O. Bailey
- Dr. James K. Doub, OD
- Linda Petrou, PhD
- Nancy R. Hardie, RPH
- Randall G. Kale, PE
- Dr. P. Lee Salisbury, III., DDS
- Dr. Calvert B. Jeffers, Jr., DVM
- Jane Bradner Mosko, RN, CRNA
- Dr. Willard L. McCloud, Jr., MD

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES November 5, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Vera Robinson, Chair
Dr. Ricky Sides, Vice-Chair
Mr. Randall Kale
Dr. Calvert Jeffers
Mr. Beaufort Bailey
Dr. Paul (Lee) Salisbury
Dr. James (Kent) Doub
Ms. Linda Petrou
Ms. Nancy Hardie
Ms. Jane Bradner Mosko
Dr. Willard McCloud

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. C. Timothy Monroe
Ms. Cynthia Jeffries
Mr. Bob Whitwam
Ms. Peggy Lemon
Ms. Ayo Ademeyero
Ms. Lynne Mitchell
Ms. Quintana Stewart

MEMBERS ABSENT

NONE

Call to Order:

On Wednesday, November 5, 2008, the Forsyth County Board of Health held a Public Hearing in Meeting Rooms 1, 2, and 3, at the Forsyth County Department of Public Health. Ms. Vera Robinson, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Consideration of Minutes:

The minutes of the October 1, 2008 Board of Health Meeting were reviewed by the Board. Upon motion by Mr. Bailey and a second by Mr. Kale, the minutes were approved as presented by the Board of Health.

Public Hearing:

Forsyth County Board of Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Rule:

Dr. Monroe explained that whenever a local Board of Health considers a local rule change, the law requires a public hearing to be held. Local newspapers printed public notices announcing the recommendation for local lead rule change on October 24th and 25th, and the Health Department advertised through various other methods. The proposed rule was posted at the County Clerk's office and on the internet, and a copy is attached to these minutes. Dr. Monroe stated that the Board has been studying this issue and considering a possible rule change since June. There was extensive discussion about this at the Board of Health Retreat in June and at the last Board meeting.

Dr. Monroe explained that the recommendation for this change was made by the Health Director and the professional staff of the Department. He presented a summary rationale (outline attached) for recommending the local lead rule. He explained that the existing state lead regulations provide for mandatory assessment and abatement of potential residential lead hazards only after a child has been poisoned (blood lead level >20

micrograms/deciliter) as a result of living in such a residence or care setting. Such assessment and abatement are voluntary in cases where a child's blood level is 10 to 19 micrograms/deciliter. Recommended targeted screening of "at-risk" children at ages 1 and 2 years for lead exposure has proven to be less than completely effective in that only 59% of screenings recommended for Medicaid eligible children are done in Forsyth County. There is a growing body of scientific evidence that indicate that blood levels even below 10 micrograms/deciliter are harmful to children (impaired intellectual development and behavior disorders).

Lead based paint for residential structures were removed from shelves in 1978. Sixty percent of residential structures were built before 1979. A housing-based program for the primary prevention of childhood lead exposure, as recommended by the ACCLPP, is not in place and not anticipated in the near future in Forsyth County. Therefore, a rule change is recommended which: Defines an elevated blood lead level as 8 micrograms/deciliter or higher; Defines a blood lead level of concern as 5 to 7 micrograms/deciliter; Mandates assessment/abatement of lead hazard associated with an elevated blood lead level in a child; and, Recommends universal screening of all children at age 1 year and 2 years of age.

These changes will increase the sensitivity of the existing secondary prevention program by identifying more children with blood lead levels of concern earlier (at lower blood lead levels) before any potential future injury. These changes will also assure that children found to have blood lead levels of concern and to be exposed in residential and other care setting hazards, be removed from those settings.

The following people spoke in favor of the lead rule:

1. Mary Lynn Widosky
2. Dr. Cecilia McDaniel
3. Kelly Carpenter
4. Frank Wood
5. Gerald Taylor
6. Ken Ostberg

The following people spoke in opposition of the lead rule:

1. Mark Saunders
2. Richard Miller
3. Nancy Gould

After the public had an opportunity to speak, the board discussed the issue at length. During the discussion, Mr. Beaufort Bailey made a motion to table the item and postpone a vote until the December meeting. Ms. Jane Bradner Mosko seconded the motion, and by majority vote the Board tabled the item.

Adjourn:

Mr. Beaufort Bailey made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Jane Bradner Mosko seconded the motion. By majority vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Sincerely,

Dr. C. Timothy Monroe
Secretary to the Board

CTM/tjb