

**PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**JANUARY 18, 2011**  
**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jimmy B. Clayton  
Kyle W. Puryear  
B. Ray Jeffers  
Samuel R. Kennington  
Frances P. Blalock

Heidi York, County Manager  
C. Ronald Aycock, County Attorney  
Brenda B. Reaves, Clerk to the Board

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Person, North Carolina, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' meeting room in the Person County Office Building.

Chairman Clayton called the meeting to order, led invocation and asked Commissioner Kennington to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Jeffers arrived at 9:01 a.m.

**DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Blalock, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear and **carried 5-0** to add to the agenda for consideration a Legislative Goal Proposal.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Blalock and **carried 5-0** to approve the agenda as adjusted.

**REPRESENTATIVE W.A. WILKINS ADDRESSES BOARD:**

Representative W.A. Wilkins proposed the Board set up a roundtable group for the purpose of exchanging and developing ideas comprised of representatives from various constituent groups within the county. Representative Wilkins stated such a group could bring about a great exchange of information about the goals, hopes, priorities and dreams of various organizations adding the concept could even develop to a point that may provide the Board with some budgetary guidance. Representative Wilkins recommended the county to formulate the list of members but mentioned major community stakeholders such as Person County Schools, Piedmont Community College, Tourism Development Authority, the County, the Chamber, the City, and Economic Development Commission should be included. Representative Wilkins stated this committee should report to the Board of County Commissioners. Representative Wilkins agreed to Chair the committee when asked by Chairman Clayton.

Commissioner Kennington reminded the group of a committee formed in 2007 at the request of Jim Stovall, named Roxboro/Person County Development Board that already exists, although inactive, designated representation from many of the community partners as described and sought by Representative Wilkins.

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A **motion** was made by Commissioner Kennington, **seconded** by Commissioner Blalock, and **carried 5-0** to look at and expand the present roundtable (Roxboro/Person County Development Board), as well as to ask Representative Wilkins to chair the committee and meet with those presently serving on the committee (Roxboro/Person County Development Board).

Representative Wilkins asked the Board to understand he would be working the County Manager to develop or redevelop this roundtable group.

Commissioner Kennington asked the initial discussion of the roundtable to include the Person Futures Strategic Plan as a guideline. Representative Wilkins agreed.

The Board thanked Representative Wilkins for agreeing to chair the committee.

#### **INFORMAL COMMENTS:**

The following individuals appeared before the Board to make informal comments:

Ms. Searie Yow of 30 Ellis Pleasant Drive, Leasburg gave the Board pictures and internet advertisements related to her support and advocacy to the revisions in the county junkyard ordinance.

Mr. Louis Rodriguez of 30 Ellis Pleasant Drive, Leasburg urged the Board to take responsibility for the junkyard ordinance and its affects on future generations.

Mr. Kenny Rickman of 3936 Allensville Road, Roxboro asked the Board for accountability related to enforcing county ordinances.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Blalock noted a correction on page 3 in the January 4, 2011 minutes noting Mamon Poole should be Namon Poole.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to approve the minutes of December 20, 2010, January 4, 2011, January 6, 2011, and January 10, 2011 with the correction noted above.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to approve the Administrative Reports for the Airport, Detention Center and Inspection Department.

**January 18, 2011**

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **REVISED ORDINANCE REQUIRING UNREGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES TO BE SCREENED FROM VIEW:**

County Manager, Heidi York stated after receiving public input at the Board's January 4, 2011 public hearing, three Board members directed the Manager to revert back to the 1999 Screening Ordinance with a few minor changes. Ms. York noted the version in the Board packet highlights those minor changes and does not regulate businesses including junkyards, salvage operations or automobile graveyards. Ms. York told the Board the revised ordinance for consideration 1) does not clarify a reporting process or compliance period, 2) keeps the enforcement under the Sheriff Office, 3) incorporates recreational facilities and cemeteries to be screened from view, and 4) does not include definitions. Ms. York clarified in the revised ordinance screening is defined as fencing with vegetation that must be properly maintained.

Ms. York told Board members that an Addendum titled Reporting and Enforcement for Section Eight as proposed by Commissioner Blalock was placed at their seats prior to the meeting. Commissioner Blalock prefaced her proposed Addendum by stating passing the junkyard ordinance would implement objectives in the Person Futures Strategic Plan. Commissioner Blalock read her proposed Addendum into the record:

#### *Section Eight* **REPORTING AND ENFORCEMENT**

*A comprehensive survey of all junkyards in the county that adversely affect the attractiveness and safety of the environment will be performed. Every citizen that values the beauty and safety of our county is requested to be a part of this effort. When making this survey only those areas that are seen from a highway, housing unit, cemetery, park or school and need remedy should be reported. This initial reporting period will be for \_\_\_\_\_ months following the date of this ordinance. When this survey is complete a group of volunteers will assemble to visit all sites and render a second opinion.*

*After each site is certified by a second party, a formal letter will be sent to the person or entity explaining the infraction, the time allotted for remedy, and the penalty for failing to comply with the ordinance within the four month time allotted. Follow-up visits will occur after the allotment time has elapsed. Failure to remedy will result in a citation. The Sheriff's Department will be responsible for enforcement.*

*All survey results will be sent to the Planning Board at \_\_\_\_\_ (address).*

*Any entity or person needing assistance:*

- 1. May request a compliance officer review the situation*
- 2. May request a time extension if, after review, it is deemed necessary by the compliance officer.*
- 3. May call this number to make those requests. \_\_\_\_\_ (Planning Board telephone number)*

**January 18, 2011**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Blalock, **seconded** by Commissioner Kennington, for consideration of Section Eight, Reporting and Enforcement for adoption into the revised Ordinance Requiring Unregistered Motor Vehicles to be screened from view.

Commissioner Jeffers voiced concerns of volunteers acting in role of compliance officers representing county government.

Commissioner Blalock clarified for members of the Board the volunteers noted in Section Eight would be Person Futures committee members.

Commission Jeffers asked the County Attorney if the county could legally have volunteers make a second opinion that would result in criminal repercussion. County Attorney, Ron Aycock stated he recommended the proposed Addendum, Section Eight, Reporting and Enforcement site clarifying conditions as the precedent to any enforcement activity with more clearer language defining the authority of those doing the survey as well as the second party certification and the standards to which to be measured. Mr. Aycock advised the Board not to adopt as presented so that staff may include standards to use for enforcement.

Commissioner Kennington stated, in his opinion, citizens are government and was encouraging the concept of neighbors addressing fellow neighbors as opposed to the Sheriff addressing citizens to request cleaner neighborhoods. Commissioner Kennington asked the County Attorney to research a neighbor's right to request his/her neighbor to clean up their property.

Commissioner Jeffers stated his opposition to the proposed Addendum for Section Eight, Reporting and Enforcement.

Vice Chairman Puryear stated he could not support the proposed Addendum for Section Eight, Reporting and Enforcement.

Commissioner Blalock reiterated that the revised Ordinance Requiring Unregistered Motor Vehicles to be screened from view contains no reporting requirements.

Commissioner Kennington asked the County Attorney the legal responsibility of the Sheriff to enforce Person County ordinances. Mr. Aycock stated the Sheriff does not have the authority to decide which law to enforce and has the responsibility to enforce both the State laws and local ordinances.

Ms. York asked the Planning Director, Paula Murphy to speak to the current Planning Ordinance as it would address the situation described in the photos provided by Ms. Yow. Ms. Murphy stated the revised Ordinance Requiring Unregistered Motor Vehicles to be screened from view should address the situation described in the photos. Ms. York added the revised Ordinance Requiring Unregistered Motor Vehicles to be screened from view would require a fencing if visible from the road. No fencing would be required if not visible from the road. Ms. Murphy told the Board that a junkyard for business use would require a special use permit and license. Chairman Clayton noted situations that are a junkyard that do not have a permit are in violation of the Zoning Ordinance. Ms. Murphy clarified that an actual business is treated different from an individual for personal use.

Commissioner Kennington stated the county has a major flaw with the present policy as he, not acting as a business, but as an individual could collect on his property an unlimited number of cars as long as the cars are not visible from the road. Commissioner Jeffers stated his support of the revised Ordinance Requiring Unregistered Motor Vehicles to be screened from view reminding the group that the junkyard issue relates to a separate county ordinance that is not included in the proposed revision before the Board this date.

Commissioner Blalock stated the problems are not with the ordinance(s) but with the enforcement and without a designated place to report. Commissioner Jeffers responded the ordinance is enforced by a complaint based system through the Sheriff's Department investigation.

A **substitute motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried by majority vote 3-2** to adopt the revised Ordinance Requiring Unregistered Motor Vehicles to be screened from view as presented by the County Manager this date excluding the proposed Addendum, Section Eight, Reporting and Enforcement. Commissioners Blalock and Kennington cast the dissenting votes.

Commissioner Kennington asked Chairman Clayton if the County Attorney would bring back to the Board a revised Section Eight, Reporting and Enforcement for further consideration. Chairman Clayton confirmed to the group that the County Attorney would be asked to review and recommend a revised Section Eight, Reporting and Enforcement for further consideration by the Board.

Mr. Aycock confirmed the existing county ordinances are valid and the newly adopted ordinance would be the controlling, prevailing ordinance.

## REVISION OF THE PERSON COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE:

Animal Control Director, Ron Shaw highlighted for the Board the proposed revisions of the Animal Control Ordinance accepting questions and feedback on the behalf of the Animal Control Advisory Board.

Chairman Clayton requested language in Section 9, Cruel Treatment to further the statement by adding as provided by the Wildlife Resources Commission rules. County Attorney, Ron Aycock suggested adding the reference to trapping rules as well.

Commissioner Blalock requested the words at-large be added to the first sentence of Section 11, Impounding Animals.

Regarding Section 14, Kennels and Hunting Clubs, Commissioner Jeffers noted the NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) was currently reviewing legislation and recommended holding to receive input from the NCACC. Commissioner Blalock inquired about a Code of Ethics for hunters.

Mr. Shaw identified the current as well as proposed taxes and fees in Appendix A. The group discussed and provided input for consideration of decreasing some of the fees.

Commissioner Blalock offered the following revisions (bold text) to the proposed points in Appendix B, Rescue Group Procedures:

*This purpose of this policy is to establish standard operating procedures for Person County Animal Control/Shelter and all rescue groups that wish to retrieve animals from Person County Animal Shelter. Violation of this policy by a rescue group **may result in a suspension of its rescue privileges.***

- A. *Rescue groups wishing to rescue animals must be a non-profit organization with a 501c3 paperwork. For rescue groups located out of state, the group must also meet all the licensing requirements in the state in which they reside.*
- B. *All rescue groups must have an application approved by the Person County Animal Shelter Director (hereinafter "Director"). Any rescue application may be denied by the Director **with a full explanation for denial.** Each rescue group must submit a copy of its 501c3 papers and a list of agents authorized to pick up animals from the Person County Animal Shelter.*
- C. *Person County Animal Shelter will notify an applying rescue group of the approval or denial of it's application and will do so within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the of application **with an explanation if denial is rendered.***
- D. *In the event a rescue group's application is denied, the group may appeal the decision to the Animal control Advisory Committee. If the Committee overturns the denials, the application will be forwarded to the Director, and will be signed by the Chairperson of the Committee signifying approval of the application.*
- E. *A rescue group may have its rights to pick up animals from Person County Animal Shelter **suspended by the Director pending a hearing by the Animal***

*Control Advisory Committee regarding the group's failure to comply to rules set forth in this ordinance.*

*Points to consider are:*

- 1. Adherence to pick-up times and procedures*
- 2. Cordial interaction between all parties, Shelter and Rescue Group*

*Back Page*

*M. A rescue group's request to place a hold on an animal may be denied at the discretion of the Director **with an explanation for denial.***

Commissioner Puryear suggested Mr. Shaw and staff report the Board's feedback to the Animal Control Advisory Committee for further revisions to be brought back to the Board.

Mr. Shaw thanked the Board for the feedback offered.

Commissioner Kennington noted a concern and his preference for the first step to be a warning prior to a citation as the citizens will have to be educated to the new rules.

Chairman Clayton suggested the Animal Control Advisory Committee bring back to the Board a further revised Animal Control Ordinance. Upon the Board's further review, Chairman Clayton recommended the Animal Control Advisory Committee to hold a public hearing for citizen's input.

Mr. Aycock stated procedurally, the revised ordinance requires a two-step process noting the first of introduction and Board consideration took place at this meeting and at the second reading adoption can take place by majority vote.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **2010 STATE OF THE COUNTY HEALTH REPORT:**

Health Promotion Coordinator/Healthy Personians Coordinator, LeighAnn Creson presented the Board the 2010 State of the County Health Report. The 2010 State of the County Health Report provides current mortality and morbidity data for Person County, listing health priorities identified through the 2007 Community Health Assessment process as well as reveals progress made towards addressing those priorities in the past year. Ms. Creson stated new and emerging issues in public health are addressed as well as other changes in the county that have or could potentially impact the health of Personians.

# State of the County



## Health Report 2010

Prepared by:



December 2010

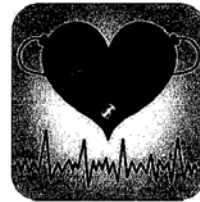
*For additional copies of this report go to: <http://health.personcounty.net> (Health Data link)  
or contact Person County Health Department's Health Education Division at 597-2204 x2277.*

January 18, 2011

### Partners Continue to Address Many of the County's Health Priorities

Person County's most recent Community Health Assessment was conducted in 2007. As part of the assessment process health priorities for the county were identified. These priorities will remain in place until new ones are established through the next Community Health Assessment which will be conducted in 2011. Current health priorities include:

- **Chronic Disease** (*Heart Disease, Cancer, Stroke, Diabetes, Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases*)
- **Health Promotion** (*Obesity/Overweight, Physical Activity, Nutrition, Smoking/Tobacco Use, Unsafe Sex, Drug/Alcohol Abuse*)
- **Adolescent Health** (*Teen Pregnancy, Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV*)
- **Community Issues** (*Gang Activity/Suicide*)
- **Access to Health Resources** (*Physical, Mental, and Preventive Health, Treatment*)



Person County Health Department, the Healthy Personians Partnership and their numerous partners continue to collaborate to address many of these priority areas. Since the last State of the County Health Report in December 2009, the following initiatives have been implemented:

- The annual **Give Your Heart a Healthy Beat Program** was offered to the community.
- **Signage, measuring distance**, was posted for walkers in the staff parking lot at the Person County Human Service facility.
- One school implemented a **Healthy Concessions Project** for home athletic events.
- **Weekly tips on healthy eating and physical activity** were posted on the Accent Health messaging system in the Health Department's clinic waiting room.
- The **Move More in Person brochure**, featuring places in the county where individuals or families can go to be physically active for free, became available in Spanish.
- Two **HIV community outreach** events were held in observance of National HIV Testing Day.
- A free **PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) Screening Program** was implemented for eligible men.
- **Monthly health promotion columns** were provided for several newsletters. Information was featured on healthy eating, physical activity, access to health services/programs, etc.
- The American Cancer Society's **Freshstart Quit Smoking Program** was offered to the community twice.
- A monthly **direct mail campaign and an educational program** were offered to a diabetic/pre-diabetic target audience through a Diabetes Social Marketing Campaign.
- A **mock HIV testing event** was conducted for high school students.
- The implementation of **House Bill 2** was promoted through a **media campaign and a coaster distribution** to local restaurants.
- A local **Great American Smokeout** campaign was offered.

- A **Diabetic Foot Care DVD** was produced and aired on the local cable channel. The DVD was also made available to individuals upon request as well as participants in diabetes programs.
- The **Physical Activity and Nutrition Prescription Pad Program** was expanded at one site to reach the Hispanic population.
- Health messages and resources continued to be relayed through a **Community Service Radio Spot Campaign**.
- HIV information and rapid testing was available through a **World AIDS Day outreach** event.
- **Be Proud, Be Responsible** (HIV/STD Prevention Program) was conducted at one site.
- The **Take Charge of Your Diabetes Program** was offered.
- A free **Cholesterol Screening Program** for eligible men was offered.
- The **Cook Smart, Eat Smart Program** was implemented.
- A **guest speaker** (person who is HIV positive) was brought in for high school students.
- The **Community Health Resource Guide**, listing free or discounted health resources in the county, was updated.

The priorities that the Health Department and Healthy Personians address are determined by the resources (staff, money, time, expertise of partners, etc.) that are available to support them. Many of these efforts were supported by grants and local funds awarded through the NC Communicable Disease Branch, Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, NC Statewide Health Promotion Program, Project REACH Diabetes Initiative, Person County United Way, NC Central Partnership for Public Health, NC Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch, Walmart, Person Family Medical and Dental Centers, Inc. and Person County Health Department.

#### HELP CREATE A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY!

To move forward from words on a page to community change, it will take all of us – individuals, organizations, both public and private partners, working toward the common good to achieve a healthier more productive Person County! (Adapted from *Eat Smart, Move More: North Carolina's Plan to Prevent Overweight, Obesity, and Related Chronic Diseases*)

GET INVOLVED in addressing Person County's health priorities! Opportunities for involvement are available through service on the Healthy Personians Advisory Board and/or a sub-committee (nominating committee, planning committee, resource development committee, community initiative support committee). New members are always welcome on the HIV Task Force and FAN (Fitness And Nutrition) Club, which are Healthy Personians partner groups. For more information on any of these opportunities contact LeighAnn Creson (Health Promotion Coordinator/Healthy Personians Coordinator, Person County Health Department) at [lcreson.pchd@personcounty.net](mailto:lcreson.pchd@personcounty.net) or 336-597-2204 extension 2277.

Visit <http://health.personcounty.net> for information on Person County Health Department, Healthy Personians and its partner groups.

### Cancer Deaths Down but Still Person County's Leading Cause of Death

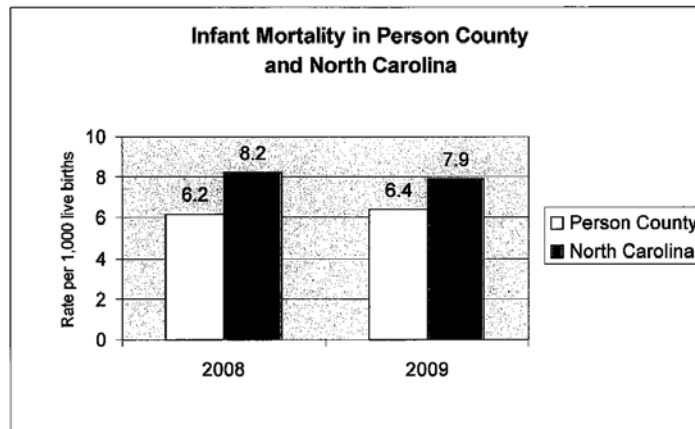
2005-2009				2003-2007			
Cause of Death	Person County		NC	Cause of Death	Person County		NC
	Number	Rate	Rate		Number	Rate	Rate
1. Cancer (all sites)	462	<b>214.0</b>	188.8	1. Cancer (all sites)	473	<b>228.4</b>	194.9
2. Heart Disease	454	<b>216.8</b>	194.7	2. Heart Disease	460	<b>227</b>	210.7
3. Cerebrovascular Disease	172	<b>83.3</b>	51.3	3. Cerebrovascular Disease	181	<b>91.7</b>	57.6
4. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	108	<b>51.6</b>	48.0	4. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	107	<b>52.6</b>	47.5
5. Diabetes	66	<b>31.1</b>	24.0	5. All Other Unintentional Injuries	67	<b>35.6</b>	27.8

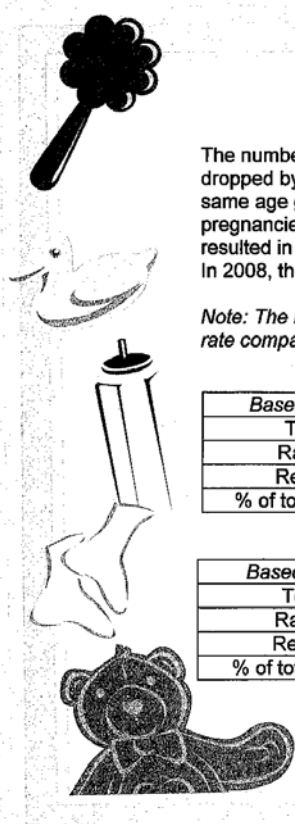
Figures in **boldface type** indicate which mortality (death) rate is higher. Age-adjusted death rates are used.

Even though the number of deaths from cancer was down in 2005-2009 it still remained the county's leading cause of death. The same thing holds true for heart disease and cerebrovascular disease. Number of deaths from these diseases had decreased but they continued to be the second and third leading cause of death for Person County. The most significant change from 2003-2007 to 2005-2009 was that diabetes moved from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death. Person County's mortality rate for diabetes continues to be above North Carolina's rate.

### Infant Mortality Rate Remains Below State's Rate

In 2009, Person County's infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) was 6.4 which was slightly higher than the previous year. Even with this slight increase the county's rate remained below the state's infant mortality rate which is depicted in the following chart.





### Teen Pregnancy Numbers Down!

The number of pregnancies among Person County teens ages 15-19 dropped by 15 from 2008 to 2009. Repeat pregnancies among the same age group also decreased from 2008. In 2009, there were no pregnancies among girls ages 10-14. This decline in pregnancies resulted in Person County being ranked #31 in teen pregnancy. In 2008, the county was ranked #28.

*Note: The higher the county is ranked the lower the teen pregnancy rate compared to other counties.*

**2009**

Based on girls ages 15-19	Person County	North Carolina
Teen pregnancies	78	18,142
Rate per 1,000 girls	64.3	56.0
Repeat pregnancies	16	5,192
% of total repeat pregnancies	20.5	28.6

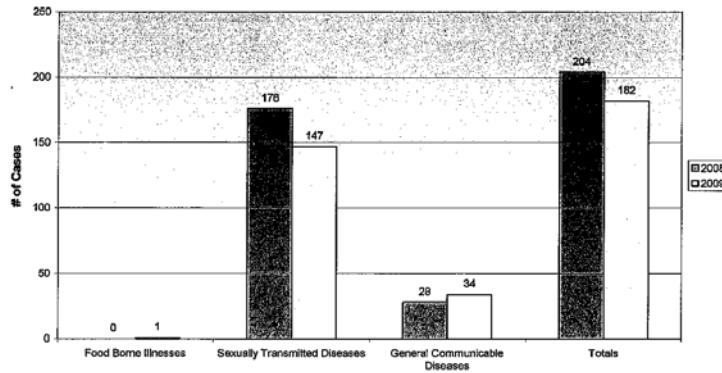
**2008**

Based on girls ages 15-19	Person County	North Carolina
Teen pregnancies	93	19,398
Rate per 1,000 girls	70.7	58.6
Repeat pregnancies	23	5,512
% of total repeat pregnancies	24.7%	28.4%

### County Sees Decline in Communicable Diseases

Person County Health Department uses the North Carolina Electronic Disease Detection Surveillance System and in-house documents to track communicable diseases in the county. The following table reflects data collected from those sources. In 2009, there were 182 reported cases of communicable diseases in Person County as compared to 204 cases the previous year. There was only 1 food borne illness in 2009. The county has seen a gradual increase in the number of general communicable diseases over the past few years. In 2009, there were 34 cases of GCD which was an increase by 6 cases from 2008. Some of the GCD reported last year included Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Lyme Disease, Novel Influenza Virus Infection, etc. There was 1 reported case of Tuberculosis (TB) in the county in 2009. In 2008, there were 2 TB cases.

2008-2009 Communicable Disease Comparison



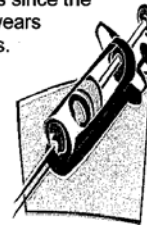
The majority (81%) of communicable diseases in the county continues to be attributed to Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD). However, the number of reported STD in 2009 was down to 147 from 176 in 2008. Person County Health Department reported that Chlamydia accounted for 118 of the 147 cases of STD. Last year there were no reported new cases of HIV or AIDS. In 2008, there were 4 HIV cases and 3 cases of AIDS.

Statistics from the County Health Data Book reveal that the number of Primary and Secondary Syphilis cases (4) reported for the 2005-2009 timeframe had not changed from the number of cases in 2003-2007. This kept Person County's rate (2.1) below the state's rate (3.9). In 2005-2009, there were a total of 194 cases of Gonorrhea which was a decrease from the 217 cases in 2003-2007. Person County's rate for Gonorrhea cases (103.2) remains below North Carolina's rate (174.2) *Note: These rates are per 100,000 population.*

### Health Department Stays On Top Of County's Health Issues

Person County Health Department did not identify any major new or emerging health issues since the last State of the County Health Report. However, there were several issues from previous years that the department continued to address to ensure the health and well-being of Personians.

**H1N1:** The beginning of 2010 found PCHD continuing to monitor the occurrence of Influenza A (H1N1 cases). From January to March, PCHD staff administered 798 H1N1 vaccinations which brought the total administered to 2299 beginning in October 2009. PCHD continued to maintain an informational telephone line and a website dedicated to the dissemination of influenza information. Hand sanitizers were distributed to all schools in January and again in August. PCHD continues to work with various media outlets and other organizations to educate the community on the 2010 Influenza vaccine which includes the H1N1 vaccine. In November, additional ads were placed in a newspaper holiday insert encouraging individuals to be immunized against the flu.



**Contaminated Wells:** It was reported in the 2008 SOTCH that 17 private wells northeast of Roxboro were contaminated with chlorinated solvents and/or petroleum. Once the contaminated wells were discovered, the

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began providing drinking water to the affected homes. The EPA subsequently had whole-house water filtration systems installed on five of the homes due to high levels of chlorinated solvents. The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NC DENR) Underground Storage Tank Division installed whole-house water filtration systems on two additional homes as a result of contamination with volatile organic compounds associated with petroleum products. Approximately 30 wells in the affected area were regularly sampled in order to identify the extent of the contamination and to monitor possible changes in contaminate concentrations over time. The EPA now refers to this as the GMH Site, reflecting the suspected source of the chlorinated solvents. While site studies were being conducted by cooperating Federal and State agencies, Person County contracted with an engineering firm to design a water line extension to serve the affected residents.

In 2009, the water line extension project was awarded federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds. Construction of the water line began in early 2010. Approximately 42 homes have now been connected to the water line and their wells are no longer in use. Most of the wells will eventually be permanently abandoned.

The first phase of the GMH Project was to protect public health by providing a safe water supply. The next phase of the project is the Remedial Investigation and will involve scientists with cooperating federal and state agencies. The Remedial Investigation will include detailed hydrological studies in order to determine the extent of the groundwater contamination and to develop a plan to remediate the site. The Remedial Investigation will begin in the coming months. In support of the project, the Person County Health Department will measure well depth, casing depth, and use a well camera to document geological characteristics on each wells that is no longer in use.



**Smoking:** Person County Health Department supported the implementation of House Bill 2, *An Act to Prohibit Smoking in Certain Public Places and Certain Places of Employment* (G.S. 130A-497), through a media campaign and coaster distribution to local restaurants. Both efforts also promoted the North Carolina Quit Line (1-800-QUIT-NOW). In anticipation that some smokers would be encouraged to quit smoking as a result of House Bill 2, Healthy Personians offered the American Cancer Society's Freshstart Quit Smoking Program. The Health Department did its part in enforcing this new legislation. There were only 3 complaints that had to be investigated.

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## A Look at other Health Priorities

In this section, data on other county health priorities has been tracked.

### Obesity/Overweight in Person County Children/Youth

In June 2010, 423 children in day care centers, homes and preschools were measured for body composition. Thirty-one percent of the children measured were identified as overweight and 9% fell in the obese category. In May 2009, of the 205 children measured, 15% were overweight and 12% obese.

The most recent county data collected through NC-NPASS (North Carolina Nutrition and Physical Activity Surveillance System) was in 2009. That year 323 children/youth ages 2-18 were measured resulting in 20.1% being identified as overweight and 18.6% as obese. Both of these figures had increased from 2008 when 18.8% of the 447 children/youth measured fell into the overweight category and 15.9% the obese category.

*Note: NC-NPASS is data on children/youth seen in North Carolina public health sponsored Women, Infants, and Children's Program, Child Health clinics, and some school based health centers.*

Person County Schools is now using the FitnessGram online system to report and track student fitness data in various areas. One of those areas is body composition (i.e. Body Mass Index). Data was collected in Spring 2010 on students in grades 1-5. This data is reported as the percentage of students in a "Healthy Fitness Zone" (HFZ). On average, of those students in grades 1-5 that were measured in the county, 54% of the females and 51% of the males were in a HFZ. These percentages were very close to those for the state (55% females and 54% males were in a HFZ). Due to the differences between this current system and the former system used to track BMI, no comparisons have been made to previous years.

#### Obesity/Overweight in Person County Adults

In the interim years between Community Health Assessments local data on overweight and obesity in adults is not collected. Therefore, the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is relied upon to obtain this information. In 2009, 63.9% of respondents in the region reported having a BMI over 25 putting them in either the overweight or obese category as compared to 65.2% in 2008. *Note: BRFSS is a random survey of state residents aged 18 and older in households with telephones. Interviews are conducted monthly and data are analyzed annually. Person County is one of the 30+ counties included in the Piedmont Region.*



*The 2009 BRFSS was also used to track the following behaviors in adults in the Piedmont Region.*

- ☐ **Physical Activity:** About 46% of respondents indicated that they get the recommended amount of physical activity (defined as "moderate physical activity for 30 or more minutes per day, five or more days per week or vigorous physical activity for 20 or more minutes per day, three or more days per week). When asked, "during the past month, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercises such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise?", 75.9% of respondents said "yes". This was only 1% lower than what was reported in 2008.
- ☐ **Smoking:** Nineteen percent of respondents revealed that they were current smokers. This was about the same percentage of respondents identifying themselves as smokers in the 2008 BRFSS.
- ☐ **Alcohol Abuse:** Only 4.5% of respondents identified themselves as heavy drinkers in the 2009 BRFSS as compared to 3.9% in 2008. In 2009, 12.9% of respondents indicated they were binge drinkers. This was down from 13.6% the previous year. (*Heavy drinkers - "adult men having more than 2 drinks per day and adult women having more than 1 drink per day". Binge drinking - "adults having 5 or more drinks on one occasion".*)
- ☐ **Nutrition - Fruit and Vegetable Consumption:** Respondents in the region were asked if they consumed 5 or more servings of fruits or vegetables per day. Only 21.2% said that they did. This was a slight decrease from previous years.

#### Suicide

In the 2005-2009 time period, there were 22 deaths from suicide which was an increase by 1 from 2003-2007. Person County's rate (11.0) remains below the state's rate (11.9).

#### Health Care Access

When asked, "do you have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicare?", 82.6% of 2009 BRFSS respondents said "yes". This was about the same as was reported for the previous year.

#### Gang Activity

Observational data provided by the Person County Sheriff's Department indicated that there had been a slight decrease in gang activity in the county in 2010. The Sheriff's Department in collaboration with the local Gang Prevention Partnership conducted a survey in the community with various populations to gain insight as to whether their efforts needed to be concentrating on intervention or prevention. The results of the survey are forthcoming.

### 2010 Brings More Change for Person County

The World Health Organization defines health as a "state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". There are many factors that can play a role in obtaining such a state of well-being. This section highlights some of those factors that have had the potential for both positively and negatively impacting the health of Personians over the past year.



Project|REACH

First the good news, Person County Health Department has been partnering with the Durham County Health Department on the Project REACH Diabetes Initiative. A Diabetes Collaborative Team was formed in January 2010 to develop diabetes education and awareness initiatives for both counties over the next 3 years. Project REACH is funded through a state diabetes grant. For more information on this initiative go to: [www.projectreachdiabetes.org](http://www.projectreachdiabetes.org) or become a Facebook fan. Being able to offer more diabetes programming has helped the Health Department fill a gap in services in the community.

In spite of exhausted grant funds in June 2010 and the unavailability of Health Department staff to coordinate the group, the HIV Task Force has continued to thrive. For the first time in many years, the task force is being coordinated under the leadership of an outside agency. The HIV Task Force continues to serve as a Healthy Personians partner group. PCHD provides support to the task force as resources allow.

For the third year, Person County Health Department felt the impact of a struggling economy with the reduction of two positions. The loss of these positions meant an increased workload on other staff in the areas of maternal and child health service coordination.

According to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, Person County's unemployment rate was down to 8.5 in October 2010 which was a decrease from previous months. It also put the county's rate below the statewide rate which was 9.1.



A report provided by Person County Government for FY 2009-2010 indicated that local manufacturing developments included the following projects:

- CertainTeed, a subsidiary of St. Gobain, announced that they will construct a 700,000 square foot facility in Person County. The company expects to have a \$160,000,000 capital investment and hire 89 people. It is anticipated that CertainTeed will be fully operational in FY 2013.
- North American Aerodynamics, a sport and military parachute manufacturer, received several new military contracts. These new contracts took their employment numbers from approximately 55 to 375.
- WesBell Asset Recovery Center, a Canadian manufacturer that specializes in the recycling of technology products, located their U.S. headquarters in Person County in July 2010 and hired approximately 50 people.
- Loxcreen, a major Person County manufacturer, closed in December 2009, eliminating over 100 jobs.
- The County is working with existing Person County manufacturers and is prepared to offer financial incentives if and when new jobs and investments are created.

According to a recent article in the Courier-Times, Roxboro's Dialight plant anticipates hiring about 80 more employees in the upcoming months. Seventy new jobs were added back in August 2010. Once all of the hiring is completed Dialight will be one of the county's top 10 employers (in terms of number of employees).

The Board thanked Ms. Creson for the report and asked her to extend to their appreciation to the Health Department staff.

## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES APPOINTMENTS:**

Clerk to the Board, Brenda Reaves presented the Board citizen applications for consideration of appointment.

- Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee  
1-Year Initial Term; 3-Year Reappointment: 4 positions available
  - 1) Gloria Skinner Pettiford requested appointment

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to appoint Gloria Skinner Pettiford to the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee for an initial one year term.

- Juvenile Crime Prevention Council  
2-Year Term: Positions available include:
  - A representative of the Health Department
    - 1) Harold Kelly requested reappointment

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to reappoint Harold Kelly as the Health Department representative on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council for a two-year term.

- Chief District Court Judge  
No Application
- Citizens At Large (2) positions available  
No Applications

- Nursing Home Advisory Committee  
1-Year Initial Term; 3-Year Reappointment; 3 positions available
  - 1) Gloria Skinner Pettiford requested appointment

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried 5-0** to appoint Gloria Skinner Pettiford to the Nursing Home Advisory Committee for an initial one-year term.

- Tourism Development Authority  
3-Year Term: 1 position from the general public available
  - 1) Herman Gentry, Jr. requested reappointment
  - 2) Julie Maybee requested appointment
  - 3) Bonnie Meeler requested appointment

Ms. Reaves presented the Board with the application submitted from Tammy Woods, General Manager of the Inn Keeper, on behalf of the hotel/motel/bed and breakfast industry for county appointment to TDA.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeffers, **seconded** by Vice Chairman Puryear, and **carried 5-0** to appoint Tammy Woods as the county representative for hotel/motel/bed and breakfast for a three-year term.

Ms. Reaves asked if the Board was ready to take action regarding the open appointment that was placed on hold at the Board's last meeting, January 4, 2011.

Commissioner Kennington recommended to the Board to hold making the appointment until action by General Assembly regarding Person County's request to increase TDA membership. Chairman Clayton called upon Ms. Margaret McMann, TDA Director for additional information. Ms. McMann stated she had discussed with Representative Wilkins TDA's request to increase the tax levy by 1% (5% to 6%) and Representative Wilkins recommended she request the Board of Commissioners to adopt resolutions approving such requests 1) 1% increase in tax levy and 2) increase in TDA membership) and submit to him by the first of April for his submission for a bill change to General Assembly in mid April. Ms. McMann stated TDA preference to earmark any such additional revenue yielded by the 1% increase in tax levy to be earmarked for operation of an actual Visitor/Welcome Center. County Manager, Heidi York stated Representative Wilkins is willing to work with Person County to promote passage.

Commissioner Kennington recommended the TDA membership be increased from 6 to 9 members and base representation of the TDA on city/county population which may equate to 3 city appointments and 6 county appointments. Commissioner Kennington suggested the Board review and discuss further what the proposed 1% increase in tax levy revenues would be earmarked to fund noting the Board consideration of funding non-profits, i.e., Person County Museum is a possibility.

Chairman Clayton suggested having such resolutions before the Board at its next meeting.

Vice Chairman Puryear stated he could not support the tax increase. Ms. McMann told Vice Chairman Puryear the tax levy would only be imposed upon individuals visiting Person County and not upon its citizens. Ms. McMann noted the tax levy revenues, when first set up, dictated one-half of funds to be allocated to the Person County Museum and other half to be shared between Mayo and Festivals. Ms. McMann further noted the distributions have changed a bit however the Museum still receives the larger portion of funds. Ms. McMann stated this current fiscal year; the Museum received even more funding (\$21,500 as opposed to \$13,500) due to their untimely application for non-profit funding and Person County's local funding cut.

Ms. McMann informed the Board that the Museum voted in August, 2010 to dissolve the partnership between TDA and the Museum (did not affect the funding). Ms. McMann stated her office is still at the Museum. TDA does not currently pay rent for the office space but Ms. McMann hinted rent may be charged in the upcoming budget year, noting her interest in secure office space with better street front.

It was the consensus of the Board to bring resolutions before the Board for consideration to adopt: one resolution requesting legislation to increase the TDA membership and the other to request an increase in the occupancy tax levy. Ms. York stated she would contact the City Manager on this issue.

#### **ZERO TOLERANCE DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY FOR PERSON AREA TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (PATs):**

Transportation Manager, Kathy Adcock stated the Board adopted a Drug & Alcohol Testing Policy as required by the Department of Transportation (DOT) on September 20, 2010. Ms. Adcock noted DOT (effective October 1, 2010) is now requiring the testing of an additional drug (ecstasy), which requires the Board to adopt an updated policy.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried 5-0** to approve the Zero Tolerance Drug & Alcohol policy for Person Area Transportation System (PATs).

#### **BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

Finance Director, Amy Wehrenberg presented and explained the following Budget Amendment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jeffers, and a second by Vice Chairman Puryear and majority vote 5-0, the Board of Commissioners of Person County does hereby amend the Budget of the General Fund(s) on this, the 18th day of January 2011, as follows:

<b><u>Dept./Acct No.</u></b>	<b><u>Department Name</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b> Incr / (Decr)
<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>	<b><u>General Fund</u></b>	
	General Government	(103,971)
	Public Safety	60,638
	Transportation	13,921
	Environmental Protection	5,200
	Cultural & Recreational	5,801
	Human Services	117,704
	Interfund Transfers	18,762
	Transfers to Other Funds	26,428

**January 18, 2011**

	<u>Person Industries Special Revenue</u>	
	<u>Fund</u>	26,428
	<u>Public Library Trust Fund</u>	15,000
<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	
	Intergovernmental Revenues	111,867
	Other Revenues	13,854
	Interfund Transfers	18,762
	<u>Person Industries Special Revenue</u>	
	<u>Fund</u>	
	Transfer from General Fund	26,428
	<u>Public Library Trust Fund</u>	
	Interest Earnings	90
	Other Revenues	8,100
	Fund Balance Appropriation	6,810

**Explanation:**

Transfer of budget from General Services (-\$48,817) to Human Resources (\$48,817) to cover the re-location of personnel; distribution of unemployment insurance costs to various departments (\$118,549); carry-forward of remaining grant funds for the Gang Violence Prevention Grant (\$13,290), insurance proceeds received for replacement of stolen laptop in Sheriff's Department (\$1,129); insurance proceeds received for damage to vehicles in the Sheriff's Department (\$11,828) and the PATS Department (\$532); donations received in the Health Department (\$125) and Social Services (\$240); Family Planning Grant (\$8,198) and Immunization Grant (\$1,122) received in the Health Department; various program adjustments in DSS (\$89,257); and restricted revenues appropriated for expenditures associated with the Public Library Trust Fund (\$15,000).

Commissioner Kennington asked for clarification of the Safety Officer move to Human Resources. County Manager, Heidi York explained the move resulted as part of the recent county reorganization whereby the Safety Officer for Public Works only became the Safety Officer for all county departments. Ms. York noted no additional staff or funding was allocated just moving the associated budget from Public Works (now called General Services) to the Human Resources budget line. The Safety Officer's physical location did not change as her office is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the County Office Building as before.

**LEGISLATIVE GOAL PROPOSAL:**

Chairman Clayton stated Commissioner Blalock requested Board approval of a Legislative Goal Proposal to submit at the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference on January 21, 2011.

**January 18, 2011**



2011-12 biennium

## LEGISLATIVE GOALS PROPOSAL FORM

For proposals submitted on-site for Screening Committee review  
Submit form at registration table by 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20  
Goals must be approved by county Board of Commissioners

Date: 1-18-2011

Name of county:

Person County

Name and title of person submitting goal:

Frances Blalock, Commissioner

Phone:

336-364-2717

E-mail:

fbblalock@aol.com

Goal title:

Create Study Commission on  
uranium mining

Goal description (what is the problem being addressed?):

There is potential for the moratorium  
to be lifted on the Coles Hill deposit  
in southern Virginia. This will put  
Northern N.C. in line for hazardous  
threats from mining the uranium.

I am asking that we submit  
as a legislative goal for North  
Carolina to study the impact  
this mining activity in Pittsylvania  
County will have on the air  
and water in our state especially  
the counties that border  
Pittsylvania County.



I certify that this proposal has been approved by the  
Board of Commissioners.

County staff contact if other than submitter:

Attach one or more of the  
following to this form:

- An adopted resolution by the Board of Commissioners.
- A letter from the Board Chairman on behalf of the Board, and/or
- Any other documentation or materials that support the proposed goal.

If you have questions in advance of the conference, contact Kevin Leonard at (919) 715-4369. If you have questions on-site at the conference, ask any NCACC staff member. You may submit this form in advance of the conference by mailing it to Kevin Leonard at 215 N. Dawson St., Raleigh, NC 27603.

### Select Steering Committee(s) You may choose more than one

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☒ Environment
- ☐ Health and Human Services
- ☐ Intergovernmental Relations
- ☐ Justice and Public Safety
- ☐ Public Education
- ☐ Tax and Finance

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Kennington, **seconded** by Commissioner Blalock, and **carried 5-0** to approve the 2011-12 biennium Legislative Goals Proposal titled Create Study Commission on Uranium Mining.

January 18, 2011

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Chairman Clayton stated the Upper Neuse River Basin Association reorganization is in process, further noting Person County dues may increase however monitoring in the tributaries is forthcoming. Chairman Clayton stated once the by-laws are in place, an update to the Board will be scheduled.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

County Manager, Heidi York reminded the group of the Board Retreat on January 31, 2011 at the Mayo Park Center. Ms. York stated a draft agenda would be available by January 19, 2011. Ms. York announced the Board did not want the Retreat to be streamed live. Ms. York asked Board members to see the Clerk for retreat day lunch selections.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORT/COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Kennington had no report or comments.

Commissioner Blalock announced Tom Magnuson, an authority on early North Carolina trails, would be speaking at the Homestead Steakhouse on January 19, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. sponsored by the NC Humanities Council and local Research Club.

Commissioner Jeffers asked for clarification on the procedures for the Person Area Transportation System (PATs) on inclement weather days. Transportation Manager, Kathy Adcock stated a delay is announced on the local radio station by 5:00 a.m. when operating hours are affected by inclement weather. Ms. Adcock noted PATs staffs are currently working with the IT Department to create a voice mail message to update for citizens to access.

Vice Chairman Puryear had no report or comments.

### **RECESS:**

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Puryear, **seconded** by Commissioner Jeffers, and **carried 5-0** to recess the meeting at 11:56 a.m. until January 31, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at Mayo Park Environmental Educational and Community Center for the Board Retreat.

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Brenda B. Reaves  
Clerk to the Board

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Jimmy B. Clayton  
Chairman

**January 18, 2011**