

**RUTHERFORD-POLK-MCDOWELL
DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH/HOME HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Rutherford County Health Department

August 23, 2011

Board of Health Members Present:

Rutherford County Representatives	McDowell County Representatives	Polk County Representatives
Susan Crowe Dr. Thomas Jaski Don Corry Kim Lowery	Briana Shelton (called in via speakerphone) Jim Segars (called in via speakerphone) Norman Guthrie (called in via speakerphone) Josh Dobson (called in via speakerphone)	Mike Davidson Cathy Brooks

Board of Health Members Absent:

Sandra McGriff Hobart Rogers David Odom	Carol Tribble One Vacancy	Iain Fitch, Chair Ted Owens One Vacancy
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Health Department Staff:

**Sharon Parker, Board Attorney
James H Hines, Jr., Health Director
Phillip Melton, CFO
Helen White, RN Supervisor
Brenda Green, Administrative Services Assistant**

Public or Guests Present:

None

The Public Hearing was called to order by District Health Director Jimmy Hines at 6:30 p.m. with quorum present. The purpose of the public hearing was to hear comments related to the proposals for the purchase of the District Health Department's Medicare certified home health agency. Copies of the proposals were available for public review at the law office of Dameron, Burgin, Parker, Jackson, Wilde & Walker, P.A., at 26 West Court Street, Marion, North Carolina 28752 from Friday, August 12, 2011 through Tuesday, August 23, 2011.

As there were no members of the public present for this Public Hearing at 6:30 pm, Mr. Hines updated the group on the Home Health bidding process in order to give time for any public to arrive. Nine (9) bids/proposals were received from: Care South Health Systems, Gentiva Health Systems, Advanced Home Care, Blue Ridge Healthcare Systems/Grace Hospital, LHC Group, CarePartners, Inc., Liberty Home Care Management, Inc., Medical Services of America, Inc., and United Healthcare, Inc. Board Legal Counsel, Sharon Parker, again discussed the conflict rules. Josh Dobson and Norman Guthrie were noted to have conflicts and left the meeting.

Mr. Hines explained that Letters of Intent were received from all nine bidders. All bidders were then updated financial data and given an opportunity to submit a revised option bid. The revised bids clustered into two groups with a marked price decrease between the first and second group. The bidders in the highest group were given the opportunity to refine their bid and to set forth their due diligence requirements and time frame. Attention is now being focused on the highest bidder who also had a floor to their offer that they would not go under. Management and the consultants will be working on a more complete Letter of Intent, a Confidentiality Agreement and to define the scope of due diligence. Nothing is binding at this time and management can negotiate with other bidders if that appears advantageous.

If an Asset Purchase Agreement [APA] with any bidder is proposed, the APA would need to be available to the public for review for 10 days and there would need to be a public hearing on the proposed APA before the Board of Health would vote whether or not to accept the proposed APA.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 with no public having appeared for the public hearing.

James H. Hines, Jr., Health Director

Sharon Parker, BOH Attorney