

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING  
February 14, 2012**

**Members Present:**

Gary D. Nelson, Ph.D., Chair  
Mitch Rodriguez, MD, Secretary  
Kathryn K. Cheek, MD, FAAP, Vice Chair  
Phillip L. Williams, Ph.D.  
Cynthia F. Greene, DMD  
James M. Smith, Ph.D.

**Members Absent:**

Robert S. Harshman, MD  
James W. Curran, MD

The Board of Public Health held its monthly board meeting on February 14, 2012 at 2 Peachtree Street NW in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room. An agenda and a List of Attendees are attached hereto and made official parts of these Minutes as Attachments #1 and #2. Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

The Secretary called roll. All members present except for Robert Harshman and James Curran.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Secretary presented the minutes of the January 10, 2012 meeting for discussion and approval. There was no discussion. James Smith motioned for approval of the minutes; Kathryn Cheek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Member Introduction**

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced one of the board members, Cynthia F. Greene, DMD. She gave an overview of her background to the board.

**Commissioner's Report**

Dr. Brenda Fitzgerald gave her report of the Commissioner.

**Action Items**

1. Variance from Rule 290-5-14.04(4)(a)(2) was presented by Simone Brathwaite

The Department of Public Health's Environmental Health Program is proposing a variance from Rule 290-5-14.04(4)(a)(2)\*, with conditions, at the request of the Georgia Restaurant Association, so that employees at all food service establishments that utilize ready-to-eat food ingredients in preparation of their menu items that are cooked to at least 165°F for at least 15 seconds, will be allowed to use their bare hands in preparation of the food.

- \* Rule 290-5-14.04 (4)(a)(2) provides that except when washing fruits and vegetables, food employees shall not contact exposed, ready-to-eat food with their bare hands and shall use suitable utensils such as deli tissue, spatulas, tongs, single-use gloves, or dispensing equipment.

Discussion ensued and a motion to amend the variance to be applicable only to facilities that primarily serve pizza was given by Phillip Williams and seconded by Mitch Rodriguez. Further discussion ensued and the variance as amended was put to a vote and passed unanimously.

2. Variance from Rule 290-5-14.04(8)(b)

The Department of Public Health's Environmental Health Program is proposing a variance from Rule 290-5-14.04(8)(b)\* with conditions, at the request of the Georgia Department of Education, to allow schools to freeze sandwich bread so that they can be used beyond the expiration or "sell-by" date, for use on the first day of school and during emergencies.

\* Rule 290-5-14.04 (8)(b) provides that packaged, commercially processed foods that are for sale to the consumer shall be removed from sale immediately after the manufacturer's expiration date or the sell-by date.

Discussion ensued for this variance. A motion to amend the variance to exclude bread that had already been opened was introduced by Phillip Williams and seconded by James Smith. The variance as amended was put to a vote and passed unanimously.

**Presentations**

Kathleen R. Miner, Ph.D., MPH, MCHES and Marsha Davis, PhD made a presentation about the Public Health Training Centers in Georgia. The presentation is part of attachment #3.

Richard A. Lasco, Ph.D., made a presentation about Workforce Training Grants. The presentation is part of attachment #3.

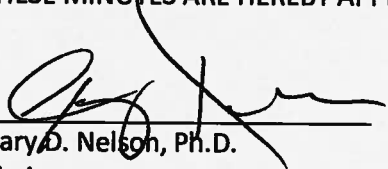
Anil T. Mangla, MS, Ph.D., MPH, FRIPH made a presentation about the Internship Program. The presentation is part of attachment #3.

Ms. Kate Pfirman, CFO for the Department of Public Health, gave a budget update to the board.

**Adjournment**

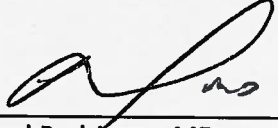
There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting at 3:06 PM.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE 13TH DAY OF MARCH, 2012.



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Gary D. Nelson, Ph.D.  
Chairman



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Misael Rodriguez, MD  
Secretary

**Official Attachments:**

1. List of Attendees
2. Agenda
3. Presentations:
  - a. Public Health Training Centers in Georgia
  - b. Workforce Training Grants
  - c. Internship Program



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February 14, 2012  
LIST OF ATTENDEES**

**Board Members:**

Gary D. Nelson, Ph.D., Chairman  
Mitch Rodriguez, MD, Secretary  
Kathryn K. Cheek, MD, FAAP  
Phillip L. Williams, Ph.D.  
Cynthia F. Greene, DMD  
James M. Smith, Ph.D.

**Other Attendees**

Brenda Fitzgerald, Department of Public Health  
James C. Howgate, Department of Public Health  
Janie Brodnax, Department of Public Health  
Kate Pfirman, Department of Public Health  
Sidney Barrett, Department of Public Health  
Christine Greene, Department of Public Health  
Bob Shaw, Department of Public Health  
Betsy Bates, Bates Association  
Erin Ruoff, OPB  
Elizabeth Franko, Department of Public Health  
Michelle Putnam, Hemophilia of GA  
Connie F. Smith, Department of Public Health  
Cathalene Teahan, GAC  
Seema Csukas, Department of Public Health  
Yvette Daniels, Department of Public Health  
David Bayne, Department of Public Health  
Dante McKay, Voices for Georgia's Children  
Karen Waters, GHA  
Bill Owen, MedImmune  
Carole Jakeway, Department of Public Health  
Jeff Cornett, Hemophilia of Georgia  
Mohamed Jalom, MedImmune  
Rick Ward, GA Chapter, AAP  
Tyrone Bell, Learn to Grow, Inc.  
Diandria Barbe, Voices for Children  
Taylor Janney, Nelson Mullins  
Robert Gauspohl, Department of Public Health  
Tanner Holmes, Governor's Office of Children & Families  
Dionne Denson, Department of Public Health  
Cherie Drenzek, Department of Public Health  
Suleima Salgado, Department of Public Health  
Scott Maxwell, Mathews & Maxwell, Inc.  
Teresa Skojak, USAF/Emory University  
Karen Bremer, Georgia Restaurant Association  
Khaliah Smith, Department of Public Health  
Nelda Grene, Georgia Dental Association  
Mark Seymour, Department of Public Health