



Jones County Health Department
418 Hwy 58 North, Unit C
Trenton, NC 28585

Phone: (252) 448-9111

Wesley P. Smith
Health Director

Fax: (252) 448-1670

Jones County Board of Health Meeting Minutes Monday, March 26, 2018

In Attendance: Candace Andrews; April Aycock; Rev. Charlie Dunn, Jr.; Wayne Hurley; Robert Jolly; Beth Meadows; Myron Meadows and Dr. Steve Stelma

Staff: Wesley P. Smith, Health Director, Ann Pike, PH Nursing Supervisor I, Tamara Jones, Public Health Educator II, Jennifer Thomas, Administrative Officer I; Rodesha Crouell, ECU Intern

Absent: Frank Emory, Mandy Marshburn

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Steve Stelma, Board Chair, at 6:05 p.m.

Invocation

The invocation and blessing for the meal was given by Rev. Charlie Dunn, Jr.

Discussion/Adjustments/Approval of Agenda

Dr. Stelma made opening statements and welcomed everyone. The proposed agenda for the meeting was reviewed for approval. *A motion was made by April Aycock to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Rev. Dunn. There was no additional discussion. Motion carried.*

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

There were no comments or questions regarding the minutes from January's meeting. *A motion was made by Wayne Hurley to approve the minutes from January 24, 2018. Motion was seconded by Aycock. There was no additional discussion. Motion carried.*

Public Comment

The floor was opened for public comment. There were no members of the public present.

Old Business

Health Director Wesley Smith reported that the Board of Commissioners approved the reappointment of Wayne Hurley to his second term on the Board of Health in Public Member slot.

Reports

For standing reports, Smith presented and reviewed the Health Department's Monthly Summary Reports for January and February 2018. He also reviewed the summary report from Onslow County Health Department prepared by Michael Pratt and Pamela Brown. There was an animal bite in January involving a raccoon, who tested negative for rabies. The county has not been getting many applications for well permits. Next year's budget will reflect a reduction in anticipated well fees on prior year historical data. There is a low number of car seats being distributed. The Health Department had initially purchased 95 seats, and there are approximately 65-70 left at this time. Smith is working on getting more people trained to become certified car seat installers. The certification class is 4 days long which creates a difficulty for many people to attend. Most who are interested in the certification are volunteers who have full time jobs and are not able to leave work for 4 days of training. In the meantime the Health Department has been communicating with the Lenoir-Greene Partnership for Children to schedule a car seat fair for their technicians to come over once or twice a month until we have someone certified. Smith is making arrangements to send an employee from the Health Department and one from DSS to the next training, which will be in Asheville, NC. There was group discussion.

For a financial update, Smith presented and reviewed the Monthly Spending and Revenue reports for the period ending February 28, 2018. Year to date spending is about 10.3% under budget. For the overage in Immunizations, the department had to purchase private vaccines as it had exhausted its stock. Beth Meadows mentioned that Goshen Medical Center had stopped providing vaccines. Wes asked if there were any questions from the board, and there were none. For revenues, Smith stated he items in the "red" are indicative of the lag in reporting time. The Health Department has started receiving revenue from Medicaid as well as private insurance. Jennifer and Melissa have been working on the billing and have been receiving payments. There have claims denied, but they are working on getting them resubmitted and paid. Statements are now being sent out monthly and we had a self-pay patient make a payment once they received their statement.

Smith provided and reviewed Budget Amendments that have been submitted to the Finance Office. It shows an overall net decrease of \$12,305 in our budget period-to-date, which is primarily due to reductions in state revenue in Maternal Health and Child Health, as well as a reduction in funding from Region 10 for the MDPP program. He does not feel that the decrease has affected our programs.

The Health Department is once again enrolled and active in Medicare. Apparently, there was a time for recertifying in the Medicare program that was missed in the past. It was discovered while transitioning to the new EMR system, and the process of recertification with Medicare was begun at that time. The process began in December and was completed in March. The Health Department is now able to bill the Medicare program for immunizations for eligible clients.

The Board was provided a copy of the revised Health Department brochure. It will be distributed at the Committee of 100 annual meeting tomorrow night. Smith asked the Board if they had any comments to please let us know.

Smith did an overview the 2018 County Health Rankings. The report looks at health outcomes and health factors. Last year we were ranked 68 out of 100 in health outcomes, and have improved to 65 out of 100 this year. (The lower the number, the better.) Health factors went from increased from 38 out of 100 in 2017 to 51 out of 100 in 2018. There are areas to explore such as adult smoking and adult obesity.

Tamara and Smith discussed plans for the upcoming National Public Health Week, which is April 2nd thru April 8th. The Public Relations Committee is organizing a Wednesday Wellness Walk for county employees during their lunchbreak. Tamara is also planning on reaching out to the community at the Maysville Piggly Wiggly to offer some fruit taste-testing along with passing out community assessment surveys. There is a new in-home asthma assessment program that will have printed flyers and surveys to distribute to the schools.

One of the health priorities from the 2014 Community Health Assessment was substance abuse and mental health services. Smith has kept it on the forefront, discussing the need for a local service provider in the county. Pamlico Child & Family Therapy Services is current credentialed with Trillium Health Resources, and has expressed interest in setting up an office and offering services one day a week starting in April. The board was provided a list of services that will be

provided. There is no cost to the Health Department but Smith stated would like to look into grant opportunities to support this initiative.

Finally, Smith advised the Board that at this time, all is in place for the CAP program to transition back to DSS beginning with the new fiscal year. CAP is a case management program that is better suited for Social Services to provide. DSS has within their capability to bill their administrative overhead to Medicaid, and the Health Department does not. With the billing now being submitted monthly, it has become clear there is not enough Medicaid to cover the program. Given the administrative cost for the program to be run by the Health Department, it will be better for the County financially to be coordinated through DSS.

New Business

Tamara introduced Rodesha Crouell, an intern studying Public Health at ECU, who has been at the Health Department since January 8th. For her internship she assisted Tamara in developing the 2017 State of the County Health (SOTCH) Report. The State requires a 10 page report and they provide a checklist of what needs to be included, which is listed in the Table of Contents. The SOTCH is presented to the Board of Health and the Board of Commissioners, copies are placed in all the County's libraries, a scanned copy will be placed on our agency website, and the report will also be printed and placed in the lobby of the Health Department. Tamara reviewed the report in page-by-page detail. The focus of the SOTCH is to show updates for what the department is doing to address the issues identified during the last Community Health Assessment, which was done in 2014. To address physical activity and nutrition, Tamara offers a pre-diabetes prevention program. They are on their second session. In order to be a participant, you must be pre-diabetic. Eileen Dove, Recreation Director, is conducting an exercise class that Tamara is able to integrate into the activity portion of the diabetes class. For mental health, she reviewed various activities and clubs in the schools and community to address the issue. There was discussion of the lack of public transportation in the county. New Bern does have a doctor that will do home visits. Aycock asked where the information in the report comes from. Tamara discussed several of the references that are listed on the back of the SOTCH report. Dr. Stelma commented that it is a wonderful report and asked if there were any comments or questions about the report. There were none. ***Aycock made a motion to approve the 2017 State of the County Health (SOTCH) Report. Motion was seconded by Robert Jolly. There was no additional discussion. Motion carried.***

Smith then reviewed a Letter of Support for Local Communicable and Emerging Disease Funding to be included in the State's biennial budget. He began with a couple of corrections. The letter will be changed to address Senator Harry Brown (and not Senator Walter Jones, Jr.) and a paragraph will be moved up toward the beginning of the letter. Dr. Stelma then mentioned some typos that he discovered while reviewing the letter. Smith made notes and will update accordingly. The letter is similar to what the Health Director's association promoted last year. It is an attempt to get increased funding to local public health departments to deal with communicable disease response. The request is for \$80,000 in recurring funds for each Health Department to hire a full-time communicable disease nurse. There has been no increase in funding in over 20 years dealing with communicable disease. The same letter will also be sent to Representative Pat McElraft. ***Robert Jolly made a motion to approve the Letter of Support for Local Communicable and Emerging Disease Funding as corrected. Motion was seconded by Rev. Dunn. There was no additional discussion. Motion carried.***

In closing new business, Smith discussed the Revised Strategic Plan for FY 2017-18. The Board had approved the Strategic Plan several months ago but as Goal #2 under Strategic Action #1 was reviewed, the department felt it is best to focus more on expanding substance abuse/mental health services within the county instead of restoring Maternal Health services at this time. Dr. Stelma asked if anyone had any comments or questions. ***Aycock made a motion to accept the changes of removing maternal health and replacing it with substance abuse/mental health in the Strategic Plan. Motion was seconded by Dr. Stelma. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.***

Other Business

The Health Departments Regional Administrative Consultant, Ann Moore, announced her retirement effective July 1, 2018. Everyone is happy for her but sad to see her leave.

A letter of resignation was received from Jan Tillman, FNP, the Health Department's contracted provider. She has been here for almost three (3) years and has mainly been working one (1) day a week. Smith discussed cutting her back to two (2) days a month through May and reevaluate at that time with the understanding that if there is a greater need before then other arrangements may have to be made.

Board of Health Attendance was reviewed. Dr. Stelma asked if there was anything else to bring up. There was no additional business.

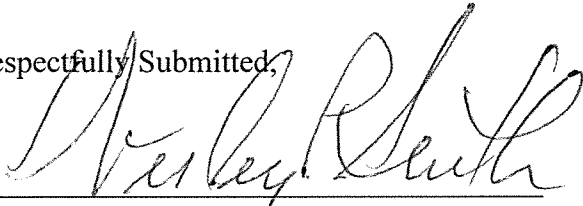
Next Meeting

Dr. Stelma reminded everyone that the next scheduled meeting day is interrupted by Memorial Day and will a week earlier, which is Monday, May 21, 2018 at 6:00 pm. Smith will conduct a review of the proposed Health Department budget for FY 2018-19 at the next meeting for approval.

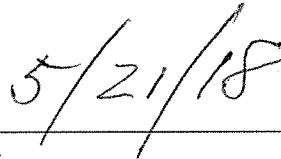
Adjournment

A motion was made by Aycock to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Rev. Dunn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Wesley P. Smith, Health Director
Secretary, Ex Officio



Date