



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

Phone: (252) 448-9111

Wesley Smith  
Interim Health Director

Fax: (252) 448-1670

**Jones County Board of Health Special Meeting Minutes  
March 7, 2024 @ 6:00 pm  
Commissioners Meeting Room  
110 S. Market Street, Trenton NC 28585**

**In Attendance:** Candace Andrews; April Aycock; Dana Bender, P.A.; Shivon Cannon; Ken Dillahunt; Rev. Charlie Dunn, Jr.; Ralph Gray; Beth Meadows; Dr. Justin Shimer; Dr. Steve Stelma

**Absent:** N/A

**Staff:** County Manager, Kyle Smith; Jennifer King, Deputy of Administration; Angelica Hall, Human Resources Director; Wesley P. Smith, Interim Health Director; Adrian Smith, Human Services Planner/Evaluator I; Ann Pike, Nursing Supervisor II; Victoria Brown, Administrative Officer I; Debra Yarbrough Environmental Health Coordinator; Laura Andrews; Misty Brasch; Theresa Carpenter; Leslie Chitwood; Maria Rodriguez; Kayla Sholar

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dr. Steve Stelma. He welcomed everyone to the Special BOH Meeting.

**Invocation**

The invocation and blessing for the meal were given by Rev. Charlie Dunn at 6:03 p.m.

**Discussion/Adjustments/Approval of Agenda**

***A motion was made by Dr. Stelma to approve the amended agenda. Motion was seconded by Rev. Charlie Dunn. There was no additional discussion. Motion carried unanimously.***

Kyle Smith, County Manager, spoke briefly in regards to the consolidation of Health and Human Services. He reported that Kristi Nickodem, attorney from the UNC School of Government, discussed consolidation to the Board of Health as well as to the County Commissioners at an earlier date. In conclusion of Kristi's presentation, the County Commissioners discussed consolidation efforts and how this would affect Jones County with making this a short-term goal. If the county chooses to proceed, the Commissioners will be the governing board over the Jones County Social

Services Department and the Jones County Health Department, assuming the duties and responsibilities of both Boards.

If the county proceeds with consolidation, the Board of Health would become the Advisory Committee for Public Health. The current members of the Board of Health, including those serving “in lieu of”, will continue to be able to serve on the new Advisory Committee for Public Health. At this time, Smith would recommend Jennifer King, Deputy of Administration, to become the Consolidated Human Services Director.

Jennifer King stated that the Health Department is currently under the local government retirement system, in which case employee retirement will not be affected by consolidation. The Health Department would come out from under the protection of the State Human Resources Act and would follow the same policies as other Jones County employees. Regarding career status, new employees would not be able to bring career status with them and will adhere to a one (1) year probationary period. For a Jones County employee who is transferring to another agency that is under the State Human Resources Act, that employee would be required to adhere to a one (1) year probationary period in order to obtain career status at that agency. For a Jones County employee that is transferring to another agency that is consolidated, there would be no change.

Several comments were made by staff members in attendance regarding the proposed consolidation. Beth Meadows reminded staff that the County was required to post a 30 day notice for public comment, and to be sure to voice their concerns.

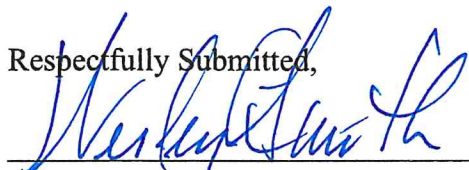
The Health Director Succession Plan, previously approved by the Board on July 23, 2023, was given to Board of Health members. After Wesley Smith’s tenure concludes at the end of the current fiscal year, Adrian Smith will be eligible for consideration of the Board of Health to be appointed as the new Health Director. If approved by the Board of Health, Adrian will then be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval. The official qualification for the position will be determined by both the State Health Director and the NC Office of State and Human Resources.

Adjournment

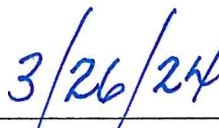
*A motion was made by Dr. Stelma to adjourn the meeting for all staff members. Motion was seconded by Rev. Dunn. There was no additional discussion. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion was made by Dr. Stelma to proceed with a closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6). Motion was seconded by April Aycock. There was no additional discussion. Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Wesley Smith, Interim Health Director  
Secretary, Ex Officio



Date