

Wayne County Board of Health

Minutes

☒ **Regular October 13, 2021 @ 12:15PM**

Wayne County Health Department

3rd Floor Conference Room/Meeting/Conference Call-In

301 N. Herman Street, Box CC, Goldsboro, NC 27530

- **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. James Faulk, Jr. at 12:15PM

Members Present	Ms. Pam Anderson, Vice-Chair, Registered Nurse Member; Mr. Joe Daughtery, Commissioner; Mr. James Faulk, Jr., Chairperson, Public Member; Mr. Charles Gibson, Public Member; Dr. Stephen Lies, Physician Member; Mr. Dr. Rick Sessions, Pharmacist Member; George R. Silver, Jr., Veterinarian Member and Dr. Brenda Weis, Health Director.
Members Absent	Dr. Thurston Greenwood, Dentist Member; and Parker Sherard, Engineer; Dr. Anthony Woolet, Optometrist; and VACANT Dentist Member.
Staff Members Present	Felicia Atkins, Denise Cowan, Bonnie Crouse, Renee Edge, Celita Graham, Juacita Jones, Miesha Jones, Erin Kitchin, Michelle Mathews, Steve Mohr, Jessica Shaw, Dr. James Stackhouse, JoAnn Whitfield, Tiffany Wilson, Brenna Wolfe and Alysa Wychunas.

A quorum was established with seven members present, three members absent, and one vacancy.

Ms. Bonnie Crouse reviewed the Safety Emergency Information board with all attendees for the roles needed in case of an emergency. The board is placed in the conference room where everyone can view what their role will be.

- **Invocation:** Mr. James V. Faulk, Jr.

- **Introduction of Guests:** Rob Pace, City of Goldsboro

- **Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Mr. Daughtery made a motion to approve the agenda as emailed. Mr. Gibson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Approval of September 8, 2021 Minutes**

Dr. Sessions made a motion to approve the September 8, 2021 Minutes as emailed to the Board. Mr. Daughtery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **New Employee Introduction:**

- Alysa Wychunas – Public Health Nurse, Women’s Health Services
- Juacita Jones – Social Worker Supervisor, CMARC/CMHRP
- Felicia Atkins – Licensed Practitioner Nurse, Communicable Disease/TB Department

- Miesha Jones – Medical Records Assistant, Clinic Support Services
- Tiffany Wilson – Processing Assistant, Clinic Support Services

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Health Director's Report:

Dr. Weis shared the following information with the Board:

COVID Update: COVID numbers are trending in a good direction with our positivity rate. We are lower than 7-8% and lower than State numbers.

We are continuing to vaccine and test at the Bussman Building. The building has been sold and we will transfer hands on October 29th. Dr. Stackhouse and his colleagues are looking hard to find a new space.

Dr. Stackhouse stated we have known for approximately 4-5 weeks that we would need to leave the Bussmann Building. We have been looking at other options. The problem we have is that we want to testing if possible. If we just deliver vaccines, we need space with adequate parking. The County also needs storage space.

We visited the old Food Lion building on 70W, Grantham Street. The County entered into a contract and found it did not have any heat or air conditioning. Therefore, that space may not work out for us. In the last 24 hours, we have visited several alternative sites and are hopeful to lease something soon. The three options we have now to explore include the following:

- Old Rite Aid on Lionel Street and Ash Street
- Old AT&T building
- Property on the corner of Clingman and Corporate building

We will need the new space by the first of November. We are giving at least 100 vaccines per day. Half of them are second doses. We have been testing approximately 250 individuals four days last week. Of those tested on average, almost 10% have been positive. It is tough to know the actual County-level positivity rate since negative test results are not required to be reported to the state. We are seeing many children being brought in to be tested to go back to school.

Dr. Weis commented that County EMS has been very supportive of the Department's COVID testing and vaccination efforts. We hired nine community health workers through United Way-Wayne to provided administrative support. This is being supported by our COVID funding.

New Health Department/DSS Building: Dr. Weis asked Mr. Daughtery if he had an update on the new Health-DSS facility.

Mr. Daughtery stated the Facilities Committee met yesterday. We interviewed three contractors for our Construction Manager at Risk. We included the Health Department and DSS in those discussions.

The group voted TA Loving as the Construction Manager at Risk. We will be voting Tuesday for the full Board to authorize that and enter into negotiations on a contract. We have to agree to what their fees are going to be. If they are too high, we will go to Plan B. Once we conclude, they will then meet with the architect and jointly work together for the design of the building.

The issues we have, as everyone is aware of, is the building costs for materials are going through the roof. We may have to change some of the building materials to accommodate building supply shortages. We will get professionals to guide us on this.

There is also construction happening with the jail. Additionally we have the Fremont School that is also being right around the corner. We should be letting bids on that in the Spring. We have three major projects going on right here in Wayne County.

Dr. Weis stated our program leads are meeting with Mosely Architects to discuss our space assessments and workflows with the architect.

Mr. Daughtery stated he was looking at the original draft with the square footage. It appears there were 10 exam rooms. Is that correct? Dr. Weis stated yes it is. Mr. Daughtery asked if that included all exam rooms for all departments. Does this include Primary Care? Dr. Stackhouse stated there are three practitioners at-present and there are two to three exam rooms slated per practitioner. We have 1.5 offices for Communicable Disease assessments. Mr. Daughtery asked if Dr. Stackhouse was comfortable with what is projected. Dr. Stackhouse replied at least five, and he would like ten. Dr. Weis stated we have a vacancy for a Nurse Practitioner that we will fill to help the need for clinical services in the future. We have not advertised for the position because we cannot take that on in our current building

Mr. Daughtery asked if we would be providing Primary Care in the new building. Dr. Weis commented that we hope to, if we can. We have to get the staffing back up and get moved into the new building first. Mr. Daughtery stated to be sure to allow space for that too. The County is very interested in having the Health Department provide that, if for no other reason than to provide primary care services for County Employees. The County self-insures itself. It is a built-in dual role. I would highly encourage you to have the employee health function there.

Dr. Weis stated it is in the workflow now and we will discuss it with Moseley Architects and figure out what it looks like. It is a plan at this point. When we began managed care in July, we attested that we wanted to do the Primary Care, although our current space does not allow for it. We hate to state that we can deliver primary care and then lose clients because we cannot do it effectively.

	<u>Closed Session:</u> Dr. Weis stated the plan that resulted from our last meeting's "Closed Session" was discussed with the County Manager and was approved by the Commissioners. Staff have been alerted. <u>Nurses:</u> Mr. Daughtery asked if he was correct that at this point we have hired two new nurses. Brenna Wolfe commented we have interviewed one and waiting on another application to be qualified. We are getting there slowly but surely. Mr. Daughtery asked if there were a couple of more in the pipeline. Ms. Wolfe stated yes. Our Communicable Disease Program is also back up and running. We have nurses in that clinic as well.
Finance Report	<u>Revenue Report:</u> Steve Mohr reviewed the Revenue Report spreadsheets by program through September 2021. This report shows how much Revenue the Health Department has collected by various funding sources and by programs. Mr. Mohr also shared a Revenue Comparison Report. Mr. Mohr stated our Revenue and Expenses increased dramatically due to receiving our Medicaid Settlement. FY21-22 numbers will be even out more as the year goes on. Dr. Weis stated that the look of the Financial Report depends on when we get the Medicaid Cost Settlement. We usually receive it between July-September. We also did well with the COVID revenue this past year.

- **Public Comments:** None
- **Old Business:** None
- **New Business:** Discussion of Board of Health "Dentist" Position Application, Dr. Emilee Pilkington, from Smith, Adams and Pilkington Family Dentistry.

The Board reviewed the "Dentist" application. After discussion, Mr. Gibson made a motion to present to the Board of Commissioners the Board's approval of Dr. Pilkington's application to fill the "Dentist" position. Dr. Silver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Board Member Comments:** None
- **Adjournment**
Mr. Faulk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.
- **Next Meeting Date**
November 10, 2021, 12:15PM, Wayne County Health Department, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 301 N. Herman St., Goldsboro, NC 27530.

Respectfully Submitted: _____


Signature

Secretary To Board

11/10/2021
Date