

Wayne County Board of Health

Minutes

☒ Regular February 9, 2022 @ 12:15PM

Wayne County Health Department

3rd Floor Conference Room

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

- **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Charles Gibson at 12:15PM

Members Present	Ms. Pam Anderson, Registered Nurse Member; Mr. Joe Daughtery, Commissioner; Mr. Charles Gibson, Public Member; Dr. Thurston Greenwood, Dentist Member; Dr. Stephen Lies, Physician Member, Vice-Chairperson; Mr. Dr. Rick Sessions, Pharmacist Member; Parker Sherard, Engineer; and Dr. Brenda Weis, Health Director.
Members Absent	Dr. Emilee Pilkington, Dentist Member; George R. Silver, Jr., Veterinarian Member, Chairperson; VACANT Optometrist; and VACANT Public Member.
Staff Members Present	Denise Cowan, Bonnie Crouse, James Faulk, Elizabeth Hill, Craig Honeycutt, Stephanie Howard, Juacita Jones, Michelle Mathews, Dr. James Stackhouse and JoAnn Whitfield.

A quorum was established with seven members present; two absent member and two vacant positions.

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:** Invocation – Dr. Stephen Lies
- **Introduction of Guests:** Craig Honeycutt, County Manager
- **Presentation of Out-Going Member:** Mr. James Faulk
- **Approval of Meeting Agenda**
Mr. Daughtery made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment of adding a “Closed Session” meeting. Dr. Lies seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of January 12, 2022 Minutes**
Dr. Lies made a motion to approve the January 12, 2022 Minutes as emailed to the Board. Mr. Daughtery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE’S 5th YEAR ANIVERSARY:**
 - Brenna Wolfe – Director of Nursing, Administration

- **RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE'S 15th YEAR ANIVERSARY**

- Tawana Calloway – Social Worker, CMHRC
- Elizabeth Hill – Nutritionist, WIC
- Jessica Carter – Environmental Health Specialist, Environmental Health

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Health Director's Report:

Dr. Weis shared the following information with the Board:

COVID-19:

Our COVID-19 positivity rate has gone down to about 15.5% for the last reporting week, compared to 25%-30% previously. The Omicron variant has had a high transmission rate and it impacted the number of new cases and our overall positivity rate quite a bit over the past few weeks. This variant is not as severe as previous COVID strains and there were fewer overall hospitalizations, which are also starting to wane.

Dr. Stackhouse stated that COVID-19 testing and vaccinations have been tapering off. Tests are now being done at home. Our reported positivity rate at the County's testing and vaccination site is down to approximately 15%. We had a positivity rate of about 35% or higher about three weeks ago. There is still a lot of COVID virus out there in the community that is not being reported due to at-home testing.

The hospital was reporting more than 70 people with COVID about two weeks ago. Pam Anderson commented it is down to the 40s now, and 17 COVID related deaths since Christmas.

Dr. Stackhouse shared information from CDC and FDA on current and emerging treatments.

New Building:

Dr. Weis stated we are moving forward with planning with the architect for the new Health-DSS facility. We are in negotiations on the square footage, cost, etc.

Mr. Daughtery commented the final rule came out with regards to the County's use of federal COVID monies. They have awarded \$23,000,000 for Wayne County. Use of the money has restrictions which is making things difficult. For example, you can use the monies for loss of revenue, but you may not count it for every County department. You have to count it for the County as a whole. When you do that, Wayne County actually has increased revenue because NC implemented the sales tax on internet sales. The bottom line is there are many restrictions on the use of federal COVID dollars. We argued about this last year as well. The final rule has come out though and \$10,000,000 may be used on any entities' lost revenue with no documentation requirement. We may also use those funds,

amongst others, to support healthcare facilities. We plan to use \$10,000,000 of the federal money for facilities. This will help support the Health Department/DSS facility and the jail. It did help us out tremendously. The cost of construction is through the roof.

Grants:

I have received new grants within the Health Promotion portfolio:

- **Healthy Beginnings:** There were up to 11 awards being made across the State. We did get one of them. The partnership is a list of stakeholders in this community.

The grant supports prenatal women and women in between pregnancies. The goal is to screen women for a variety of health service needs and then provide wrap-around services, including breastfeeding support, depressing screening and support, prenatal care, etc.

At this point, the partnership includes Wayne Women's Clinic, Wayne Pregnancy Center, Partnership for Children, United Way, Wayne Goldsboro Transit Authority, Goldsboro YMCA, Wayne County Public Schools, Eastpointe, and others. These partners will help when we have women who need services that we cannot provide internally. This will help to set us up to provide whole-person care under Managed Care.

Dr. Weis shared and discussed a slide on "Advanced Medical Home (AMH) Quality Measures for AMH Tier 3" with the Board. Currently we have transitioned to Managed Care under our CMARC/CHMHRP programs. We will soon shift to a more comprehensive performance measure slate that includes the items on this list. Health Promotion has an important role to play since they will help to connect clients to evidence-based health promotion-disease prevention programs, either internally or externally. The Healthy Beginnings grant help us "practice" this model with some funding.

- We received another grant in Health Promotion for approximately \$220,000 per year. It has not been released yet but it is for a year and a half and might be centered on workforce development, including in Wayne County Public Schools (WCPS). I am working with WCPS administration to determine what they need. It will have to be administered by the Health Department, but the personnel and resources will go to the community partners. We hire the people, but they get deployed to other agencies in the community.

Community Health Needs Assessment: Dr. Weis stated every three years we are required as a local health department to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). For the last few years, we have done it in partnership with the hospital because they

	have the same requirement and it streamlines the process for the community. The CHNA process involves input from hundreds of community residents and stakeholders. The participating agencies and organizations assist by distributing our health survey to their members and the public. The survey collects information on what people perceive as the health priorities for Wayne County. The findings of the surveys are collated and summarized in the CHNA report. In addition, there are a lot of local, state, and national data sets on health indicators at the County and State level that get rolled into this report. These data also help us to determine what we could or should focus on for priorities of the Health Department. The hospital determines their set of health priorities as well. The following priorities have emerged this year: • Access to healthcare and healthcare insurance • Diabetes • Communicable Diseases/Respiratory Diseases • Exercise, Nutrition and Healthy Weight • Maternal and Child health • Substance Use/Misuse Healthy equity is an underlying aspect of all these priorities. We have programs in most of these priority areas, and we will try to expand services where we can. Some of these priorities require partnerships with other agencies to tackle. Pam Anderson asked how the survey was conducted. Was it a survey monkey survey? Dr. Weis commented there were several ways the surveys were distributed. The survey was provided electronically and in paper format. Many surveys were distributed through partner agencies and some through County departments. Dr. Stackhouse shared that we gave out surveys at the Bussman Building while providing COVID vaccinations.
Finance Report	<u>Revenue Report</u>: JoAnn Whitfield reviewed the Revenue Report from January 2014 to January 2021. The first slide shows we are almost equal with the Revenue vs. Expenditures for this past January. We have not received our Medicaid Cost Settlement as of yet. The second slide, as you can see, is the 12-month comparison Mr. Daugherty had asked to be added of the Revenue vs. Expenditures Report. The Revenue does exceed our Expenditures. We also have included our Fund Balance, (money we have in our savings over time). This Fund Balance helps to fund our positions.

- **Public Comments:** None

- **Old Business:**

➤ BOH "Optometrist" Vacancy & New "Public Health" Members Update:

Bonnie Crouse commented the Board has three applications in their packets for the “Public Member” position. We did not receive any applications for the “Optometrist” position.

Mr. Gibson asked if anyone wanted to share their comments on the applications. Joe Daughtery commented he know Keith Harris. Mr. Harris would be a great addition to our Board. I knew him when he was a Banker. As you can see on his resume, he is a retired Regional Manager for Eastern NC office of EMS. He has been strong in EMS for decades. I think he would be a strong addition to our Board.

Mr. Gibson asked for additional comments to the applications. Dr. Lies stated he is impressed with all three applicants. Marilyn Bateman brings nutritionist knowledge she has. Jimmy Person has the Human Resources knowledge. I would have a hard time choosing among those three. Dr. Weis commented that the Health Department is under the Office of the State Human Resources (OSHR) for many personnel actions and policies. This is a different system than the County HR system. Few people actually understand the workings of the OSHR since it is very complicated.

Mr. Daughtery made a motion to recommend the appointment of Mr. Harris to fill the “Public Member” position to the Board. Dr. Lies seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Bonnie Crouse will send the recommendation to Carol Bowden, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

- **New Business:** None

- **Board Member Comments:** None

- **CLOSED SESSION: G.S. 143-318.11 (6)**

Mr. Gibson made a motion to go into closed session at 12:38PM. Mr. Gibson asked Mr. Honeycutt to stay for the “Closed Session”.

The Board came out of “Closed Session” and into “Open Session” at 1:13PM.

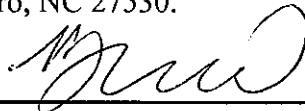
- **Adjournment**

Mr. Gibson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 PM.

- **Next Meeting Date**

March 9, 2022, 12:15PM, Wayne County Health Department, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 301 N. Herman St., Goldsboro, NC 27530.

Respectfully Submitted: _____



Signature

Secretary To Board

3/9/2022
Date