

Alamance County Board of Health
Burlington, NC 27217

Tuesday, February 18, 2020, 6:30 pm
Professional Board Room
(meal will be served at 6:00 pm)

Board of Health Regular Meeting

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Introductions – Dr. Annette Wilson, Chair
 - II. Public Comments
 - III. Approval of the Agenda- Dr. Annette Wilson, Chair
 - IV. Approval of items on Consent Agenda- Dr. Annette Wilson, Chair
 - A. January 21, 2020 Board of Health Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
 - V. Budget Amendments and Transfers- Ms. Janna Elliott
 - VI. New Business
 - A. Request to Approve Changes to Influenza Policy- Ms. Gayle Shoffner
 - B. Request to Approve Changes to Fee Policy- Ms. Janna Elliott
 - VII. Old Business
 - A. Board of Health Applicants- Dr. Annette Wilson
 - VIII. Environmental Health Report– Mr. Carl Carroll
 - IX. **Children’s Dental Health Center Report**- Dr. George Ackall
 - X. Personal Health Report – Ms. Gayle Shoffner
 - XI. Medical Director Report- Dr. Kimberly Newton
 - XII. Health Director Report- Ms. Stacie Saunders
 - XIII. Other
 - XIV. Adjournment
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ALAMANCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Health

February 18, 2020

The Alamance County Board of Health met at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, in the Professional Board Room at the Human Services Center located at 319-B North Graham-Hopedale Road, Burlington, North Carolina.

The following board members were present: Chair Dr. Annette Wilson, Vice Chair Mr. Troy King, Mr. Richard Blanchard, Ms. Marielena Castaneda, Commissioner Carter and Ms. Eleanor Rodriguez Rassi.

The following staff members were present: Ms. Stacie Saunders, Ms. Janna Elliott, Dr. George Ackall, Mr. Carl Carroll, Ms. Betsy Meeks, Ms. Arlinda Ellison, Ms. Nicole Alston, Ms. Gayle Shoffner, Dr. Kimberly Newton and Ms. Ariana Lawrence.

Andrea Rollins from Alamance County Finance Department was present.

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Board of Health Chair, Dr. Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Board of health members and staff introduced themselves.

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

III. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Carter made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Troy King seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously.

IV. Approval of Consent Agenda

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| A. | January 21, 2020 Board of Health Minutes |
| B. | Personnel Report |

Ms. Lawrence noted a date correction needed in the minutes, the date on the January board of health minutes should state January 21, 2020 instead of December 17, 2019.

Mr. King made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda with the date change to the board of health minutes. Ms. Rodriguez-Rassi seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously.

V. Budget Amendments and Transfers

Ms. Janna Elliott presented a budget amendment for \$10,000 from Impact Alamance to use for training for key staff to attend a “train the trainer” One Key Question training session. The funds will also allow the department to purchase additional equipment for the teen waiting area.

Commissioner Carter made a motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. Mr. King seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously.

VI. New Business

A. Request to Approve Changes to Influenza Policy

Ms. Saunders shared with the board that the only other change to this policy was that the health department Medical Director will review medical exemptions, and not the EMS Medical Director. Ms. Saunders also discussed that if the board of health were to approve the policy changes at this meeting, the new policy would go into effect mid-flu season. Ms. Saunders is requesting to table the approval of this policy until the May board of health meeting, and this will give time to educate staff about the changes to the policy before the 20/21 flu season.

Commissioner Carter made a motion to table the discussion of the policy until the May board of health meeting. Ms. Rodriguez-Rassi seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously.

B. Request to Approve Changes to Fee Policy

Ms. Elliott discussed changes made to the agency Fee Policy. The major changes to this policy were to explain the methodology of setting fees for new and existing services and adding a statement about how the health department bills Medicaid for medicine or devices purchased through the 340b drug program.

Commissioner Carter made a motion to approve the changes to the fee policy. Ms. Castaneda seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously.

VII. Old Business

A. Board of Health Applicants

Dr. Wilson and Mr. King interviewed Tracy Salisbury and Tim Woody who have both applied for the Representative of the General Public position on the board of health. Dr. Wilson and Mr. King expressed that both applicants have an impressive background and would both make a great addition to the board, but felt Ms. Salisbury would be a better fit with her medical background and her connection to the hospital and other community partners. Ms. Saunders explained that the commissioners agenda item will reflect the board of health's recommendation and the board of county commissioners have the ultimate appointing authority.

Mr. Troy King made a motion to recommend Ms. Tracy Salisbury to the board of county commissioners as the Representative of the General Public appointee. Dr. Annette Wilson seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously.

Ms. Saunders discussed that another application was submitted for the pharmacist position, and Dr. Osborn has mentioned she knows a pharmacist who is interested in applying. The board of health will review these applications all at once at a later meeting.

VIII. Environmental Health Update

Mr. Carl Carroll discussed the Environmental health annual activities report. He highlighted a few areas of this report that show how steadily busy environmental health staff are and discussed the fees collected is above average.

IX. Children's Dental Health Center Report

Dr. Ackall reported that the dental clinic is struggling hiring dental assistants. Dr. Ackall stated that when applicants find out the salary, they do not want to work there. Commissioner Carter asked how the salary compares to market value. Ms. Saunders and Ms. Elliott shared that the base rate is \$12.89 per hour for a dental assistant in Alamance, \$13.69 per hour in Rockingham, \$18.90 per hour in Guilford County and \$15.47 per hour in Orange County. Dr. Wilson asked if there is any way to fix this situation. Ms. Saunders shared that dental is self-sustaining so their budget is slightly more flexible. Ms. Saunders stated that being a leader of an agency, it does not feel right to give to one section and not the others. Commissioner Carter stated that this is not the only department dealing with this problem. Dr. Wilson asked how the lack of personnel is affecting productivity. Dr. Ackall answered that it puts more pressure on the staff that are there and morale is low. Ms. Castaneda stated that patient satisfaction is something she is worried about is wait times become an issue. Commissioner Carter asked

what the other pay grades were that are experiencing difficulty in hiring. Ms. Saunders shared that vacant nursing positions have been challenging to fill as well. Dr. Wilson asked if there was a way to increase some fees and use the revenue to fund salaries. Ms. Saunders shared that in the budget presentation proposed salary adjustments will be presented with increases for nurses and dental assistants.

X. Personal Health Update

Ms. Shoffner shared that following the January 8, 2020 Naloxone Distribution training for staff, an email has been sent to all health department staff that includes resources and other training documents to refer back to. Staff have been advised that a procedure template is under development and will be provided to section leads to assist with development of section distribution procedures and logistics.

Ms. Shoffner shared that 10 Naloxone kits have been dispensed thus far this year with 36 kits available.

Ms. Shoffner reported that over the next 8-10 weeks, multiple staff from all disciplines will attend multiple EPIC trainings in Guilford County. Clinic will function with reduced clinics during the initial phase of go live, which is scheduled for April 6. She shared that some of the computer hardware has been ordered and is beginning to come in. Anything compatible with the current system is being set up at desk sites so staff may begin to get used to it. Ms. Shoffner reported that staff were encouraged to make suggestions on how management can support staff during this time of transition, and staff have recommended a newsletter with quick references. Ms. Castaneda stated that she thought the newsletter was a great idea.

Ms. Shoffner stated that communicable disease staff are currently responding to a small Pertussis outbreak in a local high school. There has been 3 confirmed cases with additional pending tests.

XI. Medical Director's Report

Dr. Newton reported that cases of influenza are still rising as of last report from 2/8/2020. The health department has given 926 flu vaccinations to date. She shared that in North Carolina 77 deaths have occurred, and most of those individuals were greater than 65 (43 of 77 deaths).

Dr. Newton reported that Centering is continuing to enroll and open groups in English monthly and Spanish every other month. She shared that 35% of all maternity visits last month were in Centering.

The Standard of Care taskforce has final draft of proposal for medical director review and Dr. Newton plans to discuss with Health Director at monthly meeting.

Dr. Newton shared that a state consultant is scheduled for a visit for STD re-audit on 2/28. Completed ACHD Abbreviation procedure that was a recommendation from the previous audit. Dr. Newton will plan to give a report out at a future board of health meeting about the audit.

XII. Health Director's Report

Ms. Saunders reported that all health departments in the state are taking part in weekly calls with the division of public health. She shared that there are 73,337 of coronavirus cases worldwide, majority of those are in mainland China. There are currently 15 cases in the United States, and zero cases are in North Carolina at this time.

The Opioid Forum is scheduled for February 26 at Lamb's Chapel if board members are interested in attending please contact Ariana Lawrence.

Ms. Ellison shared that there is a collaborative event between the health department and the school system "Addressing the Impacts of Vaping in Our Community" at Williams High School on March 10.

Dr. Ilona Jaspers, Toxicologist, UNC Chapel-Hill will be the keynote speaker, there will be a youth panel discussion and a Vape Take Back that allows students to turn in their vaping devices for a chance to win a big prize.

Ms. Saunders discussed that the North Carolina Institute of Medicine has released their Healthy North Carolina 2030. Ms. Saunders discussed some of the indicators that will be focused on to improve the health of North Carolinians.

1. Individuals below 200% of the federal poverty level
2. Unemployment rate
3. Short term suspension rate
4. Incarceration rate
5. Adverse childhood experiences

6. Third grade reading proficiency

Lastly, Ms. Saunders shared that she had the opportunity to present via webinar with secretary Mandy Cohen with NC DHHS about the work being done with NCCARE360 in Alamance County. County leaders across the state participated in the call. Ms. Saunders shared that there will be an information and training session on March 9 at the health department for community providers and partners to attend.

XIII. Other

No other business was discussed.

XIV. Adjournment

With no further business discussed, at 7:37 pm Commissioner Carter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Troy King seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously.

Dr. Annette Wilson, Chair

Ms. Stacie Turpin Saunders, Secretary