

**Alamance County Board of Health
Burlington, NC 27217**

**Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 6:30 pm
Alamance County Health Department
319 N. Graham-Hopedale Road
Burlington, NC 27217
(meal will be served at 6:00 pm)**

Board of Health Regular Meeting

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Introductions – Mr. Troy King, Chair
- II. Approval of the Agenda- Mr. Troy King, Chair
- III. Approval of items on Consent Agenda- Mr. Troy King, Chair
 - A. May 18, 2021 Board of Health Minutes
 - B. June 15, 2021 Board of Health Minutes
 - C. Personnel Report
 - D. Request to Approve New WIC Policy, BFPC Service Delivery Model
 - E. Request to Approve Changes to Existing WIC Policies:
 - Nutrition Policy
 - NVRA Policy
 - Pending Applications
 - Message Management and Retrieval Policy
 - Track Multi-user Pumps Policy
- IV. New Business
 - A. Budget Amendments and Transfers- Ms. Janna Elliott
 - B. Request to Approve to Changes to Children’s EH Policy- Ms. Becky Rosso
 - C. Request to Approve Changes to Food and Lodging Policy- Ms. Becky Rosso
- V. Environmental Health Report- Ms. Becky Rosso
- VI. Dental Report- Dr. George Ackall
- VII. Personal Health Report- Ms. Gayle Shoffner
- VIII. Medical Director Report- Dr. Kimberly Newton
- IX. Health Director Report- Mr. Tony Lo Giudice
- X. Other
- XI. Adjournment

Reminders:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Health is **Tuesday September 21, 2021 at 6:30 pm**, the meal will be served at 6:00pm.

ALAMANCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

August 17, 2021

The Alamance County Board of Health met at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at the Alamance County Health Department located at 319 N. Graham-Hopedale Road Burlington, North Carolina and via Zoom.

The following board members were physically present: Chair Troy King, Commissioner Lashley, Dr. Karin Minter, Mr. Richard Blanchard, Ms. Marielena Moreno-Garcia and Dr. Saini Kundapati, The following board member participated via Zoom: Dr. Annette Wilson and Ms. Eleanor Rodriguez Rassi and Dr. Ann Marie Riley-Caldwell.

The following staff members were physically present: Mr. Tony Lo Giudice, Ms. Janna Elliott and Ms. Ariana Lawrence.

The following staff members participated via Zoom: Dr. Kimberly Newton, Ms. Gayle Shoffner, Ms. Nicole Alston, Ms. Becky Rosso, Dr. George Ackall. New staff members that participated via Zoom: Ronda Clark, Alexis Premeaux, Dr. Sadri, Paige Isley, Rose Watlington, Cameron Salmon, Hope Hornbuckle, Jennifer Turner and Shelby Smith.

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Board of Health members and staff introduced themselves.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Lashley made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Moreno-Garcia seconded the motion. Those who participated over Zoom stated their name and their vote. All members approved the agenda unanimously.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. May 18, 2021 Board of Health MinutesB. June 15, 2021 Board of Health MinutesC. Personnel ReportD. Request to Approve New WIC Policy, BFPC Service Delivery ModelE. Request to Approve Changes to Existing WIC Policies:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Nutrition Policy- NVRA Policy- Pending Applications- Message Management and Retrieval Policy- Track Multi-user Pumps Policy |
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Ms. Marielena Moreno-Garcia made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Dr. Karin Minter seconded the motion. Those who participated over Zoom stated their name and their vote. All members approved the consent agenda unanimously.

IV. New Business

A. Budget Amendments and Transfers

Ms. Elliott presented budget revision #1 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The Health Department received notification of funding from the Division of Public Health, Women's & Children's Health Section, Children and Youth Branch. The funds will be used to contract a temporary Public Health Nurse School Health Liaison for the coordination of COVID-19 screening, testing, and vaccine administration efforts.

These are entirely federal pass-through funds and do not require any local match or expenditure of any local funds.

Commissioner Lashley made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Dr. Minter seconded the motion. Those who participated over Zoom stated their name and their vote. All members approved the budget amendment unanimously.

B. Request to Approve to Changes to Children's EH Policy

Ms. Becky Rosso presented changes to the Children's Environmental Health Policy to be in line with the state program.

Dr. Minter made a motion to approve the changes to the Children's EH Policy. Ms. Moreno-Garcia seconded the motion. Those who participated over Zoom stated their name and their vote. All members approved the policy unanimously.

C. Request to Approve Changes to Food and Lodging Policy

Ms. Becky Rosso presented changes to the Food and Lodging Policy. The changes were including new rules to be in line with the state program.

Commissioner Lashley made a motion to approve the changes to the Food and Lodging Policy. Dr. Minter seconded the motion. **Those who participated over Zoom stated their name and their vote. All members approved the policy unanimously.**

V. Environmental Health Report

Ms. Becky Rosso shared that an internal candidate, Tracey Dixon, filled the Administrative Assistant position. The on-site wastewater section currently has four interns and two are working towards on-site authorization and the other two will begin centralized intern training with the state shortly. Ms. Rosso is hopeful by 2022 Environmental Health will be fully staffed and fully trained. The food and lodging section is collaborating with Cooperative Extension to provide ServSafe classes, which is a food safety class.

VI. Dental Report

Dr. Ackall shared an annual Dental report that consisted of appointment statistics, visits by billing sources, percent of visits by payment source, amount billed to third party billing and race/ethnicity breakdown. Dr. Kundapati thanked Dr. Ackall for the data and asked for this data report could be provided for the health department clinics as well.

VII. Personal Health Report

Ms. Shoffner shared that currently there are three public health nurse vacancies that are being recruited for. A HIPAA risk assessment will be conducted with a new vendor this year, Agio.

Ms. Shoffner reported that the Family Planning and Maternity programs are going through their state program audits. A final report on the outcome of the audit will be available in September.

Ms. Shoffner discussed a rise in RSV cases, particularly among daycare-aged children. There have been 143 positive RSV cases in 15 different childcare centers. Many of the RSV positive children are also testing positive for COVID-19. Health Department nurses Shelby Smith and Alicia Tanner have been working closely with the childcare facilities in regards to surveillance and control measures. Dr. Minter shared that at her practice, Burlington Pediatrics, they were able to get more of the Synagis vaccine, which helps to prevent hospitalizations and severe illness for RSV.

VIII. Medical Director Report

Dr. Newton shared that there has been a verbal offer and verbal acceptance for the full-time advanced practice provider position. The potential start date would be mid-October.

Dr. Newton shared that guidance has changed nationally for STD visits, and the health department will be updating standing orders to reflect the new guidance. She shared that there are multiple changes in medication and doses. There will be a blast fax alerting community providers of the changes in treatment guidelines. She also discussed that the family planning and maternity programs have gone through an audit and this has led to some changes in standing orders.

Dr. Newton reported that advanced practice provider students will be returning mid-August and she is planning for a UNC Family Medicine residents to come to the health department in January 2022.

Dr. Newton shared that Centering Pregnancy will tentatively start up in 2022, depending on the COVID-19 situation. She also celebrated the one-year anniversary of a transition to EPIC. Dr. Minter congratulated all staff for undergoing this transition during such a difficult year.

Dr. Newton spoke about a large amount of RSV in the community. Many of the RSV infections have a co-infection of COVID-19. She shared that she has had a strategic intervention with ARMC Emergency Department about testing children for both infections.

IX. Health Director Report

Mr. Lo Giudice shared a WIC update. WIC has a new Administrative Assistant, Rose Watlington. WIC waivers have been extended through mid-November, allowing telehealth appointments to continue. The WIC cash value benefit, used for fruits and vegetables, is temporarily increased to \$35 per month for women (normally \$11/month) and children (normally \$9/month). This increase will stop at the end of September. WIC continues to see above 100% of their assigned caseload. Lastly, WIC is celebrating World Breastfeeding Week and has done a lot of outreach and education about breastfeeding in the month of August.

Mr. Lo Giudice gave kudos to staff involved in the Dental clinic becoming a national health service core site.

Mr. Lo Giudice began his report by thanking the staff involved in the COVID-19 response. He shared that on September 3 the National Guard teams will be ending their time at the health department. They have been working on the vaccination effort for months, and Mr. Lo Giudice shared his appreciation for all of their efforts. Having the National Guard gone will affect the vaccination clinics, but health department and contract staff will cover the vaccination clinic.

Mr. Lo Giudice reported that there was a Health Fair held on August 7 in collaboration with City Gate Dream Center, Alamance Burlington School System (ABSS), Burlington/Mebane Pediatrics, Dental offices and Alamance County Health Department. The goal of this event was for children that don't have a medical or dental home to be seen and get all necessary paperwork and vaccinations needed. Dr. Minter and Amy Widderich with ABSS worked to get this event started and Dr. Minter was happy to report that over 140 students were seen, 167 vaccines were administered and 67 dental screenings conducted. Dr. Minter thanked all of the partners that were involved in addressing this community need.

Mr. Lo Giudice discussed the Boil Water Notice that took place on July 16. He gave kudos to Betsy Meeks, who is the supervisor over the Food and Lodging section of Environmental Health and served as Incident Commander for the event. There were 848 businesses affected by this notice. Mr. Lo Giudice shared that the county manager assigned other staff to assist the health department to ensure food establishments in Burlington were shutting down their operations.

Mr. Lo Giudice reported that on August 2 the county commissioners approved a communicable disease nurse county position funded with ARPA funds through 2023. He shared that he would ask for county commissioner's consideration to keep that position when the 2023 funding ends.

Mr. Lo Giudice shared that the health department will begin the strategic planning process in September. On September 20 and 21 there will be focus groups, individual interviews, and then three planning days in October and November.

Mr. Lo Giudice reported that Medicaid transformation was effective July 1, 2021 and all five prepaid health plan agreements are in place. There have been minor disruptions with our staff during this change.

Mr. Lo Giudice shared that House Bill 96 is awaiting the governor's approval. This bill expands the ability for pharmacists to give all vaccinations and injectable medications. The bill also requires parental consent for any vaccine that is approved for emergency use authorization.

Mr. Lo Giudice stated that peer support continues to be on site to support employees. Lambs Chapel has been available on a weekly basis. Recently a counseling provider was contracted with to provide support for employees as well.

Mr. Lo Giudice reported that he would attend the ABSS school board meeting next week to give a COVID-19 update and talk about school toolkit. The Kiwanis Club trophy was on display at the meeting and was awarded to all healthcare providers in county.

Mr. Lo Giudice provided a COVID update to the board. He shared there have been an average of 70 cases per day, and it has not been that high since December 2020. He stated that deaths have remained stable even though cases are on the rise. The CDC data tracker tool shows that Alamance is a high transmission county, as well as almost the whole state. He shared a graph that shows ages and the percent of cases from each age group. The outbreak and cluster report shows one correctional facility in an outbreak and no other clusters or outbreaks reported. He also shared a breakdown of vaccination status for the population. Mr. Lo Giudice stated that 88% of people getting COVID-19 have been unvaccinated. He shared that full FDA approval and approval for children under 12 to get the vaccine will likely be sometime in October and he will continue to keep the board updated on this. Mr. Lo Giudice reported that the health department continues to do outreach and has participated in many community events to give citizens access to the COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 and Hepatitis A vaccines were given recently at a local shelter. This week the health department will go to CTEC and do a drive-thru COVID-19 vaccine clinic targeted to ABSS staff and students. He shared that the FDA approved booster vaccines for those that are immunocompromised. Dr. Newton has a standing order ready for third doses to be available for those that are immunocompromised, and the health department screeners will be trained.

X. Other

No other business was discussed.

XI. Adjournment

Dr. Minter made a motion to adjourn at 7:54pm. Commissioner Lashley seconded the motion. Those who attended via Zoom stated their name and their vote. All members approved unanimously.

Mr. Troy King, Chair

Mr. Tony Lo Giudice, Secretary