

# Columbus County Board of Health

## Minutes

Regular Meeting       Special Meeting

April 29, 2015 6:00 P.M.

Columbus County Health Department, 304 Jefferson Street, Whiteville NC

<b>Members Present</b>	Dr. Randy Kirby, Chairman Dr. Christy Perdue Franklin Boone Dr. Darryl Diefes Dr. George Floyd Drew Cox Dr. Nicole Martin Charles McDowell
<b>Members Absent</b>	Jeremy Hooks, Patty Hobbs, RN, Peggy Blackmon, R.N., Vice Chair
<b>Staff Members Present</b>	Kimberly L. Smith, Charlene Bush, Kristie Priest, Sarah Gray, Sandra Harrelson, Theresa Smith, Hilda Memory and approximately 12 Home Health staff members
<b>Guest Speaker</b>	Gary Massey, CliftonLarsonAllen CPA Firm

### Quorum was present.

#### I. Call to Order

Dr. Randy Kirby, Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### II. Invocation

Invocation was given by Dr. Darryl Diefes.

#### III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda by Charles McDowell seconded by Dr. Darryl Diefes and carried by the board.

#### IV. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

#### V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept the March 4, 2015 minutes by Dr. Darryl Diefes seconded by Dr. Christy Perdue and carried by the board.

<b>VI. Home Health</b>	<p>Theresa Smith reviewed the following:</p> <p><b>A. 2015 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Record Audit</b>-beginning in January 2015, our record audit form was reformatted based on the recommendation from the Accreditation Commission for Home Care. In this 1<sup>st</sup> quarter there were 22 charts reviewed with an average census of 213, with no delinquencies within the specific areas examined. A motion to accept was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes seconded by Dr. Nicole Martin and carried by the board.</p> <p>Theresa reminded the board that April is HIPAA month, if you happen to come across any patient protected health information; please inform her or Kim Smith.</p>
<b>VII. Nursing</b>	<p>Hilda Memory reviewed the following:</p> <p><b>A. New Vaccine Requirements-</b> (<i>Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1</i>)</p> <p>New vaccine requirements for children come into effect July 1, 2015. By the beginning of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, children must have a T-Dap and the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 Meningococcal vaccines in order to remain in school.</p> <p>There is a new vaccine that is being pushed to finish trials by the CDC early because it is showing great promise against Meningitis B strain. The name of the vaccine is Trumenba by Pfizer for ages 10-25. We will let you know when it is released.</p>
<b>VIII. Environmental Health</b>	<p>Kristie Priest gave the following updates:</p> <p><b>A. 2015-2016 Fee's</b> (<i>Benchmark 15, Activity 15.4, Benchmark 39, Activity 39.3</i>)</p> <p>The NC State Lab has been told they must be "self-supporting". With this being said, our cost of water sample bottles has increased to: bacteria water bottles from \$3.09 per bottle to \$23.00, chemical water bottles from \$3.15 per to \$60.00 pesticide bottles from \$23.99 to \$74.00, and petroleum bottles from \$20.26 to \$74.00. Therefore, we are proposing an increase in the cost of our sampling water fee's to:</p> <p>Bacteria-- -\$25.00 to \$50.00  Chemical--\$25.00 to \$80.00  Pesticide--\$40.00 to \$95.00  Petroleum-\$40.00 to \$95.00</p> <p>A motion to accept the increase in fee's was made by Dr. Nicole Martin seconded by Dr. Christy Perdue and carried by the board.</p> <p>Kim reminded the board this proposed fee increase will need the consent of the County Commissioners. She will</p>

	present the proposed fees at the May 18 <sup>th</sup> meeting.
<b>IX. Health Education/Promotions</b>	<p>Sarah Gray reviewed the following :</p> <p><b>A. Grant Updates-Minority Health</b>  <i>(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.1)</i>  North Carolina Office of Minority Health-application submitted April 10, 2015. Pending announcement on May1, 2015 for \$300,000.00. A motion to support the application was made by Dr. Nicole Martin seconded by Dr. George Floyd and carried by the board.</p> <p><b>NCCI Yr 2-</b>  <i>(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.1)</i>  A motion for support for re-application of this substance abuse grant of \$30,000.00 was made by Charles McDowell seconded by Dr. Darryl Diefes and carried by the board.</p> <p><b>B. E-Cigarettes</b>  <i>(Benchmark 14, Activity 14.1)</i>  A copy of “Columbus County Draft Ordinance” was handed out to the board. After a brief discussion, Charles McDowell made a motion to have Mike Stephens, County Attorney, Kim Smith, Sarah Gray and the Sheriff to look over the proposed ordinance, seconded by Dr. Darryl Diefes and carried by the board. After this group makes recommended revisions, it will then be presented back to the Board of Health for final approval.</p>
<b>X. Financial Update</b>	<p>Charlene Bush gave the following updates:</p> <p><b>A. Financial Statement—January, February</b>  <i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6, Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2)</i>  The revenue for January was \$308,229.72 with the expenses of \$454,189.61. February revenue was \$311,861.00 with the expenses of \$413,654.93. The difference is made up thru local allocation.</p> <p><b>B. 2015-2016 Budget</b>  <i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.2, Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2, Benchmark 39, Activity 39.3, Benchmark 33, Activity 33.1)</i>  Total budget for 2015-2016; \$6,113,643, which includes (2) new vehicles for Environmental Health and to renovate the restroom in front lobby for handicap accessibility. A motion to accept was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes seconded by Dr. Nicole Martin and carried by the board.</p> <p><b>C. 2015-2016 Fee’s</b>  <i>(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.3)</i>  The only increase at this time is for the TDap vaccine;</p>

\$44.00 to \$46.00. A motion to accept was made by Charles McDowell seconded by Dr. Nicole Martin and carried by the board.

#### **D. Home Health Cost Report**

Gary Massey, CPA, with CliftonLarsonAllen reviewed key issues for the Columbus County Home Health agency regarding:

- Declining market share position as to annual patient volume and (4) year trend data
- Declining financial performance between FYE 2013 and FYE 2014
- Ongoing Medicare payment rate compression
- Other issues impacting home health providers and especially smaller providers

The total patient decline from 2010 compared to 2014:  
-406 or -36.91%

Home Health revenue decline is a combination of both less patient volume and ongoing payment rate reductions for Medicare. A total of Medicare & Medicaid from FYE 2013 to 2014 was -\$717,921 or -26.66%.

Home Health expenses and fund balance changes for FYE 2013-2014, -\$143,296.

Due to further Medicare rate cuts already in law for 2015-2017, of at least 1.5% per year, margins will likely continue to worsen for all providers but especially for smaller providers. The Medicare Doctor Fix-has the market basket adjustment factor locked at 1% in 2018.

Other Home Health issues/challenges:

- Effective January 2015, new rules governing face-to-face documentation with ultimate responsibility for compliance with the HHA, and documentation required to be developed and maintained in the physician's office record.
- Could become a very large compliance and potential repayment issue for HHAs nationally
- Could really "chill" referrals for home health

Over the years and especially in the past 5 years, other NC Public Health Departments with home health programs have faced similar challenges forcing them to elect to exit the market by selling or closing their program. Therefore, I am recommending to the board to sell Columbus County Home Health Agency. If you make the choice to sell: As a public entity, you would

	<p>have to follow the process delineated in G.S. 131E-13 and 131-E13(d).</p> <p>Dr. Darryl Diefes stated he has grave concern about how the indigent will receive care.</p> <p>Dr. Randy Kirby asks for any comments or statements from the public before the board votes, none were given.</p> <p>A motion to recommend the sale of Columbus County Home Health to the County Commissioners was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes seconded by Charles McDowell and carried by the board with 1 abstained.</p> <p>Kim Smith reminded the Board of Health that the County Commissioners will have the final vote whether to sell or not. She is on the agenda for the next commissioners meeting on May 4, 2015.</p>
<b>XI. Chairman's Forum</b>	<p>Dr. Randy Kirby stated that Patty Hobbs and Peggy Blackmon have been sick and to keep them in your prayers.</p>
<b>XII. Director's Forum</b>	<p>Kim Smith gave the following updates:</p> <p><b>A. 2015 Health Rankings</b>  <i>(Benchmark 14, Activity 14.2, Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1)</i>  Some of the rankings comparing 2014 to 2015 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Health Behaviors-79 to 67</li> <li>➤ Clinical Care-78 to 78</li> <li>➤ Social Economic Factors-86 to 90</li> <li>➤ Physical Environment-81 to 76</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Dental Update</b>  <i>(Benchmark 40, Activity 40.2, Benchmark 41, Activity 41.2)</i>  Letters were sent to both schools superintendents stating our interest in our dental bus providing dental services at the schools in the upcoming school year. Flyers advertising our dental services were taken to all the schools. The dental patient appointments are increasing.</p> <p><b>C. Accreditation Update</b>  Kim thanked Peggy Blackmon, Charles McDowell, Dr. Darryl Diefes, and Dr. Randy Kirby for the interview process with the Accreditation Team. Out of the total 147 activities, we met 146. The activity we missed was the BP cuff calibration, which we have since corrected.</p> <p>Smith is working with Mark III to come up with an employee health program for the county.</p>

<b>Comments-Board of Health</b>	<p>Dr. Randy Kirby thanked Gary Massey for the Home Health presentation.</p> <p>The Accreditation Board meets on May 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. and we have been invited to attend to receive our plaque, if anyone would like to attend, please let Kim know.</p>

**Next Meeting Date****June 24, 2015 6:00 pm****Adjournment:** Dr. Randy Kirby adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted: *Kimberly R Smith*  
**Signature**

**Secretary** 052015  
**Date**