

Columbus County Board of Health

Minutes

Regular Meeting **Special Meeting**

December 11, 2019 6:00 P.M.

Columbus County Health Department, 304 Jefferson Street, Whiteville NC

Members Present	Dr. Randy Kirby Patty Hobbs Dr. George Floyd Franklin Boone Shane Cartrette Charles McDowell Dr. Darryl Diefes Dr. Christy Perdue Pat Ray
Members Absent	Dr. Nicole Martin, Drew Cox
Staff Members Present	Kimberly L. Smith, Yvonne Richardson, Charlene Bush, Lorraine Matthews, Daniel Buck
Guests	

Quorum was present.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Welcome/Invocation

Dr. Randy Kirby welcomed everyone to the meeting. Invocation was given by Dr. Randy Kirby.

III. Approval of Agenda

A motion to accept was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes seconded by Pat Ray and carried by the board.

IV. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept was made by Dr. Christy Perdue seconded by Patty Hobbs and carried by the board.

VI. Women, Infants, Children

Lorraine Matthews, WIC Director stated the following:

A. Annual WIC Update

(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2)

- The Columbus County WIC team has been fully staffed, since early January 2019, which has been beneficial to all. The most recent Nutritionist I, is continuing to learn her duties, and improve her skills as a nutrition educator. She is also a good worker, who is quite willing to help the rest of our staff.
- Columbus County has been using electronic benefit cards, known as eWIC, since October 2018, to provide benefits to our clients. This system provides better choices, while giving clients more flexibility, in when they can access their benefits, and how much they need to get at one time. More upgrades will be coming in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- All of the participating Supermarkets and Pharmacies in Columbus County have completed their required training for 2019-2020; this allows them to continue to be approved WIC vendors. Much thanks to Sandy Cothorn, Nutritionist II and Vendor Coordinator, for managing and maintaining this most important component of the program. Although we certainly understand the decision, we are, of course, sad to see the Hill's store in Fair Bluff close its doors.
- The breastfeeding team is continuing to support and promote breastfeeding among our young families. WIC currently has two part-time breastfeeding peer counselors. Supervised by Donna LeSane, Nutritionist II and Breastfeeding Coordinator, the peer counselors are on call daily, via phone, to assist breastfeeding moms when they need assistance. Thanks to a special grant, Columbus County WIC has been able to purchase a new lactation scale, to accurately determine how much breastmilk infants are actually ingesting. They also were asked to do a poster session at the State WIC Conference. I am also very pleased to highlight our two-breastfeeding peer counselors, maintaining, and improving current levels of participation in WIC. This is a major concern here in Columbus County, and the rest of the state.
- Our numbers have dropped around the state. I am

	<p>sure many of you are aware, that declining enrollment is a concern locally, statewide, and around the country. The North Carolina WIC Program is currently mounting a taskforce to look for ways to get older children, three to five year olds, enrolled/re-enrolled, in the WIC program. Our new technology will hopefully, help us find ways to improve our numbers, while making the program more accessible for clients.</p>
<p>VII. Financial Update</p>	<p>Charlene Bush, Budget Director stated the following:</p> <p>A. Financial Statement September and October <i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Financial Statement, you should have September and October. Are there any questions for the expenditures and revenue? • You should have also received a Year to Date with percentages on there. It shows us that we are about where we need to be percentage wise, during this time of the fiscal year. <p>Motion to accept Financial Statement for September and October was made by Shane Cartrette, seconded by Dr. George Floyd, carried by the board.</p> <p>B. Women, Infants, and Children Financial Report <i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While Lorraine explained to you what they do, I will be explaining about the funding. • Their money comes in one lump sum and we divide it up into the following four categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Client Services ○ Nutrition Education ○ General Administration ○ Breastfeeding • This is federal money, so I get audited around every two years. • Peer Counselor Breastfeeding received \$10,000, and the Special Funding they received, they were able to purchase a projector and a Neonatal Lactation Scale. • Unfortunately, their money has been cut. It is based on the number of children that they serve; and this has to do with our birth rate being down, as well as the hurricanes displacing residents to relocate. • This is the first time, since I have been here, that the WIC department has been fully staffed; and then they cut our budget. <p>C. Patient Count for September and October</p>

	<p><i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the month of October, Adult Health’s Patient Count was up due to Flu Shots. 407 flu shots were given for this month and 478 were given in 2018 for the month of October. • We did not order as many flu vaccines this year, as last year. In addition, the FDA decided to check every batch that goes out. So we did not get it all at once, they staggered the shipments coming in. <p>Shane Cartrette asked what you do with excess flu vaccines. Kim Smith replied that we are able to send them back and receive credit towards the next years order.</p> <p>D. Cost Report Update 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two months ago, I had mentioned to you about us appealing with Medicaid, regarding their claim that we owed them money for 2015. • They have put the collection of the 2015 funds on hold, and have reversed penalties and interest charges, due to them using the wrong formula. • As of now, this is all on hold. Back in 2013, they did the same thing, causing a difference in money. <p>Kim Smith stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The thing about this is that there were a handful of Health Department’s, which did not owe back money. <p>Charlene Bush added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have an outside person who does our Medicaid Cost Report. He takes care of almost all of the Health Department’s Medicaid Cost Reports.
<p>VIII. Health Education</p>	<p>Daniel Buck, Health Educator gave the following update:</p> <p>A. Community Health Improvement Plan Update <i>(Benchmark 22, Activity 22.1)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What I’m going to review with you, is from our 2015 Health Assessment, as to what our priority areas were, regarding what’s been addressed, and where do we go from here. • The health priorities that were addressed from the 2015 Health Assessment, within the communities were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chronic Disease ○ Obesity ○ Substance Abuse • Some of the outreach we’ve done regarding these issues are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chronic Disease Self-Management Workshops

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Faithful Families Diabetes Prevention Workshops ○ Work with the Columbus County Sheriff's office to adopt the use of Naloxone ○ Opioid Abuse ○ Currently on a collaborative initiative, regarding substance abuse. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We are currently conducting a new Health Assessment. In March, we will be able to assess the results and create a new Corrective Action Plan to address the community's issues and needs, for the next four years. ● Kim and I also spoke about possibly bringing in an outside consultant. That way if there is something we are not aware of, they could help bring it to the table. ● As of right now, I think that our #1 priority for our county is going to be Substance Abuse. <p>Kim Smith stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I'd like to add that Daniel is working on two other grants. One is a Dental grant, up to \$20,000; we would like that to go towards a new Panorex, for our new to us bus. The other is from the Office of Rural Health, which is \$150,000 a year, for three years. It has to be geared towards Primary Care; they consider a maternity home Primary Care. <p>Motion to accept the Community Health Improvement Plan Update was made by Pat Ray, seconded by Dr. Darryl Diefes and carried by the board.</p>
<p>IX. Chairman's Forum</p>	<p>Dr. Randy Kirby, Chairman, gave the following update:</p> <p>A. Health Director's Evaluation <i>(Benchmark 37, Activity 37.5)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● That brings us to everyone's favorite part of the evening, which is the Health Director's Evaluation. ● I'll now pass out the results for Ms. Smith. ● There are 10's all across. Very well done Ms. Smith. <p>Motion to accept the Health Director's Performance Review was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes, seconded Dr. George Floyd, and carried by the board.</p>
<p>X. Director's Forum</p>	<p>Kim Smith, Health Director gave the following updates:</p> <p>A. Annual Public Health Update <i>(Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In your packets, you received the Annual Report for the last fiscal year. This ran from July 2018 to June of 2019. A few items to point out are as

follows:

- Active TB Cases remained the same.
- Latent TB Cases went down by five.
- HIV cases went down by six.
- Syphilis cases were the same.
- Hepatitis B went up by three; and we are seeing a trend of pregnant women with Hep B.
- Gonorrhea was down by 111.
- Rocky Mountain Spotted fever, down by four
- Chlamydia down by 104 cases.
- NGU was up by two.
- There were three flu deaths last year, in our county. One was a prisoner at the Tabor City facility. The other was a 56 year old, with multiple health issues, and an 86 year old. So far this year, there have been none in the county or state; but there have been five nationally; one patient in the 24-35 year old range and the rest were over 65. Flu seasons peak, is usually the last of January, first of February.
 - Overall births have increased by 25.
 - Overall deaths have increased by five.
 - Home burials up by one; these are the ones we know about.
- Between Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael, the county commissioners decided to waive \$14,000 of fees connected to the Hurricanes, through December 31st. This included:
 - 48 Septic Tanks
 - 6 Wells
 - 76 Bacterial Water Samples
- You saw the report that showed the number of patients. That was down just a few from the previous year.
- The WIC program, last year, contributed \$984,292.60 to the Columbus County economy. This is down not quite \$20,000. Our numbers are down as well as most of the state.
- In our lab, we have completed a total of 9,182 tests. Of these test, they are as follows:
 - 540 Blood draws from local physicians
- In Health Education, our Making Proud Choices grant, this is our teen pregnancy prevention grant, which is located in all of the High Schools now, County and City.

- Our Dentist Dr. Thomas resigned on June 6th; we found Dr. Ladner and she started on July 1st. Even though we started, the new Electronic Medical Record (EMR) with Dr. Thomas, since Dr. Ladner has come on board, she is implementing our new EMR system, Open Dental, and it is going really good.
- Under our Animal Bites, which we coordinate with Animal Control, we had the following:
 - Total Reported was 74 animal bites, all dogs.
 - Of the 74, we had to treat 8 individuals (3 children under 6 years of age)
- The total budget for 2018/2019 was \$4,149,522.37
 - Total Revenues for Health Dept. Clinics: \$2,253,718.84
 - Total County Appropriation Health Dept. Clinics: \$1,859,803.53
 - Total Expenses for Health Dept. Clinics: \$4,149,481.52
- The issues we had during the year, included:
 - New Medical Director- Dr. Susan Aycock
 - Hurricane Florence
 - Hurricane Michael
 - Re-Accreditation Site Visit March 2019
 - Toothmobile out of service for 14 days
 - Dr. Thomas (our Dentist) resigned to go back to school
 - Transition from EastPointe to Trillium
- Our concerns include the following:
 - Recruiting the needed licensed staff.
 - Competitive pay for all staff.
 - Decreasing funds from State and Federal sources while requirements for funds are more rigorous.
 - Medicaid Transformation
 - Finding an affordable Toothmobile.
 - Public Health Medicaid cost settlement.
- Attached to your report is a sheet that informs the Board of the different ages, race, genders and ethnicities of our patients.
- The Dental information is way off, due to the fact Open Dental was not being used properly
- New Hanover County is trying to pass no smoking out in public. So we will be seeing how this goes and possibly learn from them.

- Any questions about the Annual Report?

B. Communicable Disease Update- Pertussis

(Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1)

- Back in November, one of the kindergartners, at Williams Township, was positive for pertussis. Myself, Patti and Emily Lee, sat down and came up with a letter to send out to the school. After the letters were sent out, we had no calls.

Shane Cartrette stated that his son is in kindergarten at the school, and as parents, him and his wife were very impressed with how the situation was handled.

Tuberculosis

(Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1)

- We have a mother who was in the hospital, I believe Columbus Regional; as we conducted our investigation, she has a daughter who lives with her sometimes and the daughter has a two year old son, along with the daughter having a boyfriend. We are treating the grandson for latent TB.
- I know the hospital had some issues with not recognizing TB patients, three in the past year. Between the ER staff and Miranda, something has been put into place to help combat this from happening again.
- The daughter happens to work at Smithfield Packing Plant in Tar Heel.

C. Vaping Update

(Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1)

- As of December 4th, we now have 74 cases of E-Cigarette or vaping product lung injuries in the State of North Carolina.
- Most of these cases are males: 64% of these cases are male; 36% female.
- The median age is 25. The range of ages goes from 13 to 72.
- This is steadily becoming a bigger problem.

D. Patient Satisfaction Survey Results

(Benchmark 9, Activity 9.5)

- Martha collated all of the Patient Satisfaction Surveys. In your packet, these eating establishments are called and asked questions over the phone. In the clinic, when they are getting their receipt for treatment or making their appointment for their next visit, this is when they are given the survey. This goes for everyone but Dental. The Dental staff will hand the survey to the parent or

family. That box is located right outside of Dental.

- Patients feel they are spending the right amount of time with the provider, while receiving the proper education.
- Even though this is what the patients have stated, we continually review our services to see if we need to make any changes.
- The staff is required to attend an annual Customer Service Training. When I first came here to turn in my application, I noticed that Customer Service Training was needed, so we have been doing it since I started here.

Motion to accept the Patient Satisfaction Survey Results was made by Charles McDowell, seconded Dr. Darryl Diefes, and carried by the board.

E. Quarterly Audit Report

(Benchmark 27, Activity 27.1)

- This was also sent out in your packets. There is a correction, the next audit is scheduled for January 11, 2020.
- Martha was telling me that all the audits have been reviewed, with the staff involved. No Corrective Action Plans (CAP) were needed. Some of the answers were not showing in the electronic medical record (EMR). Patti Nance and Mitzi Ward worked to make this correction in the EMR to eliminate this. These issues will be looked at in January, with the next audit. Are there any questions?

Motion to accept the Quarterly Audit Report was made by Dr. George Floyd, seconded Patty Hobbs, and carried by the board.

F. Medicaid Transformation

- Most of you may have heard the General Assembly has not passed a budget. They adjourned without passing a budget, meaning the appropriated funds for the Medicaid Transformation to go live on February 1st has been put on hold. We are operating under the current fee for service. The prepaid health plans, who we signed contracts with, are pushing forward as if everything is still a go. I have not heard anything else from the State besides they are unsure and cannot do anything without the budget.
- At the State level, any staff that was hired has been laid off. Yvonne and I still have not heard anything from United Healthcare.

Dr. Christy Perdue stated that she has not heard anything

	<p>from them as well. She was wondering if she was the only one having issues with them. Kim Smith went on to say:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are a preferred provider for them now, under the regular insurance. • One quick staff update that was not on the agenda is that on March 9th, Swiyyah Harrington, will start as our new Certified Nurse Midwife. She accepted the salary and she will start then. She is originally from Kelly, NC. I think she will be excellent. Our Nurse Practitioner, Stephanie Jones, is excited. I think they will get along. We're excited. • Are there any comments from the board? <p>Charles McDowell asked Kim Smith if she was on the Census committee. She answered that she was. Charles McDowell went on to state that it is important that our college students are listed as residents of the county in which they call home. If there is anything, you can do to help with the Census over the next couple of months. Please feel free to reach us.</p> <p>Charles McDowell went on to ask if we had saw on the news where New York is bussing their homeless population to other states, including North Carolina, and paying them to leave New York. Have you heard anything from the State on this situation? Kim Smith stated that she has not heard anything besides what was on the news.</p> <p>Charles McDowell stated that the county has two different phone systems that does not allow voicemail recordings to be changed to notify the public that the department will be closed due to the holidays. Kim Smith stated that we post on all of our doors and our system does allow you to do this. We will make sure it is getting done.</p> <p>Kim Smith stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I want to thank you all again for my evaluation. If there are no further comments, we are adjourned.
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Next Meeting Date
February 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted: Kimberly L Smith Secretary 02262020
 Signature Date