

Columbus County Board of Health

Minutes

Regular Meeting **Special Meeting**

June 24, 2020 6:00 P.M.

Columbus County Health Department, 304 Jefferson Street, Whiteville NC

Members Present	Dr. Randy Kirby Pat Ray Dr. Darryl Diefes Dr. Nicole Martin Shane Cartrette Dr. Christy Perdue
Members Absent	Patty Hobbs, Frankye Boone-Newkirk, Dr. George Floyd, Charles McDowell, Drew Cox
Staff Members Present	Kimberly L. Smith, Yvonne Richardson, Charlene Bush, Patti Nance, Daniel Buck, Martha Faulk, Mitzi Ward
Guests	

Quorum was present.

I. Call to Order

Dr. Randy Kirby called the meeting to order at 6:16 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 two public comments. Will the local college be open, as normal, in the fall? Kim Smith replied you will have to check with the college. With Coronavirus, it will be a new normal, not necessarily the same normal. Second public comment stated that the Board had just voted on something and we have no idea on what it entails. Kim Smith replied it was the agenda for the meeting. The agenda is sent out to all the board members and is posted on the Health Department's webpage under the Board of Health tab, for viewing before the scheduled meeting.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept was made by Dr. Christy Perdue seconded by Shane Cartrette and carried by the board.

<p>VII. Quality Assurance</p>	<p>Martha Faulk, QA, QI:</p> <p>A. Patient Satisfaction Survey Results (<i>Benchmark 9, Activity 9.5</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We've had good surveys. Only had one concern, when COVID started, and that was dealing with everyone wearing a mask. Everyone wears a mask now unless, they are in their office alone. <p>B. Quarterly Audit Results (<i>Benchmark 27, Activity 27.1</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly audits are where we monitor our workforce and requirements from the state. They were good. • On our scanning audits, we did have a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The supervisor went in and monitored what was scanned in, until everything was scanned in right, at 100%. <p>C. Accreditation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will still be an accreditation. • It is going from a four year cycle to a five year cycle. Hopefully they are going to be gracious on 2020, due to the pandemic. • We are now on the dashboard. There has been some progress. <p>D. Staff Development Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have numerous educational demands on our staff. We are trying to do this to the best of our abilities due to COVID-19. We are trying to do it through the computer. • This policy basically has not changed since last year. <p>Motion to accept the Staff Development Policy was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes, seconded by Dr. Nicole Martin, carried by the board.</p> <p>Dr. Darryl Diefes stated he wanted clarification on Martha Faulk's statement to leniency with the upcoming Accreditation. Martha Faulk stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are not going to do away with the benchmark activities. However, they may not pull staff files for this year. They are going to be more lenient on whether something meets that standard during this
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	<p>time. Normally they are very meticulous as to what they expect.</p> <p>E. Workforce Development Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Kim does an awesome job reaching out to keep us fully staffed. • You all have a copy of this policy. Are there any questions or input regarding this policy? <p>Motion to accept the Workforce Development Policy was made by Pat Ray, seconded by Dr. Nicole Martin, carried by the board.</p>
<p>VIII. Child Fatality</p>	<p>Mitzi Ward, Child Fatality Chair gave the following update:</p> <p>A. Annual Child Fatality Report <i>(Benchmark 19, Activity 19.1)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You received some information in your packet. I have broken down the child fatalities from 2017 to 2018, because that is what we are viewing now because it's always a year behind. • 2017 we had a total of 11 deaths • 2018 we only had four. Three perinatal deaths and one poisoning. All of these were under one year of age. <p>Dr. Randy Kirby asked how do these numbers compare with the year before, and how does it look against the rest of the state?</p> <p>Mitzi Ward responded with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the packet you received, it shows you the numbers by county. We went from 11 in 2017 to four in 2018. We are one of the few counties to have such low numbers. <p>Dr. Darryl Diefes asked if that was good and Mitzi Ward replied that she thinks so.</p> <p>Mitzi Ward stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As you know our Child Abuse Prayer Vigil was canceled, but hopefully we will be able to hold it this coming year. We hope to have some of you there as well.
<p>IX. Nursing</p>	<p>Patti Nance, Director of Nursing gave the following update:</p> <p>A. Child Health <i>(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the North Carolina Immunization Program, we met our benchmark at 90%, our goal was 88% with two year old full vaccinations. Statewide average was 83% and the county average was 73%. So we have received our certificate for outstanding

	<p>immunization rate, as we have in the past.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our nurses in Pediatrics do a fantastic job with the children. • The immunization conference has been canceled that they go to every year. <p>B. Communicable Disease Report <i>(Benchmark 2, Activity 2.4)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have enclosed a chart with four years' worth of data. • I also presented you with a chart on TB and Latent TB. It has three years' worth of data. This year, we are at two active TB cases, and two Latent TB cases. <p>C. Maternal Characteristic Report <i>(Benchmark 19, Activity 19.1) (Benchmark 36, Activity 36.3)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Maternal Health this year, we have seen 172 patients; with 839 visits. Last year we had 160 patients with 744 visits. We've had a little bit of an increase from the previous year. • In the past our Maternal Health patient ages ranged from 13 to the 55/59 age. Patient age in Maternal Health, for this year, ranges from 16 to 55/59, with the largest population aged 25-29 and second largest aged 25. <p>D. Family Planning Services Update <i>(Benchmark 19, Activity 19.1) (Benchmark 36, Activity 36.3)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have a total of 484 patients that have been seen in the Family Planning clinic with a total of 893 visits. We are down approximately three visits from 18/19. • Patient age in Family Planning ranges from 14 to 60-64, with the largest population aged 30-34 and second largest is age group 25/29. I have one for the 60-64 age range, not sure what that is, but I will look in to it. 13 has been our lowest age for the previous fiscal year. <p>E. Maternal Health Update <i>(Benchmark 19, Activity 19.1) (Benchmark 36, Activity 36.3)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last year there were 386 births at Columbus Regional. • Columbus Regional had 309 births from 07/01/2019 – 06/14/2020. Of these 309, we had 122 opportunities for deliveries. Of the 122 we had: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 47 patient's either transfer care to another county/practice or delivered elsewhere. • This has left us with a total of 75 births at
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Columbus Regional this year; thus far that has received care from the Health Department.

- The data on births is compiled from the newborn release reports from Columbus Regional Medical Center and documentation from the Maternity secretary here at the health department.
- Patient age in Maternal Health ranges from 16 to 55/59, with the largest population aged 25-29 and second largest aged 25.

F. Adult Health / Communicable Disease / Sexually Transmitted Disease Update

(Benchmark 19, Activity 19.1) (Benchmark 36, Activity 36.3)

- Adult Health has been extremely busy with helping Kim and I with COVID-19.
- For 19/20 Fiscal Year:
 - HIV/AIDS –We have 10 new cases this year. Last year’s report we had 10.
 - Syphilis -- has increased from last year, where we had 9 new cases we have had 11 new cases this year.
 - Chlamydia is up this year from 275 in 18/19 to 311 for 19/20
 - Gonorrhea has had a slight decline from 129 in 18/19 to 116 in 19/20 declined.
 - STD Conference for this year was cancelled due to COVID 19
- Tuberculosis & Latent Tuberculosis numbers are down from the previous year. From 07/01/2019 through 06/14/2020 we have the following numbers:
 - Total of 6
 - 3 are closed
 - 1 is deceased
 - 2 have completed therapy
 - 3 are open
 - 1 moved to Bladen Co.
 - 1 in Central Prison (Men)
 - 1 in Central Prison (Women)
 - The ages for these are as follows: 23, 43, 47, 48, 65, 71
- Latent (LTBI) TB Cases from 07/01/2019 through 06/14/2020 are as follows:
 - Total of 20 Cases
 - Total Contact Cases: 14
 - LTBI Due to Other: 6
 - Declined Treatment: 10

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Completed Treatment: 8 ○ On Treatment: 1 ○ Not Started Treatment: 1 ○ Ages: 2, 3, 17, 22, 27, 28, 32, 35, 35, 44, 44, 45, 51, 54, 55, 58, 59, 61, 64, 67 <p>Dr. Darryl Diefes asked if we are staying in contact with Bladen County in regards to the patient that moved to Bladen County. I assume there is communication between the two Health Departments regarding this patient.</p> <p>Patti Nance stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The patient was originally here in Columbus County. They were hospitalized and moved to Bladen County to a skilled nursing facility. So the case was transferred to Bladen County. <p>Dr. Darryl Diefes stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● My concern was I didn't understand what follow-up there was; but if the responsibilities have been transferred then the patient is being followed up by someone over there.
<p>X. Health Education Promotion</p>	<p>Daniel Buck, Health Educator, gave the following update:</p> <p>A. Community Health Assessment Planning <i>(Benchmark 9, Activity 9.1) (Benchmark 38, Activity 38.2)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We submitted our 2019 Community Health Assessment in March to DHHS. ● That is typically approved rather quickly, but we have not received word as of yet. We should hear about that soon. ● It is on the county website where we collected data from the citizens, addressing their health concerns. <p>B. 2020 Health Rankings <i>(Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health Outcomes has stayed the same at 94 and Health Factors went from 90 to 92. ● We saw an improvement in length of life from 97 to 95. ● Quality of life we saw a decline. ● Health Behaviors and Clinical Care we saw improvements but they were slight.
<p>XI. Financial Update</p>	<p>Charlene Bush, Budget Director gave the following update:</p> <p>A. Financial Report (February, March, April, May) <i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We are currently at 96% of the budget. Local Appropriations we are at 90% and our expenses are at 93%. We are pretty much where we need to be. <p>Motion to accept the Financial Report for February, March, April and May was made by Shane Cartrette, seconded by Dr. Christy Perdue, carried by the board.</p>

B. Patient Counts (February, March, April, May)

(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)

- February we were at a total of 762 and in March 655. In April and May, we had a steady drop. Please keep in mind this is due to COVID-19.
- We are actively seeing patients. We saw all of our Maternity patients, Family Planning and STD's.

C. 2020-2021 Budget Review *(Benchmark 31, Activity 31.6)*

(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.2) (Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2)

- You should have got a coversheet which says Budget Revenue worksheet for the fiscal year 20-21. On that worksheet, it will tell you at the bottom the totals and show you where I'm projecting our revenue to come from that year.
- Our expenses and our revenue balanced out to \$4,600,882; give or take its about \$75,000 less than last years budget. This is minus any grants that may come in during the year.
- I did each program separate. That's how we have to do our budgets; keep up with everything separately.
- We are still seeing patients and being able to bill Medicaid.
- I sat in on a webinar yesterday about a 2% increase, based on what we have billed for this year, just because of COVID-19.

Motion to accept the original 2020-2021 Budget was made by Dr. Nicole Martin, seconded by Dr. Darryl Diefes, carried by the board.

Charlene Bush stated the following:

- I want to remind you that this budget can change. The County Commissioners will meet Monday night, so we will know from there.

D. Service Cost Updates *(Benchmark 33 Activity 33.5)*

(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2 & 39.3)

- There are none at this time.

C. Child Health, Family Planning, Maternal Health, Communicable Disease-Budget Reviews

(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)

- The \$71,840 for Child Health is what we initially received from the state. I broke it down as to what we use that money for. Everything has been spent. We did not make our Direct Services which includes:
 - Preventive Care
 - Well Child Checkups
 - Dental Services

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non-Medicaid Reproductive Services ● We didn't quite make the amount I had budgeted, because of dental being pulled out of the schools due to COVID-19. The state allowed us to spend the \$16,000 we had to get us through this COVID-19 ● Maternal Health has \$93,421. All of that I use to fund salaries. ● TANF Funding/Family Planning, was at \$12,039 this money can only be used for public education, media campaign, birth control pills and condoms. This is the money we are using to pay for our billboards. We have one at Wal-Mart and one on 74 coming from Wilmington. ● Healthy Mothers/Healthy Children has \$2,768. This is a service for clients with no insurance or Medicaid; or to purchase and maintain hardware and / or software. ● Women's Health Services has \$8,023. This is used to buy long acting birth control. ● Title X funds are \$32,199. That money is used for services to clients, with no insurance, no Medicaid and this also covers salaries. ● State funding is at \$7,623. It can be used for salaries and clients with no insurance. ● That gives you a total of \$62,652. This is how much we get from the state for Family Planning Services. ● For Communicable Disease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$3,415 is Surveillance Investigation and Reporting, Prevention and Control ○ \$12,500 for HIV/STD services ○ \$100 STD Prevention ○ \$31,897 TB Control ○ \$9,600 a year, New Hanover HIV Clinic comes twice a month to see our HIV patients. This payment is for use of our clinic space. This saves our HIV clients from having to travel to Wilmington. ● Funding changes for this time, we received \$76,466 for COVID-19; part of this money I used, up until the May 31st cutoff; the rest will be rolled over to next year. ● Rural Health we received \$47,612.22 and we've spent all of that and I've turned in the reports for that.
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XII. Chairman's Forum	<p>Dr. Randy Kirby, Chairman, gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main thing I would like to do with my time here is to thank all the staff. Considering every other pathogen and health concern we've dealt with last year, is still here, on top of COVID-19. Thank you for being adaptable and you are appreciated as always.
XIII. Director's Forum	<p>Kim Smith, Health Director gave the following updates:</p> <p>A. COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state numbers as of 11am today are 56,174 laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19. That is an increase of 1,721 cases throughout the state. • Deaths went up by 20 throughout the night. 1,271 total deaths. • Hospitalizations went down by nine. For a total of 906. • Here locally we ended today with 490 cases. Unfortunately, we've also had to add two deaths to our list. These two individuals passed away around 5pm this afternoon. One was hospitalized and the other passed away at home. We now have a total of 37 deaths in Columbus County. • We are down to five in the hospital • We have recovered 302 individuals. These are individuals that either tested negative, two negative test at least 24 hours apart; or they have gone without symptoms 10 days from first diagnosis, and they have no fever for 72 hours without fever reducing medication and your symptoms have overall improved, then you can be recovered. • Our staff calls each COVID-19 case. We have some that were diagnosed a month ago that have not recovered. • The majority of our caseload has been the 65+ age range. The 18-44 range is also increasing. This is statewide as well. • There has been 278 females and 201 males. We are not following the state here. The state has a trend of more males than females. • As far as race we've had the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ American Indian - 7 ○ Asian American - 1 ○ African American - 203 ○ Latinos - 35 ○ Whites – 233 • Again we are not following the state on this.

Statewide there has been more African Americans than Whites.

- As for our COVID-19 deaths, again we are not following the state. We've had 23 females and 14 males.
- I wish I could tell you this would be over next week. I know Dr. Fauci with the CDC made the comment that to have a second wave, you need to end the first wave. Dr. Kirby you're right, we're going to have to hunker down because this is going to be a long haul.
- We are slated to receive more funds from the state. They will start with our new fiscal year on July 1st. With that money I plan to hire a Contact Tracer.
- Today at the governor's 3pm press conference, Gov. Cooper mandated face coverings from now until July 17th. What he's asking is everyone when you go out of your home, wear a face mask. By you and the other individual wearing face mask, this will help cut down on the number of cases.

Dr. Darryl Diefes asked Kim Smith to speak more on the mortality rate of individuals 65 and older as well as if there are younger people dying from this disease.

Kim Smith stated the following:

- You're right in the 65 plus year olds; we've had 24 individuals. In our 25-34 there has been one. 35 to 54, we've had four and 55-64 we've had seven.
- The number of cases: 0-17 we've had 38 cases. We are starting to see more of the 18-49 year olds and this is statewide as well.

Dr. Christy Perdue asked Kim Smith if an employee tests positive, does the employee who tested positive just quarantine, or does the entire business close down?

Kim Smith replied:

- It depends. Let's say you have a small business and you have five employees and you are unable to social distance, and they have not been able to wear mask. I would say yes in this scenario. To close down for the 14 days.
- It takes COVID-19 14 days to incubate. You may test on Monday and it come back negative but at the end of the 14th quarantine cycle you test positive.

Dr. Darryl Diefes stated the following:

- I'm so use to the Health Department responding well to natural disasters. You all have responded to

	<p>this and this is a completely new thing for everyone. You have adapted and I commend how you at how you've kept us abreast on the Facebook page at to what your findings are and through other directions. You've done a marvelous job. Through the years you've demonstrated your commitment and abilities. Please know that your work is appreciated. Thanks for holding it together.</p> <p>Kim Smith stated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for that but it's due the great staff. We do have a great staff here at the Health Department and I couldn't do it without them. <p>Pat Ray stated that she would like to add that we are proud of you and the great staff.</p>
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Next Meeting Date

August 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted: Kimberly L Smith Secretary 082620
Signature Date