

Columbus County Board of Health

Minutes

☒ Regular Meeting ☐ Special Meeting

December 5, 2018 6:00 P.M.

Columbus County Health Department, 304 Jefferson Street, Whiteville NC

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

Kim Smith asked to table the Child Fatality Report until February due to data. A motion to accept was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes seconded by Dr. Christy Perdue 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 Patty Hobbs seconded by Dr. George Floyd and carried by the board.

VI. Child Fatality (TABLED)	Mitzi Ward, Child Fatality Chair: A. Annual Child Fatality Report <i>(Benchmark 19, Activity 19.1)</i>
VII. Financial Update	Charlene Bush, Budget Director stated the following: A. Financial Statement October <i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)(Benchmark 39, Activity 39.2)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Financial Statement, you should have October. Are there any questions for the expenditures and revenue for the month of October? • You should have also received a Year to Date with percentages on there. • Kim Smith stated the following: Let me just say that we have started with our new Dental software, and we thought we would have all of the kinks worked out by now, but we've run into a new kink regarding an NPI number for Dental. We cannot use the Health Department's NPI number that we have been using all these years; so everything has been submitted and we are in the process of waiting to hear back from the state. • Charlene Bush added: This is why the revenue is down in dental. We have not been able to file anything. September was a bad month; considering the storms and the fact that Dental was not able to go out to the schools for almost a whole month. • The Year to Date Review shows that we are at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 26% of our Total Budgeted Expenses. ○ 25% with Local Appropriations ○ 27% State Funding & Grants • We are right where we should be for our first quarter. <p>Motion to accept Financial Statement for October was made by Dr. George Floyd, seconded by Drew Cox, carried by the board.</p> B. Child Health Financial Report <i>(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each Board of Health meeting I'm going to try and give you an update on one to two programs, along with where the funding comes from. You should have received a copy of the "Child Health Financial Report" in your packet. This gives you a breakdown of where the funding comes from and what we do with the state funding. • This year we had \$45,208.00. Below that, you can

see how this money is split up and used:

- Wheel Chair \$225.60
- Pediatric Response Forms \$170.00
- Laptop \$850.00
- Workforce Development \$1,000.00
- Interpreter Services \$3,500.00
- Direct Services \$39,463.00
- Direct Services include Well Care Child visits and services that are for children who are not covered by Medicaid or any other form of insurance. This is a no pay situation. Plus, this is the money that covers the dental grants that we do. After some negotiations, we are now able to cover full dental services for any child who has no insurance.
- As of October 31, 2018, we have used approximately 30% of the above budgeted amounts:
 - Wheel Chair \$225.60
 - Laptop \$850.00
 - Interpreter Services \$900.00
 - Direct Services \$12,000.00
- \$6,949.12 of Direct Services went to Dental. That was just August and October because, like I mentioned earlier, we had very little going on in September.
- Dr. Darryl Diefes asked if it covered restorative; anything besides preventive? Kim Smith answered it can cover anything we can do within our clinic. We have informed all of the school nurses that we have “x” amount of money to do this. So we are hoping that this will help get the word out. Charlene Bush added that if you know of any teachers you could tell, to help spread the word, please do so. Tell them to make sure to tell the parents to let the kids sign up for the Dental Bus, and then we can do it as free, if they don’t have any insurance.
- The \$6,949.12 is Dental, leaving the \$5,050.88 to Direct Services.

Motion to accept Child Health Financial Report was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes, seconded by Patty Hobbs, carried by the board.

C. Patient Count for October

(Benchmark 33, Activity 33.6)

- As you can see October stepped up quite a bit compared to September.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim Smith added we were closed for two days in October for Hurricane Michael. • Charlene Bush added that we have had a lot of flu shots in Adult and Children's Health.
VIII. Nursing	<p>Patti Nance, Director of Nursing gave the following update:</p> <p>A. Lake Point Assisted Living Event <i>(Benchmark 2, Activity 2.4)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I received a phone call on November 1st from Dr. James Lewis @ NCDHHS/DPH/Communicable Disease Branch, informing me that he had sent an encrypted email to me, regarding an infection control breach at Lake Point Assisted Care. • I reviewed the email and found that a state survey had been completed on October 18. The incident was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10 residents receiving finger-sticks. ○ Each resident did not have their own glucometer. ○ Using some glucometers for more than one resident, or the wrong resident. ○ Using lancing devices for more than one resident. ○ One resident, of these 10, had a diagnosis of a blood borne infectious disease, such as hepatitis and HIV. • The actions, as a result of these findings, included the state issuing a suspension of the license, and all residents were removed. A suspension of admissions was also issued. The facility is currently not operating and/or serving any residents. • We had all this paperwork stating we needed to go down and check things out, but it was closed. • Emily Lee made phone calls to Dr. James Lewis to let him know that the facility had been shut-down. • Dr. Lewis discussed the above with Emily Lee, RN, our Communicable Disease Nurse. We tried to contact Tony Bigler; he was named in the report as the manager. Our attempts were unsuccessful. • Emily then called Tamara Talbot. She is the one who did the actual state survey. Tamara was able to provide us with a list of the residents and a list of the 10 affected. She did report that one of the 10 had died. She also stated that she was not able to give us the whereabouts of the individuals. She

directed us to Linda Young with Columbus County DSS.

- The list we received from Tamara listed resident names and the county they went to. No specific facilities, addresses, or phone numbers.
- Linda Young was able to tell us that four, of the ten residents, were at Tabor Commons.
- Emily called Tabor Commons and discussed the infection control breach with Donna Blackwell, of Tabor Commons. She was able to identify an additional four patients that were not identified in the breach, but were transferred there, and did receive diabetic care while at Lake Point. The patient's at Lake Point were tested for Hep B, Hep C, and HIV. Lake Point was to inform us if any tested positive.
- On 11/08/18 – We received a telephone call and email from Dr. Lewis stating the case is closed due to lack of demographic information on all of the residents, and lack of information in NCEDSS. The state will be notified if anyone at Tabor Commons test positive for Hepatitis or HIV.
- We did call our Communicable Disease State Consultant, Elaine Cessna, to discuss the handling of this situation. Did she think we needed to probe further on this issue? The email that we received back from Elaine stated that we are to follow Dr. James Lewis' directive.
- Dr. George Floyd asked who actually shut Lake Point Assisted Living down. Kim replied that the State did. Dr. Floyd replied that the State should have it recorded where everybody went. Patti Nance replied that we had a list of names and counties, but that was all the information we could get from anyone. Patti added that we are going to keep an eye out in NCEDSS for the results from Tabor Commons, and go from there.
- Dr. Randy Kirby asked if there were any other thoughts or concerns. Dr. George Floyd asked if this facility was linked in any way to the Nursing Home Association. Kim Smith replied that it was an Assisted Living facility. Dr. Floyd replied that he just can't imagine that no one had a record of where these folks went; that's frightening. I know you've done everything you can, but for these folks to be moved, and not have their exact location is

	disturbing.
IX. Chairman's Forum	<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. Before I pass those out, I'm going to pass out a note from Pat Ray. She was unable to come tonight, obviously, but she sends us all letters. • While everyone is having a look at that, I'll now pass out the results for Ms. Smith. • I'm going to run through the results for the record and they are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Items 1&2 received all excellent ○ Items 3&4 received nine excellent, because there was just one that simply did not check a block. I don't know if that was oversight, but that's fine. ○ Items 5 thru 7 are all excellent. ○ Item number 8 "Promotes an environment in which employees are recognized, and rewarded for achievement," has eight excellent, 1 good and 1 no opinion. ○ Items 9 thru 12 are all excellent. • Some of the written comments that were given are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kim truly cares about our citizens and tries to do all she can to promote health and wellness. ○ Doing a great job. ○ Always a pleasure to work with. Pleasant and effective. ○ Kim Smith is doing an excellent job as Health Director. I believe she leverages her influence where possible to further the mission at the Columbus County Health Department. • I'm glad to say that this is another excellent review. • Kim Smith thanked everyone and stated the following: I try to do an excellent job and get everyone's opinion, because I believe in teamwork and I can't do it myself. Dr. Randy Kirby replied that apparently everyone thinks you do too. <p>Motion to accept the Health Director's Performance Review was made by Dr. Darryl Diefes, seconded by all members present, and carried by the board.</p>

X. Director's Forum

Kim Smith, Health Director gave the following updates:

A. Annual Public Health Update

(Benchmark 38, Activity 38.1)

- In your packets, you received the Annual Report for the last fiscal year. This ran from July 2017 to June of 2018. A few items to point out are as follows:
 - Active TB Cases went down by 2.
 - Latent TB Cases went down by 3.
- I'm not so sure the latent is going to hold true for the year we are in now. One of these nice, non-cooperative, active TB cases, during the last fiscal year, stated that he did not associate with anyone and he was not around anybody; he stayed to himself. So far we've had two or three cases already linked to this individual. This is the reason this individual was sent to Central Prison. He was not helping us out in identifying folks, or with taking his medication as ordered.
 - HIV cases are 6 more than last year.
 - Syphilis has gone down 7 from last year.
 - Hepatitis B cases, between the acute and chronic, have increased by 6.
 - Gonorrhea went up by 95
 - Chlamydia went up by 130
 - Non-gonoccal Urethritis (NGU) went down by 6
 - Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever went up by 2
- Going further down the list we had 4 deaths in Columbus County, with the cause of death being the flu. Then we had 3 facilities in Columbus County to have a flu outbreak. All of those deaths were not from the facilities. We had 2 deaths that were from outside a facility. I believe the youngest was 52 or 53 years old, but she had other chronic diseases.
 - Overall births have increased by 11.
 - Overall deaths have increased by 4.
- Under WIC, we were a pilot county for the electronic benefits transfer system (EBT). We were under this pilot from October to December, and now I can report that the whole State is now utilizing the EBT cards. Just like the EBT cards for food stamps, you receive a card which is automatically loaded with your benefits. When the

client goes to the grocery store, it's just like a credit card; you swipe it and enter your pin.

- Dr. George Floyd stated that he was concerned about the Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE). He asked if there was an increase, because this is a very serious situation. We've (CRHS), knocked our carbapenem rate down to about 7% of what it used to be. I'm curious as to if this is an increase or is this the first time you've reported it. Kim Smith replied that this was the first time it has been reported. I have last year's report and it was not listed. Dr. Floyd asked if there had been any deaths with it. Kim Smith replied not that she was aware of. Dr. George Floyd added, there was an outbreak of it a few years ago out in California, where a few people died. It's very serious and should be taken seriously. The report says there was an outbreak in 2 facilities; were these nursing homes? Kim Smith answered yes it was nursing homes.
- With our WIC program, we usually bring in over a million dollars into our county. This particular year, they've only brought in approximately \$430,404.42. We believe that between all of the storms we've had, when the 2020 Census is conducted, it'll show we've lost a lot more residents than what we anticipated.
- In our lab, we have completed a total of 11,203 tests. Of these test, they are as follows:
 - Increase from last year in pregnancy test. We had 411
 - Increase in HIV testing, 698.
 - Blood Glucose testing has decreased; 406 were done this past year.
- In Health Education, our Making Proud Choices grant, this is our teen pregnancy prevention grant which is located in Whiteville High School; we've had around 150 students to go through that class.
- We've done Health Fairs and partnered with Columbus Regional, International Paper, and Whiteville High School. We've also had booths at the County Fair, Pine Tree Festival, the Strawberry and the Yam Festival. We did implement our Columbus County Leadership Forum on Opioid Abuse. Then we partnered with the County Schools, and the Sheriff's office, to hold additional

opioid forums for parents and teachers, at the county High Schools.

- Then of course the Health Education staff has delivered numerous presentations to senior centers and retirement homes throughout the county; on topics such as opioid abuse, diabetes management and stress management.
- Dr. Thomas, our Dentist, and our Dental Staff, started visiting all the county schools in August of 2017. They have seen 1,024 kids, on the Toothmoblie and in our in-house clinic. We are well on our way to having the Electronic Dental Record System up and running by 2019. We just have to get our Dental NPI.
- Dr. George Floyd stated that he wanted to let everyone know that within the county, there were two locations where you could drop off unused medications. They are the Tabor City Police Department and our Sheriff's Department. I was able to get one put in the hospital. It's open from 8-5pm, Monday thru Friday. This gives people another place to come in and drop off unused medications. So if you could, please let folks know about this; spread the word.
- Under our Animal Bites, which we coordinate with Animal Control, we had the following:
 - Total Reported was 52 (1 mule, 1 wood rat, 1 rabbit). The rest were cats and dogs.
 - Of the 52, we had to treat 9 individuals (3 children under 6 years of age)
- The total budget for 2017/2018 was \$4,859,909.00
 - Total Revenues for Health Dept. Clinics: \$2,877,986.32
 - Total Expenses for Health Dept. Clinics: \$4,238,057.50
 - Total County Appropriation Health Dept. Clinics: \$1,360,071.18
- The issues we had during the year, included some key positions either retiring or leaving. The Health Educator, Director of Nursing and my Administrative Assistant. We were able to find some great people and got them to come and work here. I am so very happy, and as I tell everybody, this was the best days work when I hired Yvonne.
- In November, our TB Nurse "skyped" with a TB patient to ensure the patient took all medications

required. This was a first for our state. This also saves the nurses', and the patient's, time and money. This was a great experience because we had a great individual. He needed to work, and we needed him to take his medication. He is a log truck driver, in the cab by himself; and at the assigned time, he would pull off on the side of the road, call us, we'd Skype with him, and he would show us he was taking his medication. He was very nice to work with. We did have to get state approval, and put a policy in place for this, but we were able to get everything in line. This not only saved him time and money, but it also saved us time and money. If we had not been able to do that, then an employee of this Health Department would have had to ride out to his home, sit there with him for the five minutes it would have taken him to take all of the medication, and then drive back; and you know the patients are never three houses down; they're always at the opposite ends of the county.

- As soon as Patti came on, she revised the Blood borne pathogens policy in conjunction with the hospital, Emergency Management and with the county employees. She took on a large project to get that done. There was turnover here at the Health Department, and turnover at the lab at the hospital, but we were able to work on this together.
- We survived our 3 year Women's Health audit. I think we are finally finished with that. They have accepted our Corrective Action Plan (CAP).
- Some concerns we have coming up, 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 and what the requirements will be on Public Health. We really don't know what this is going to look like for Public Health, probably until we jump right into it.
 - Public Health Medicaid cost settlement; we're not sure how the Medicaid Transformation will deal with our Medicaid Cost Settlement report. I know that Dental

and Family Planning are carved out, so hopefully that won't change much when it comes to those two programs.

- Port Health is moving into the old Home Health area at the end of the Health Department. Port Health is a contracted agency through Trillium Healthcare. They are currently occupying the main floor, and they hope to have the upstairs by the end of 2019. In order for them to do that, the county will have to find a place for all that stuff that we have on the 2nd floor. Port Health has put new flooring down, painted and new carpet. They will be having an open house on December 12th from 1-3pm. Most of my staff, I hope, will take a few minutes to go down there, introduce themselves and find out what they do. We've already referred a patient to them. They made arrangements for that patient to get to Wilmington for her needed sessions. When they become fully operational, they will bring that patient here for services. Mitzie Hopkins is the supervisor. When Ms. Hopkins was notified by one of our Social Workers that they had a prenatal patient who was in need of their services, Ms. Hopkins dropped everything and made arrangements for that patient to be seen. So far I am impressed. We are trying to make them feel at home, because we do realize that their services are needed.

- Dr. George Floyd asked that since Kim had mentioned Port Health moving into the old Home Health area, what has happened since Home Health was sold. Are you finding any patients being left out? Kim replied that she has not received any phone calls from any of the patients, or from the staff. I was actually expecting to get calls from patients, but I haven't received any. Dr. George Floyd asked Kim Smith does she feel like they are taking care of those patients. Kim Smith replied that she does. I've seen some of the nurses that worked for Liberty, and they haven't mentioned anything about an increase of patients coming to their facility. This might be a better question for the

Social Workers over at the hospital. They could probably tell you more.

- Attached to your report is a sheet that informs the Board of the different ages, race, genders and ethnicities of our patients. If you really look at this report, you'll find some irregularities such as in Adult Health, there was a 2 year old male that received Adult Health immunizations. That 2 year old was either seen in Adult Health or by an Adult Health Nurse. Then by her being use to clicking Adult Health in the computer program, she didn't realize it, and that's more than likely what has happened with this 2 year old child. There are also some young males in Family Planning, as well as Prenatal; along with an 8 year old male in Maternal Health. We are in the process of fixing this. We have meetings scheduled to discuss some things with the Front Office staff, in addition to these issues, we will also talk with the Clinic Staff. So from now on, anyone who comes up to give you a report, they will have to go over age, sex, race and ethnicity.
- The Dental information on this report had to come from the state. So hopefully the next time we do this report, it can come from Open Dental and not the state.
- I think the only report that is correct is the Breast and Cervical Control Cancer Program (BCCCP), and that is because there is only one person who enters that information in. Any questions about the Annual Report?

B. Update on Health Department Tobacco Free Campus

(Benchmark 30, Activity 30.10)

- I presented the Tobacco Free Campus policy to the County Commissioners. They tabled it. Myself, Amanda Prince, and Stuart Carroll met and have decided to push for 50 feet. The original document we submitted, way back when, is the one Amanda Prince is tweaking. Hopefully the first County Commissioner meeting of the New Year, we'll be presenting it to the commissioners at that time. I think it was Mr. McDowell who said that every department needs to be the same, and all the commissioners agreed. Of course now we have one new commissioner, Mr. McMillian, so this will be

new to him.

- I do have two other updates. After the Hurricane the Governor proposed that all fees be waived, for Building Inspections and Environmental Health, until December 30th. Just to keep you all updated we've had new, repaired or re-inspection request, which totaled to 48. We've had 6 new well permits and 76 bacterial water samples sent off to be tested. If we would have been able to charge for these services, it would have come to \$9,515, and this is as of today at 4pm. Out of those 76 water samples, we've received the following information back:
 - 5 tested positive for E-Coli
 - 13 tested positive for Coliform
- We have not had an overabundance of GI diseases reported to us. It was maybe 2 more than usual. In September we had 2 but we had 4 cases that we were still investigating; in October there were 4 cases. We average 2 to 4 cases per month anyway. Dr. George Floyd asked if the state would reimburse us for the lost charges. Kim Smith replied I doubt it. Building Inspections is through the roof over there, but they're able to charge more than we are.
- The other update I have is regarding the email that was sent out on Lake Waccamaw from the Riverkeeper. This was in response to Dr. Perdue's question regarding the water quality after Hurricane Florence. On November 12th, I received this email back from the Riverkeeper, and she said that they had seen some impacts of the flooding to the water quality, but things are beginning to return to normal. They were seeing measurements of pH and conductivity that were somewhat lower than normal, as well as elevated turbidity. She went on to say that the dissolved oxygen and bacteria are back to normal and within safe ranges. Patty Hobbs added that you can still see trees and boards with nails in the lake. Kim Smith stated that the Riverkeeper also informed her that they had received \$2,000 from International Paper to help out with testing supplies, because this is a volunteer group that does this.
- At the commissioners meeting on Monday morning, we had 3 Board of Health Members mentioned; Dr. Nicole Martin and Dr. Christy

	<p>Perdue were re-nominated to be appointed back on the Board of Health. Dr. George Floyd, they were holding yours because you were appointed by Buddy Byrd and he had to leave the meeting early, so you'll probably be on the next commissioners meeting. I just wanted to make sure that everyone knew that.</p>
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- Dr. Randy Kirby asked if there were any other questions, comments or concerns.

Next Meeting Date

February 27, 2019 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted: Kimberly Smith Secretary

Signature

022719
Date