

**Catawba County Board of Health  
Minutes  
March 11, 2019**

The Catawba County Board of Health met on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm at Catawba County Public Health, 3070 11<sup>th</sup> Ave Dr SE, Hickory, NC 28602 in the Boardroom.

**Members Present:** Dr. David C. Hamilton, Jr, Chair  
Dr. Matthew Davis, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner  
Ms. Gloria Costin  
Mr. John H. Dollar  
Dr. Dana H. Greene  
Dr. Gale Hamilton-Brandon  
Ms. Susan Knowles  
Mr. William Pitts  
Mr. Brian Potocki

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff present:** Ms. Jenifer McCracken, Assistant Health Director  
Ms. Julie Byrd, WIC Program Director  
Mr. Scott Carpenter, Environmental Health Supervisor  
Ms. Emily Killian, Community Engagement Specialist  
Mr. Zack King, Public Health Strategist  
Ms. Megen McBride, Environmental Health Supervisor  
Ms. Kim Spaulding, School Health Nurse Supervisor  
Ms. Rhonda Stikeleather, Children's Services Nurse Supervisor  
Mr. Jason Williams, Operations Administrator  
Ms. Debra A. Young, Administrative Assistant II

**Guests:** Ms. Jamie Hawley, School Health Nurse  
Ms. Tatiana Watts, CC4C Social Worker  
Ms. Lindsay Stockman, Community Health Coordinator  
Ms. Lauren Soots, Public Health Nurse  
Ms. Addison Bowers, Office Support Specialist

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. David Hamilton, Jr., Chair, called the meeting of the Catawba County Public Health Board to order at 7:00pm. He welcomed Board members, Public Health managers, and staff.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Dr. David Hamilton, Chair, stated that Board members had received the agenda. Dr. Hamilton asked if there were any changes to the agenda and upon hearing none, he asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Dan Hunsucker, made a motion to accept the agenda as presented and Mr. John Dollar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes for February 11, 2019, were included in the Board packet that the Board members received via email. Dr. David Hamilton, Chair, asked if there were any corrections. There being no corrections, Mr. William Pitts made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Ms. Gloria Costin seconded the motion. The February minutes were unanimously approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Hamilton asked if anyone presented to speak before the Board. Ms. Debra Young, Administrative Assistant II, stated that no one had presented to speak.

### **COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner, stated that the Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on March 4, 2019.

- Open House at new Learning Center at Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC)
- Trivium Business Park on Startown Road – Corning building is proceeding as planned and there is a new spec building being built now.
- It is budget season so stay tuned for more information regarding the County and State budget.

### **NEW EMPLOYEES**

Ms. Debra Young, Administrative Assistant, stated that there are five new employees to introduce to the Board this month.

Ms. Tatianna Watts is a Social Worker in the Care Coordination for Children (CC4C) program. Ms. Watts is field based and is assigned to serve the clients of Catawba Pediatric Associates. She is a graduate of Fred T. Foard High School and earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Social Work from Johnson C. Smith University.

Ms. Jamie Hawley is a School Health Nurse at Mill Creek Middle School and Bandy's High School. Ms. Hawley comes to Public Health from First United Methodist Church in Hickory where she worked as a Faith Community Nurse. Ms. Hawley earned her Associates Degree in Nursing from Caldwell Community College and will begin her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing this summer.

Ms. Lindsay Stockman is a Community Health Coordinator within the Health Promotion & Strategy division. She comes to Public Health from the Western Youth Network where she served as the Director of Prevention Services. Ms. Stockman holds a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Wellness Promotion from the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and is currently working on her Master's Degree in Public Health from Lenoir Rhyne University.

Ms. Lauren Soots is a Public Health Nurse within our Care Coordination for Children (CC4C) Program. Ms. Soots holds a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Lenoir Rhyne University, and prior to coming to Public Health she worked as a Triage Nurse at Conover Family Practice. Ms. Soots will work in a field based position and is assigned to serve the clients at Unifour Pediatrics.

Ms. Addison Bowers has been serving as an Hourly Office Support Specialist at Public Health for over a year, but has recently accepted the position on a full time basis. Ms. Bowers serves Public Health clients at the Front Desk Reception area and will provide coverage in the Immunization Clinic as necessary. Ms. Bowers is currently enrolled at Catawba Valley Community College and is seeking an Associate's Degree in Medical Office Administration.

#### **MID-YEAR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UPDATE**

Ms. Megan McBride, Environmental Health Supervisor, provided the Board with a mid-year On-Site Water Protection (OSWP) update stating that applications have increased compared to the same time last year. In January 2019, OSWP received 63 applications and have received 467 applications thus far for fiscal year 18-19. Ms. McBride also stated that in January and February there was an increase in the number of septic complaints and failures due to the higher than average amounts of rainfall over the past several months.

Mr. Scott Carpenter, Environmental Health Supervisor, gave a mid-year update in the Food, Lodging and Institution area of Environmental Health. Mr. Carpenter stated that inspections are holding steady this fiscal year. To date, they have completed 1,123 inspections and have 1,027 establishments to inspect in Catawba County.

Mr. Carpenter made reference to the Cold Hold Temperature Change infographic that was included in the Board Packet. As of January 1, 2019, the cold holding temperature rule changed from 45° to 41° which will provide the safest food for all consumers and help prevent food borne illness. Mr. Carpenter also reviewed the 'number of inspections performed' data noting that inspections have fluctuated very little in the past five years.

Environmental Health is finalizing the hire of two candidates, one in the Food, Lodging and Institution area, and the other in the On-Site Water Protection area.

The Environmental Health Infographics are attached.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGIC PLAN POLICY UPDATE AND REVIEW**

Mr. Zack King, Public Health Strategist, presented an annual update on the Public Health Strategic Plan. Mr. King started off his presentation by stating that the strategic plan is a living, working, ever-changing document. It is a journey to look at who we are; where we have been; where we are; and where we are going. Catawba County Public Health uses the CLEAR Model – Center – value affirmation, Leverage – inventory assets, Evaluate – identify needs, Aspire – create solutions and Resolve – plan action.

The Strategic Plan helps set a foundation for Public health, helps us show that we are who we say we are and sets longer term, meaningful goals. The Plan has four priority areas: investment, community engagement, retooling and decision-making, which all of these priorities help us identify our strengths and weaknesses and plan Public Health's future with a clearer vision.

Mr. King discussed where Catawba County Public Health has been since 2018.

- Cure MD – working on implementing to the fullest in all clinical areas

- Outcomes & evaluations – assess what reports are needed for various Boards, State and community projects, grants, etc. Documenting what needs to be measured, how that is documented and who tracks this data.
- Quality Improvement (QI) – looking at QI through the lens of projects.
  - How does CCPH expect quality improvement? We should expect it in everything we do. It is good to review program areas and seek out what has the potential to be improved.
  - QI Council – decision making and retooling. CCPH has a QI committee.
  - QI Training – CCPH has integrated QI training into employee orientation and the annual day of training.
  - Reworked and vetting a new survey in all program areas along with how it is presented to the community and clients. This new survey may be used inside and outside of the building. Environmental Health has had great improvement in their survey rate.

Mr. King noted that health equity and cultural differences training has also been integrated into the day of training and orientation.

Mr. King asked if there were any questions regarding the Strategic Plan update. There being none, Dr. Hamilton made a motion to accept the Strategic Plan update and Strategy Map as presented, Mr. John Dollar seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the acceptance of same.

The PowerPoint slides and Strategy Map are attached to the Minutes.

#### **STATE OF THE COUNTY HEALTH (SOTCH) REPORT**

Mr. Zack King, Public Health Strategist, gave an overview of the State of the County Health (SOTCH) Report which was included in the Board Packet. Mr. King stated that the SOTCH is completed every other year but that this year is the last year it will be presented in this form. The SOTCH will be online for the next reporting cycle. The purpose of the SOTCH is to gather data concerning health priorities; update community initiatives and acknowledge emerging trends. Mr. King noted that three common behaviors, lead to four most common diseases, which account for 54 percent of deaths in Catawba County. According to the 2018 NC State Center for Health Statistics data, some of the top 10 leading causes of death for 2013-17 are Cancer, Heart Disease, and Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases. Unfortunately, suicide is listed as the number 10 leading cause of death, which tends to be youth to middle aged and is usually more men than women. Teen pregnancy has decreased again and is down to 22.9 per 1,000 in 2017. Mr. King noted that adult and youth e-cigarette data is now being tracked and that there are big trends in youth e-cigarette usage across the State. Areas of progress noted were the Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) program, CATCH my Breath program, Access to Healthy Eating, Exercise is Medicine, LiveWell at Worship, LiveWell Early Childhood, LiveWell Out-of-School Time, LiveWell Schools and the Local Food Council.

Mr. King asked if there were any questions regarding the 2018 SOTCH. There being none, Dr. Hamilton made a motion to accept the 2018 SOTCH as presented, Mr. William Pitts seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the acceptance of the 2018 SOTCH.

Mr. King's presentation is attached to these minutes and the SOTCH is available on the Catawba County Public health website. <https://www.catawbacountync.gov/county-services/public-health/news-publications/community-health-data/>

#### **OPERATING PROCEDURES ANNUAL REVIEW**

As is best practice and required by State Accreditation standards, the Board of Health annually reviews the Board's Operating Procedures to ensure they are current and inclusive of all appropriate items. The Nominations and Operating Subcommittee met earlier this evening to review the current Operating Procedures. The Board was provided a current copy of the document for their complete review. Dr. Hamilton asked if there were any questions or considerations and there being none, Dr. Matthew Davis, Chair of the Nominations and Operating Procedures Subcommittee recommended the adoption of the Operating Procedures as presented, with no changes noted. Dr. Hamilton acknowledged that no motion was needed due to the subcommittee's recommendation and called for a vote of the Board members to accept the Operating Procedures. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the Operating Procedures dated March 11, 2019.

#### **HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Assistant Health Director, stated she had a few additional brief comments to report:

- Flu Update – there has been a decline in flu cases at this time. School Nurses continue to monitor the number of absences although they have dropped significantly. Over half of flu deaths in NC have been in 65+ population. Public Health continues to monitor flu cases and offer flu vaccine.
- Thyroid Cancer information – an email was sent to the Board of Health last week regarding a thyroid cancer study that was completed.
  - Catawba County is one of 11 counties that are higher than the state rate but Catawba County's rate is one of the lowest rates listed. The current focus is on Iredell County and the State is looking at specific zip codes.
  - The NC Division of Public Health stated there is nothing Catawba County Public Health should do at this time and that there is not a real concern for our community.
  - Thyroid cancer has increased across the country. Exposure to radium is the only known source of thyroid cancer.
  - Duke University is conducting a more in-depth study – focusing on specific geographical areas in Iredell County.
  - Information has been provided to the Board of Commissioners as well and CCPH will keep the Board of Health updated regarding any additional information that may be received.

- The Jail Diversion group has finished their work with the consultant group and recently presented the final report to the Board of Commissioners. The BOC's accepted the report as presented.
  - County staff, Catawba County Public Health and other community partners are beginning to work on executing the recommendations.
  - Will keep the BOC up to date as this plan is part of the BOC's strategic planning process as well.
  
- Monthly infographics are included in Board packet.

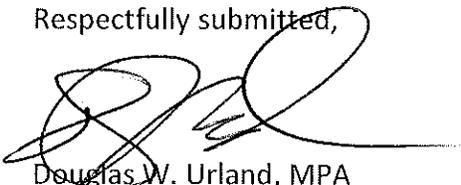
**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Dr. Hamilton asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Pitts so moved, Mr. Dollar seconded the motion, and Dr. Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas W. Urland, MPA  
Health Director

DWU: day