

Catawba County Board of Health
Minutes
April 08, 2019

The Catawba County Board of Health met on Monday, April 08, 2019 at 7:00 pm at Catawba County Public Health, 3070 11th Ave Dr. SE, Hickory, NC 28602 in the Boardroom.

Members Present: Dr. David C. Hamilton, Jr, Chair
Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner
Ms. Gloria Costin
Dr. Dana H. Greene
Dr. Gale Hamilton-Brandon
Mr. William Pitts
Mr. Brian Potocki

Members Absent: Dr. Matthew Davis, Vice-Chair
Mr. John H. Dollar
Ms. Susan Knowles

Staff present: Mr. Doug Urland, Health Director
Ms. Jenifer McCracken, Assistant Health 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. Sarah Rhodes, Clinical Services Nurse 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. Nicole Dickinson, RN – Adult Health
Ms. Maria Adame, Environmental Health Specialist
Ms. Cheyanne Morgan, Environmental Health 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, guests 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. William Pitts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for March 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 Mr. Brian Potocki seconded the motion. The March 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) issued proclamations declaring April as Public Health Month, National Child Abuse Month and the week of April 21-27 as National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week.

Mr. Hunsucker mentioned that the Town of Catawba, NC will hold a Town Festival on May 11th. All are welcome to attend this community event.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Mr. Jason Williams, Operations Manager, stated that there are three new employees to introduce to the Board this month.

Ms. Nicole Dickinson is a Public Health Nurse in the Adult Health clinic. Ms. Dickinson comes to Catawba County Public Health from the Emergency Department at Catawba Valley Medical Center and previously worked at Presence Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Science from Loyola University in Chicago.

Ms. Maria Adame is an Environmental Health Specialist authorized in Food, Lodging and Institutional, tattoos, childcare centers, and swimming pools. Ms. Adame holds a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Health from Western Carolina University, has two years of experience as an Environmental Health Specialist and comes to Catawba County Public Health from Mecklenburg County Health Department.

Ms. Cheyanne Morgan is a new Environmental Health Specialist working to obtain authorizations for On-Site Water Protection and Wells. Ms. Morgan received her Bachelors of Science degree in Environmental Health from Western Carolina University in May 2018 and has recently moved here from the Wilmington area.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROCLMATION

Mr. Urland read the Public Health Month Proclamation. There being no discussion, Mr. William Pitts made a motion to approve the Proclamation and Dr. Dana Greene seconded the motion. The Public Health Month Proclamation was unanimously approved.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE/TB ANNUAL REPORT/FULL SCALE PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

Ms. Sarah Rhodes, Clinical Services Nurse Supervisor, presented the annual report for Communicable Disease and Tuberculosis programs. The Communicable Disease Report is created

annually from data gathered and analyzed for the calendar year just ending as well as compared to the previous four years, generating a five-year view of communicable disease activity in Catawba County. Data is analyzed to guide staff in education and prevention messages in addition to outbreaks, trends, and projections. The staff also stay in contact with local providers as well as regional and State Communicable Disease staff.

Cumulative data for any of the 76 reportable diseases that occurred in Catawba County was given for 2018 with a notation that there has been an increase in HIV/AIDS cases, Hepatitis C and Syphilis infections. Ms. Rhodes also shared data regarding confinements and quarantines from animal bites to guard against rabies, as well as, increases in sexually transmitted diseases, Pertussis, and Tuberculosis. The Board was updated regarding new diseases that have been added to the NC List of Reportable Diseases (Candida auris [C. auris] and Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriaceae [CRE]). The communicable disease reports are followed closely to insure proper testing, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up by physicians, clinics, and Public Health.

Ms. Rhodes reported on the Pointing Towards Wellness – Preparedness event. A full scale exercise is required every five years. It was reported that in 2015, the event was Dust in the CRI Wind. The Pointing Towards Wellness Event focused on collaboration with various partners to meet access needs group. The focus for Public Health was on vaccinating clients for influenza, Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B.

Requirements from Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) principles must be followed for an event to qualify. There must be a Public Health Emergency Command Center and the event must include representation of partners throughout planning and the event, with a special focus on agencies that assist with access or functional needs population. The event must also document throughput time to vaccinate. This enables adjustments to be made in Public Health's planning efforts.

Mr. Doug Urand, Health Director, announced that the Catawba County Public Health Communicable Disease Team along with Caldwell and Burke County Health Departments, had been awarded the 2018 NC Communicable Disease Program HIV/HCV Collaborative Response Award at the State Spring CD Conference.

Mr. Urand thanked the Communicable Disease Nurses and the planning team that met in preparation of the large scale community event.

The Communicable Disease Annual Report, Infographic and slides are attached to the Minutes.

CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION TEAM (CFPT) ANNUAL REVIEW

Ms. Rhonda Stikeleather, Children's Services Nurse Supervisor, shared an Infographic covering the Child Fatality Prevention Team (CFPT) annual report, which included what the CFPT is responsible for and how it is a State mandated team. The CFPT is a multidisciplinary team from all around the county and this team works with the State Child Fatality Task Force to help improve system issues. Ms. Stikeleather mentioned that a member of the Safe Kids Coalition of Catawba County has recently joined the Child Fatality Prevention Team as well.

Ms. Stikeleather noted that Catawba County had more deaths in 2017 (17) than in 2016 (13) and the majority of the deaths reviewed involved children under the age of one. Safe sleep is an ongoing topic and it is sometimes difficult making sure infants have a safe sleep environment and has the appropriate sleeping arrangement. The CFPT has found that some infants sleep in an adult's bed, on a couch or in a crib or bassinet but with a lot of blankets and other items that may cause suffocation or entanglement and unfortunately, it is becoming more difficult to have these cases categorized as such by the State Medical Examiner's Office.

As a multidisciplinary team, the CFPT will continue to support the education of parents and pediatric offices regarding safe sleep and the importance of early prenatal care. The Child Fatality Prevention Team will also encourage and educate practices and agencies to discuss drug dependency with their mothers.

Last year, there were 32 Pack-n-Plays received for distribution to parents that are in need of a safe sleeping option in their home.

The CFPT infographic is attached to these minutes and additional information on the NC Child Fatality Prevention Team is available at <https://www.ocme.dhhs.nc.gov/nccfpp/>

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Doug Urland, Health Director, stated he had a few additional brief comments to report:

- There will be an email forthcoming regarding the daily public health emails that were sent out to all Catawba County Public Health employees for public health week.
- Had luncheon last week for all Catawba County Public Health staff that the Leadership Team and Employee Committee sponsored.
- Announced the Catawba County Employee of the Year at the annual luncheon. This year, Ms. Tania Harper, was selected out of four submissions.
- Local budget meetings are currently happening. County Manager, Mr. Mick Berry is putting his recommendations together for May Board of Commissioner meetings.
- Legislature – crossover time is approaching quickly
- Bills to note: Communicable Disease – more funding for local CD teams. Environmental Health raw milk. Rule changes at state level for onsite wastewater protection – bill would eliminate almost half of the current rule/policies – would negate 43 of the 95, cutting the 43 out basically eliminates the rest (aka kill bill).
- County Health Rankings information – email was sent out a few weeks ago. Rankings of Catawba County are improving. Some areas are on the rise – drug use/opioids
 - Comprehensive list that is used as a starting point – clinical care numbers are great on this ranking report Catawba County ranked 15 in the state. Median household income is higher in Catawba County than the States median.
 - Collaboration is done very well in Catawba County. Social associations ranking is also higher than the states ranking.
- Mr. Zack King, Public Health Strategist, will be leaving Catawba County Public Health on April 26th – He will be joining the Office of Rural Health in South Carolina. Mr. Urland and Dr. Hamilton both wished him well.

- Reminder that the 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. William Pitts so moved, Mr. Dan Hunsucker seconded the motion, and Dr. Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas W. Urland, MPA
Health Director

DWU: day