Harnett County Board of Health
Minutes of Regular Meeting
March 8, 2018

The Harnett County Board of Health met in regular session on Thursday, March 8, 2018 in the Health Department Board Room, Harnett County Governmental Complex, 307 W. Cornelius Harnett Blvd., Lillington, North Carolina.

Members present: Ms. Patricia Chalmers, Chairwoman, Ms. Judy Herrin, RPH, Vice-Chairwoman, Ms. Amy Allen, RN, Ms. Linda Sturdivant, Ms. Emily Barefoot, Ms. Barbara McKoy, Dr. Laura Smith, Ms. Gayle Adams and Mr. John Rouse, Jr., Health Director.

Other present: Mary Jane Sauls, Oliver Tolksdorf, Debra Harris-Hawkins, Donna Surles, Gail Hobbs, and Natasha Johnson.

Chairwoman Chalmers called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements – Mr. Rouse reported that Tyrus Clayton Jr. has asked not be reappointed for his third term on the Board of Health. Mr. Rouse will be looking for an Engineer member to fill the position. Dr. Catherine Evans has recently filled out an application to become a Board of Health member. Dr. Nicholas Pennings will not be attending the meeting tonight.

Consent Agenda – Minutes – Motion made by Ms. Emily Barefoot for the January 25, 2018 minutes to be approved as presented and seconded by Ms. Barbara McKoy. Motion Carried.

Consider additions and deletions to the published agenda – Chairwoman Chalmers called for additions and deletions to the published agenda. Mr. Rouse asked to add 8a Recommendation to Decrease Fee – action item. Motion by Ms. Barbara McKoy to approve the addition to the agenda as presented and seconded by Ms. Judy Herrin, RPH. Motion Carried.

Public Comment – Period of up to 30 minutes for informal comments allowing 3 minutes for each presentation – Chairwoman Chalmers opened the floor for informal comments by the public, allowing 3 minutes for each presentation up to 30 minutes. Seeing no one, Chairwoman Chalmers closed the informal comments.

FY 2018-2019 Budget Proposal – Mr. Rouse discussed the overall budget proposal and fee schedule for FY 2018-2019 budget. Mr. Rouse reviewed each line item including decreases and increases, reviewed the programs fee schedule. Mr. Rouse related the overall budget decrease was $306,825 is due to carry forward money that we had in FY 2017-2018 that we couldn’t bring into FY 2018-2019. Included in the budget are three new proposed positions for the health department.
The three positions are a Breastfeeding Consultant for Women, Infant and Children (WIC), Public Health Education Specialist for Health Education and Environmental Health Specialist for Food & Lodging. Environmental Health is requesting three fee increases in the budget, those fees are expansion/relocation fee, drain field redesign fee and revision fee. **Motion made by Ms. Amy Allen to adopt proposed budget FY 2018-2019 which includes the fee schedule as presented and seconded by Ms. Gayle Adams. Motion Carried.**

**State of the County Health Report (SOTCHR)** – Debra Harris-Hawkins presented a power point on the SOTCHR, it is a requirement for health department with Re-Accreditation and as a part of the Consolidated Agreement with the Division of Public Health. The health department provides the report during each of the interim years between the Community Health Assessment (CHA), which was conducted in 2016. The SOTCHR tracks priority issues identified in the CHA, identifies emerging issues and highlights new initiatives. The presentation included the report’s content, the community profile data, including demographics for the county. The report included the mortality data, including the leading causes of death among county residents. The report provided information regarding a few new initiatives implemented, included Minority Diabetes, Prevention Program, Smoke Fee Public Housing, WIC Electronic Benefits Transfer, Environmental Health software upgrades, Community Health Medial Access Program (MAP) grant, Infant Plan of Safe Care Initiative and County Leadership Forum on Opioid Abuse. Emerging issues identified included Communicable Diseases and Substance Abuse-Opioids. The report provided data on morbidity data for communicable diseases including sexually transmitted infections (STI), which according to data are increasing. Harnett’s current priorities include Nutrition & Physical Activity, Maternal Health, Child Health and Motor Vehicle Safety. Two of the three priorities Nutrition & Physical Activity, Maternal Health and Child Health are specifically aligned with the priorities of Healthy NC 2020, while the third priority Motor Vehicle Safety represents a community health concern. Updates including progress made regarding the priorities were presented. Mortality data presented also included the 2016 infant mortality rate. Ms. Hawkins stated copies of the report would be posted on the Health Department’s web site for residents to view and placed in the lobby of the health department. A news article with the information will be submitted to the local newspaper.

**Patient Satisfaction Surveys** – Mary Jane Sauls presented a power point with the results of the 2017 Consumer/Community Satisfaction survey. The survey is completed each year to assess our services and to assist with program planning. The survey was administered December 11th-December 22, 2017. Two hundred and twenty-two surveys were partially or entirely completed. The group was pleased with the results of the survey. It was noted that further follow up had been initiated to better understand the reason patients are not utilizing the Patient Portal. This is being discussed in work groups with a subsection of Health Management Team (HMT) and
has been shared with the Quality Improvement (QI) Team. The board provided further input regarding the patient portal as some of them use it in their practices. This information will be used as we move forward with this Quality Improvement initiative.

**Recommendation to Decrease an Established Fee** – Mr. Rouse presented the following fee for decrease on an established fee.

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<tr>
<th>CPT CODE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>RECOMMENDED PRICE</th>
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<tr>
<td>J3490</td>
<td>17P</td>
<td>$125 (old rate $900)</td>
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(This fee was set at $900 based upon the Medicaid reimbursement rate of $717.50 for Makena. We do not bill for Makena.)

**Motion to approve the decreased fee from Ms. Barbara McKoy and seconded by Ms. Judy Herrin, RPH. Motion Carried.**

**Health Director’s Report and Program Reports – Mr. John Rouse**

- **Legal Counsel** – Mr. Rouse reminded the Board that Harnett County Staff Attorney, Monica Jackson is accessible to the Board and health department for any legal issues. Ms. Jackson is readily available to our department on an as needed bases. Ms. Jackson has previously provided her background to the Board. She works with the health department reviewing contracts, handles recoupment appeals with Medicare and when we have an initiative with problem property that associates Environmental Health.

- **Medicaid Cost Settlement** – Mr. Rouse informed the Board that Finance and the Cost Settlement advisor has been able to perform a scrubbing of the FY 2014 report based on rules that applied. The report has been submitted to the North Carolina Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) and we are currently waiting on their response. This should be the last time scrubbing the reports due to the changes that were implemented in 2015.

**Clinical Reports – Donna Surles**

- **Child Health** (CH) sick clinic visits have increased to 142 in February 2018, this is up from the 109 visits from January 2018. CH clinic have seen a large number of flu cases since the beginning of flu season starting in October 2017.
The clinic has seen several cases of gastrointestinal virus over the past two months in both the pediatric and employee clinic. The newborn and post-partum home visits have increased for February 2018, with 30 post-partum and 32 newborn visits reaching our goal of 62 visits. On April 20, 2018 the CH clinic will be hosting a Child Safety event for the public from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm. They will be doing car safety checks, games, exhibits and providing safety resources for the public.

- **Employee Clinic** visits were up in January with an increase in the number of flu cases diagnosed.

- **Influenza Report** based on the North Carolina Weekly Influenza Surveillance Summary Report influenza cases are showing to be widespread across the state for the last reported week, ending on March 3, 2018. According to the most recent report flu cases have shown a decrease in recent weeks. The most prevalent viral strain this year has been type A, although there has been significant amounts of type B. The report showed that region three was the highest in the number of emergency department visits for flu like illness, Harnett County is in region three. The state lab has identified 184 cases of positive flu, the majority were type A. There has been 276 flu deaths reported this season with 12 in the last week reported. The majority of flu associated deaths this season has been in ages 65 and older, followed by ages 50-64 years old. It is still not too late to receive the flu vaccine.

- **Family Planning and Maternal Health** clinic visits have remained stable. Our providers are now placing Intra-Uterine Devices (IUDs) with oversight by our Obstetrics (OB) Medical Director. We have hired a new mid-level provider, Melissa Fenn, Physician Assistant on February 26, 2018. She will be working in both Adult Health and Child Health. Health Education and Maternal Health are planning to host a Maternal Health Fair on May 8, 2018 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. The event is open to all pregnant women, and will provide educational resources and incentives to those who attend.

  Carl Nuesmeyer, Registered Nurse (RN), Preparedness Coordinator is working with OnTarget Preparedness to update our policy, procedure and job action sheets. We are planning for a violence in the workplace training in June 2018. Health department annual staff training will take place on April 2, 2018, we will review our emergency procedures. The staff training will include special presentation on Human Trafficking by 5 Sparrows. Staff working in programs supported by Title X are required to complete Human Trafficking Training and Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect annually.
Environmental Health – Oliver Tolksdorf reported that Environmental Health had an increase in onsite permits issued for February. They have recently purchased the new Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), Tracer LMX100 to help in identifying existing drain lines. The state is currently rewriting septic rules and the projected date for the new rules will be October 1, 2018. This will effect Environmental Health and septic installers.

Aging & Case Management – Mary Jane Sauls reported that registration is currently being accepted for the 2018 Mid-Carolina Senior Games, for senior residents 50 years of age and older. The games run from April 11-April 30. The opening ceremony will be held on April 11th at Pope Air Force Base. The annual Senior Health Fair will be held on May 24, 2018 at the Dunn Community Center from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, the theme is Up, Up & Away with RSVP. The month of April is Public Health month. The purpose in highlighting public health is “To give visibility and recognition to the contributions of public health and prevention services”. The theme is Healthiest Nation 2030 – Changing our Future Together. This year the health department will offer various events and trainings throughout the month for staff, such as Opioid Training and Mental Health First Aid.

Marketing/Community Outreach – Debra Harris-Hawkins announced the health department has several community health and education events over the next few months. Healthy Cooking on a Budget in recognition of National Nutrition Month, an educational workshop that focuses on how to prepare low cost and healthy meals will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2018 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. “Girls are Great” will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2018, the program is an annual educational conference for girls and moms that provides information on puberty and easing the transition from childhood to pre-adolescence. This year the program is recognized for celebrating 30 years in Harnett County. The Special Delivery Pregnancy Health Fair will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. The purpose of the pregnancy health fair is to provide information that encourage health pregnancies. This health fair will provide information about the services available at the health department for new parents, expectant parents and those who are planning a pregnancy.

Closed Session – There was no need for closed session.

Chairwoman Chalmers adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John Rouse, Jr.
Health Director

Patricia Chalmers, Chairwoman