

Harnett County Board of Health
Minutes of Regular Meeting
September 25, 2025

The Harnett County Board of Health met in regular session on Thursday, September 25, 2025 in the Health Department Board Room, Harnett County Governmental Complex, 307 W. Cornelius Harnett Blvd., Lillington, North Carolina.

Members present: Dr. Lori Langdon, M.D., Vice Chairwoman, Dr. Brandon Washington, DDS, Dr. Catherine Evans, DDS, Ms. Stacie Hogan, RPH, Ms. Kandi Tudor, Dr. Kim Fowler, PhD and Ainsley Johnson, Health Director.

Others present: Mary Jane Sauls, Belinda Rayner, Oliver Tolksdorf, Melissa McLamb, Natasha Johnson and Gail Hobbs.

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

Announcements – Ms. Johnson announced Dr. Lori Langdon, M.D., would be filling in for Dr. Laura Smith, OD, Chairwoman tonight. Dr. Lori Langdon, M.D., announced a copy of the County of Harnett Conflict of Interest Policy was provided with the Board of Health packets tonight. The Harnett County Legal Department recommends each board is provided a copy with an annual review of the policy.

Consent Agenda – Minutes - Motion made by Dr. Kim Fowler, PhD, for the July 17, 2025 agenda and minutes to be approved and seconded by Dr. Brandon Washington, DDS, Motion Carried.

Consider additions and deletions to the published agenda – Vice Chairwoman Langdon called for additions and deletions to the published agenda. Ms. Johnson announced to delete line item 10, the first bullet for the WIC Food Expenditures Report, data from the state is not available at this time and it will be replaced with Financial Report 2024/2025 Year Ending. **Motion by Dr. Kim Fowler, PhD, to approve the deletion to the agenda as presented and seconded by Dr. Brandon Washington, DDS, Motion Carried.**

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

Nomination Committee – Vice Chairwoman Langdon appointed Dr. Amanda Langdon, DVM, as Committee Chair, and Dr. Catherine Evans, DDS, as Committee Member to serve on the Nominating Committee. The committee will report at the next regular meeting in November 2025.

Bad Debt Write-Offs – Gail Hobbs requested to write-off \$2,403.22 through June 30, 2025 for program services as follows:

Maternal Health	\$603.64
Adult Health	\$442.40
Family Planning	\$398.79
Child Health	\$704.39
STD	\$6.00
Tuberculosis	\$248.00
Total:	\$2,403.22

Motion by Dr. Catherine Evans, DDS, to write off \$2,403.22 as presented, seconded by Dr. Kim Fowler, PhD., Motion Carried.

Recommendation to Established Fees – Gail Hobbs presented the following fees for new fees or an increase to established fees:

CPT CODE	DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDED PRICE
90611	Jynneos Monkeypox & Smallpox Vaccine	\$356.00
90653	Fluad 65 yrs +	\$99.00
90656	Fluzone 6 months +	\$24.00
90661	Flucelvax 6 months +	\$50.00
G0008	Administration Fee	\$32.09
G0009	Administration Fee	\$32.09
99417	Prolonged Outpatient Evaluation/Management	\$83.00

The rates for flu vaccines and administration fees are based upon the 2025-2026 seasonal flu vaccine pricing provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Motion to approve the established fees from Dr. Kim Fowler, PhD., and seconded by Dr. Catherine Evans, DDS, Motion Carried.

Accreditation Activities Report – Ainsley Johnson

- **Review of Operating Procedures** – Ms. Johnson presented and reviewed the Operating Procedures with the Board. After the review, there were no recommended changes. Ms. Johnson reviewed the Rule Making/Procedures and Authority section, the Board of Health has not had a need for any ordinances or local ruling since the last Operating Procedure review on September 19, 2024. Ms. Johnson stated that we would have the Vice Chair sign the Operating Procedures annual review log.
- **Communicable Disease Report** – Melissa McLamb provided a power point presentation with incidence data of confirmed reportable disease cases made during 24-25 FY. Data was obtained from the North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NCEDSS) and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Communicable Disease Branch. Reportable diseases reviewed fall into the following categories: Gastrointestinal, Healthcare Acquired, Hepatitis, Respiratory, Sexually Transmitted, Tuberculosis (TB), Vaccine Preventable and Vector-Borne. The Tuberculosis cases were an atypical events for the Health Department. During the FY 24-25, we had two epi-linked positive TB cases in Harnett County that attended school in both Harnett and Lee County. The Health Department worked with Lee County to ensure all contacts were notified and managed appropriately. The Health Department staff monitors events reported in NCEDSS and complete investigations to ensure sufficient education, treatment and notifications are carried out. Influenza and COVID cases are not required to be reported in North Carolina; however, deaths and outbreaks from these infections are required to be reported. Prevention, identification and treatment are offered through multiple departments within the Health Division to help control the spread of Communicable Diseases.
- **Workforce Development** – Melissa McLamb reviewed the current Workforce Profile Data. The Health Department currently has 70 full-time positions and 2 vacancies. Data reflected that 89% of the employees were female, 78% were White/Caucasian, 16% were Black/African American, and 6% were American Indian/Asians/Multi-Racial. The Public Health workforce is multidisciplinary and consists of Nurses, Environmental Health, Public Health Laboratory, Nutritionist, Health Administrators, Social Workers, Health Educators and

others from a wide range of occupations. Approximately 22% of the department's employees hold advanced degrees. Turnover rate for the Health Department in 2024 was 9.9%, which was the same as 2023; 56% of current employees with the Health Department have 10 years or less of service, 7% of current employees have 26 years or more of service, and could retire in the next 5 years. Harnett County Health Department is dedicated to ensuring that our future workforce needs are met. There is a focus on attracting a diverse Public Health workforce as well as training the current and future workforce.

Health Director's Report and Program Reports – Ainsley Johnson

Financial Report 2024/2025 Year Ending – Ms. Johnson discussed the memo from NCDHHS Secretary Dr. Devdetta Sangvai that was sent to all Board of Health members outlining the status of the Medicaid rebase based on the budget that was in place in August 2025. The deficient for Medicaid funding was \$319 million and the memo outlined the plan for determining reductions while minimizing direct impact on beneficiaries of Medicaid and providers where possible. We were informed that provider rate reductions could range from 3% to 10%. Other plans included administrative reductions and pharmacy coverage changes. Additional challenges that were mentioned were the increased frequency of eligibility determination that the Department of Social Services will encounter and that NCDHHS has made the decision to delay procurement of NC Medicaid standard plan and tailored plan contracts for 2 years.

Today we were notified that the NC General Assembly has failed to appropriate the necessary funding to avoid these cuts. The Senate and House each will pass their own bill to provide additional funding for the Medicaid rebase on September 22nd and September 23rd if they failed to come to an agreement. As a result, to ensure that the NC Medicaid program runs within the funding levels currently appropriated, provider rate reductions will start October 1, 2025. Most of our programs will receive a 3%-8% reduction. We will continue to monitor our revenues closely to see the impact compared to our anticipated budget. We will also closely watch our Cost Settlement process to see if our quarterly and annual payments increase due to the reduction. The Cost Settlement is a reconciliation process between your actual Medicaid cost of providing clinical services to Medicaid patients and the amount Medicaid pays for services you billed for those services. I will keep the board informed about changes as they occur in our monthly revenues. In addition, this week we received notification about a stop work order for Title X funds in Family Planning AA 151. Title X is a federal grant program dedicated solely to providing comprehensive Family Planning and related preventive health services. In our Family Planning clinic, we receive Title X federal funds, state funding and county funding.

We currently receive \$114,075 in funding from NCDHHS and approximately \$60,000 is Title X funds. We have already allocated some of this funding, so we anticipate having a small impact. I have a meeting on Monday morning that will provide us with additional information. The Health Department is committed to closely monitoring revenue streams and working diligently to minimize the impact of these changes. In response, our Quality Improvement (QI) team has launched an initiative focused on streamlining services, enhancing the patient experience and strengthening our overall capacity to serve the community. With the potential for funding changes on the horizon, it is more important now than ever that we operate at our highest level, delivering quality care, maximizing efficiency and meeting the evolving needs of our growing county.

This past week, there have been several releases that need additional discussion and updates. In the clinical report, Melissa McLamb will provide an update on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meetings and additional information. In the expenditure summary for FY 2024/2025, we budgeted 10.9 million and only expended 9.1 million with a percentage of 84%. Our Revenues are broken down in two categories that are state/federal funds and other. For state and federal funds, we utilized 84% of those funds. Some funds were COVID and Flu vaccination funds that we received stop orders on throughout the year or funds that roll over into this year. Under other funds, you will see revenues for Medicaid, insurance, fees, Cost Settlement and donations. We brought in a total of 3.8 million dollars last year. We budgeted 2.8 million, so we exceeded our estimate by 1 million dollars in the last FY. Our totals are listed below at the bottom of the page. This area shows county allocations and usage. In Health, we only utilize 56% of local appropriations, and in Aging, we utilized 48%. These summaries demonstrate the staff's dedicated efforts to use our funds efficiently while delivering excellent services that contributed to increased revenue.

Clinical Report- Melissa McLamb

- **Clinical** – Melissa reviewed the Activity Summary on page 11 of the packet. The Pediatric Primary Care Clinic is continuing to stay busy with back-to-school immunizations and well visits. They hosted a three-day walk-in vaccine clinic on September 10th, 11th and 12th centered around Harnett County Schools 30-day kick out date for individuals missing required vaccinations. Staff vaccinated 180 individuals during this event. The Health Department encourages all age-appropriate recommended vaccines and we provide all recommended vaccinations by appointment or on a walk-in basis during regular business hours. The Health Department is prepared for the respiratory virus season, and we are currently offer seasonal influenza vaccine and Respiratory Syncytial

Virus (RSV) vaccine. We will host a drive-thru flu vaccine event on October 2, 2025 from 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. in the front parking lot of the Health Department. Moderna COVID vaccine for ages 6 months and older should be available soon.

- **Environmental Health** – Oliver Tolksdorf presented a power point presentation reviewing Onsite Wastewater (OSWW) State Report 2024. He explained the different Environmental Health Codes and what is reported to the state. The report reviewed data provided by other counties and how Harnett County's data compares to those counties. The report also showed the numbers of current Environmental Health Specialist for the OSWW section for Harnett County and some surrounding counties; explaining the need for additional Environmental Health Specialist to keep up with the growth and demand of Harnett County.
- **Aging & Case Management** – Mary Jane Sauls reported Medicare Open Enrollment will officially begin on October 15, 2025, and run through December 7, 2025. During this enrollment period, Medicare beneficiaries will have the opportunity to review their current health and prescription drug plans and make any necessary changes for the upcoming year. In preparation for this, the Division on Aging will begin scheduling appointments starting October 1, 2025, to assist individuals with the enrollment process. This year's open enrollment will have seven Medicare Counselors available, including the Regional SHIP Specialist from the NC Department of Insurance. Counseling sessions will be held weekly in Dunn at the DUMA office on Wednesdays, and at two clinics in the Western Harnett area at the Anderson Creek Senior Center. Additionally, the Division will host a "New to Medicare" educational class on September 26, 2025, from 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Resource Center Library (RCL) building. This session is intended to assist new Medicare recipients. On September 19, 2025, the annual Senior Volunteers Recognition Event was held, with approximately 120 individuals in attendance. The event served as an opportunity to thank the many volunteers for their continued dedication and service. Attendees were treated to a meal and entertainment as a small token of appreciation for their contributions to the community. The Family Caregiver Craft Fair is scheduled for December 12, 2025, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The event will be held in the Commons Area, featuring a variety of homemade goods and local vendors selling crafts and products. Caregivers and community members are encouraged to attend and support this event.
- **Health Education/WIC/Community Events** – Belinda Rayner reported the Health Department is in collaboration with Campbell University, in conducting the 2025 Community Health Assessment (CHA).

- Residents are encouraged to complete the CHA survey, which will remain open until October 31, 2025. The CHA Advisory Committee met on September 24, 2025 to review the number of surveys completed and to identify populations where participation needs improvement. We have put in place current efforts to focus on the increasing survey responses among males and the Hispanic/Latino residents. The goal is to collect as many responses as possible to ensure the final CHA document accurately reflects the needs of Harnett County residents. Belinda reviewed the upcoming community health events sponsored by the Health Department
 - In partnership with the Division on Aging's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group, the Health Education Division will host a Youth Vaping Prevention: Parent & Caregiver Workshop on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Harnett County Resource Center & Library.
 - The Med-South Lifestyle Program begins Tuesday, September 30, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Health Department. The program combines a Mediterranean-style diet with traditional Southern foods to promote healthier eating and increased physical activity.
 - Dr. Catherine Evans, DDS, announced starting October 3, 2025, the Lillington Parks and Recreation department will offer weekly line dancing classes at the Lillington Community Center from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) opened the satellite clinic at the Dunn United Ministerial Alliance-DUMA in Dunn on Friday, September 12, 2025. The clinic is open every Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Clinics have been running smoothly with a full schedule since opening.

Closed Session – There was no need for closed session.

New Business – Vice Chairwoman Langdon opened the floor for New Business. Being none, Vice Chairwoman Langdon closed New Business.

Vice Chairwoman Langdon adjourned the meeting.

Page 8
Board of Health
September 25, 2025
Harnett County Health Department Board Room

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ainsley Johnson".

Ainsley Johnson
Health Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori M. Langdon".

Dr. Lori Langdon, M.D., Vice Chairwoman