

Harnett County Board of Health
Minutes of Regular Meeting
July 25, 2019

The Harnett County Board of Health met in regular session on Thursday, July 25, 2019 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. Emily Barefoot, Ms. Barbara McKoy, Ms. Gayle Adams, Dr. Catherine Evans, and Mr. John Rouse, Jr., Health Director.

Guest: Ashley Curtice, Region 6 Tobacco Control Manager.

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

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

Announcements – Mr. Rouse welcomed Ashley Curtice, the Region 6 Tobacco Control Manager. She will be presenting a program on E-Cigarettes and Vapes.

Consent Agenda – Minutes – Motion made by Ms. Emily Barefoot for the May 16, 2019 agenda and minutes to be approved as presented and seconded by Dr. Catherine Evans. 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 7a Bright Ideas Grant.

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.

E-Cigarettes and Vapes – Ashley Curtice, Region 6 Tobacco Control Manager presented an overview of the rising e-cigarette popularity. The youth and young adults using e-cigarettes steadily increases with 11.3 percent of high school students and 4.3 percent of middle school students were e-cigarette users in 2016. The availability of vaping flavors appeals to the youth population. Ms. Curtice provided examples of the different types of e-cigarettes and vaping products that are available on the market. Products are available at convenience stores, vape shops, tobacco retailers, and online retailers. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) law prohibits the sale of tobacco

products to anyone under the age of 18, however the youth population are obtaining the purchases through sources over the age of 18, online and from retailers that are not in compliance with state or federal laws. The concerns of youth using e-cigarettes are due to nicotine addiction and the use of regular cigarettes.

Debt Setoff – Mr. Rouse reported that since the last meeting, the Debt Setoff program has collected an additional \$2,375.99 and the total collection for 2019 is \$8,407.95.

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

- **Bright Ideas Grant** – Mr. Rouse presented a request for the opportunity to submit a grant application to Public Health Preparedness and Response for the Bright Ideas Grant. The grant will provide the funding necessary to improve our response to sheltering during disasters. This will provide the essential needs for pregnant women and infants who may come to the shelters. **Motion by Dr. Catherine Evans to approve the addition to the agenda as presented and for the Bright Ideas Grant request to be approved and seconded by Ms. Barbara McKoy. Motion Carried.**
- **Medicaid Transformation** – Mr. Rouse announced that Community Care Physician Network (CCPN) has obtained contracts with all five Medicaid Prepaid Health Plans (PHPs) vendors. The current contracts are with United Healthcare of North Carolina, Inc., WellCare of North Carolina, Inc., Carolina Complete Health, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, and AmeriHealth Caritas of North Carolina, Inc. In June 2019 the Senate has proposed Bill 212 to postpone Medicaid Transformation due to pending lawsuits by other plans that did not receive a bid. Open enrollment for Region 2 has started for Medicaid beneficiaries. Harnett County will begin enrollment in fall 2019. We have signed a new contract with the Blue Cross Blue Shield State Health Plan, the new rates will go in effect for 2020. Many providers and hospitals have chosen not to sign the new contract due to the amount of rates are so low.
- **FY 2019-20 County/State Budget** – Mr. Rouse stated the county budget has been approved and he will bring the final year-end report to the September meeting. The General Assembly has not passed the State budget at this time, and a committee from the General Assembly has been formed to work with the Governor.

Clinical Reports – Donna Surles

- **Child Health (CH)** the Teen Clinic which was implemented on May 8, 2019 has seen 46 teens during May and June, compared to May and June 2018 we saw 26 teens for Child Health physicals and Family Planning. That is a close 77%

increase, and we hope numbers continue to grow as we promote the Teen Clinic. The Car Seat Safety Program has been very successful so far. CH started offering the car seat safety checks in March 2019 and we have provided over 34 car seats for infants and children whose families qualified. Through collaboration with Partnership for Children, we have also provided car seats to many families who did not financially qualify.

During the summer months our CH visits decline but as the school year approaches visits increase with back to school physicals and immunizations. At the beginning of the school year we provide an after-hours clinic for immunizations prior to the 30-day suspension date. We now offer extended hours in the clinics, Monday through Thursday until 6:00pm, this will allow parents who work to come in later. Extended hours will also help with the back to school rush and eliminate kids being suspended on day 30 who have not received their immunizations. Extended hours are also available for employees and dependents to be seen in our Employee Clinic.

Newborn (NB) and Postpartum home visits have increased after a recent decline the past couple of months when staff had to relocate to work other clinics as we added additional services.

- **Adult Health (AH)** including Maternal Health, Family Planning and Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) clinics continue to serve many clients. We have recently begun to promote the STD Express Clinic and the clinic is going well. AH is also offering extended clinic hours Monday through Thursday until 6:00pm. Last week the State Consultants visited for a monitoring visit to audit the Communicable Disease (CD) and STD programs. The programs were found to be in compliance and no deficiencies were reported.
- **Immunizations/CD** – On July 11, 2019 the Health Department received notice from the state that there was a shortage on Tubersol (TB skin test). The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has provided guidance to defer routine testing and to administer only to certain high risk groups, suspect cases and contacts. We continue to administer monthly Hepatitis A vaccine to inmates at the Harnett County Detention Center and the Morse Substance Abuse Clinics. The Lab and Health Educators work together doing outreach events to provide HIV and Syphilis testing in the community. The Influenza vaccine has been ordered and is expected to arrive late August or September, we are currently scheduling flu clinics at senior nutrition centers and assisted living centers.
- **Environmental Health** – Oliver Tolksdorf discussed three North Carolina Session Laws (SL) that affect Environmental Health. SL2109-129, permission to adopt the 2017 Food & Lodging North Carolina Food Code.

SL2019-151, created a task force to create new On-site Wastewater rules, disapproves new On-Site Wastewater rules and creates authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator. SL2019-126, removes liability from local health departments for permits issued from Authorized On-Site Waste Water Evaluator proposal.

- **Aging & Case Management** – Mary Jane Sauls reported the Harnett County Division on Aging Family Caregiver Support program is sponsoring a back to school drive to support grandparents preparing for their grandchildren to return to school. Donations are being accepted through August 5, 2019. The Harnett County Division on Aging Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is sponsoring an Operation Backpack school supply drive for Veterans. Donations will support children of Veterans involved with the Veterans Treatment Court Program.
A New to Medicare Class was conducted on July 25, 2019, representatives from the Department of Insurance and Division on Aging staff were available on-site to assist beneficiaries. Medicare open enrollment will be held October 15, 2019 through December 7, 2019, the Division on Aging are currently securing locations and dates for offsite clinics.
- **Marketing/Community Outreach** – Debra Harris-Hawkins announced the Living Healthy-Chronic Disease Self-Management Program is a fun, interactive workshop for age 60 or older with health conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease or chronic pain. The Living Healthy program will start on August 14, 2019 through September 18, 2019, and will be held every Wednesday at the Erwin Nutrition Site, from 9:30am- 12:00pm. “Boyz Lace Up 4 Health” program will be held on Thursday, August 15, 2019 from 5:30pm-8:00pm in the Governmental Complex Commons Area. The program is for boys ages 9-15 and a parent/guardian to participate in interactive, age-appropriate workshops related to issues that affect young men.

Closed Session – There was no need for closed session.

New Business – Chairwoman Chalmers opened the floor for New Business. Being none Chairwoman Chalmers closed New Business.

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Chairwoman Chalmers adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Rouse, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

John Rouse, Jr.
Health Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia Chalmers", written in a cursive style.

Ms. Patricia Chalmers, Chairwoman