

Iredell County Health Department Board of Health Minutes

Regular Meeting Special Meeting

June 13, 2019

318 Turnersburg Hwy, Statesville, NC 28625

Members Present	Commissioner Thomas Bowles, Dr. Tim Burgiss, Candace Reeves and Dr. Tiffany Hubbs
Members Absent	Dr. Robert Bundy, Jr., Sylvia Chapman, Sue Corwin, Dr. Heather Day, Ben Loftis, Jerry Turner, Lisa Warren, RN
Staff Members Present	Jane Hinson, Health Director; Jessica Ridgway, Director of Finance & Operations; Brady Freeman, Environmental Health Director; Susan Johnson, Director of Clinical Services; Renee Holland, Executive Officer
Others Present	Susan Robertson, Deputy County Manager, Carleen Crawford, Region IV Tobacco Control Manager, Dr. Michael Kepley

I. Call to Order, Invocation, and Introductions

Dr. Tim Burgiss called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and provided the invocation. Dr. Burgiss then noted there was not a quorum present. Dr. Burgiss welcomed everyone and asked that Susan Johnson introduce our guest. Susan recognized Dr. Michael Kepley and stated that he is an Obstetrician and Gynecologist in Statesville who serves as our contracted provider for the Health Department’s Family Planning Clinic.

II. Employee Recognition

Dr. Tim Burgiss asked Jane Hinson, Health Director to recognize the Employees of the Month. Jane recognized our April Employee of the month, Rhona Williams, who is a Medical Office Assistant for the Clinical Services Division. Jane introduced Rhona and thanked her for her excellent customer service and for always being a team player who jumps in and helps where needed. Jane also recognized Karen Orrison – Processing Assistant in WIC Nutrition, who was named as our June Employee of the Month, but noted that she was unable to attend this evening.

III. Board Education: Tobacco & Vaping Presentation

Jane Hinson introduced our guest speaker, Carleen Crawford, and offered her apologies for there being such a small group in attendance this evening. Jane stated that Carleen serves as the Regional Tobacco Control Manager for Health Region 4 which consists of 11 counties in the NC Piedmont. Carleen works in partnership with local health departments and other partners in Alexander, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly and Union counties to increase the opportunity for tobacco-free living. Jane then welcomed Carleen and turned the program over to her. Carleen then shared a powerpoint presentation outlining her work which is focused around the four (4) main goals listed below, using evidence-based interventions:

1. Prevent tobacco use initiation in youth and young adults
2. Promote tobacco cessation and help all tobacco users who want to quit
3. Eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke
4. Identify and eliminate tobacco-attributable health disparities

Carleen stated that she works closely with public health and community partners to drive action on tobacco-free living through policy, environmental and system changes. Carleen then shared various statistics on more current issues noting that in December 2016, the Surgeon General released a report dedicated to just Electronic-Cigarettes. She also informed that tobacco use still remains the number one preventable cause of death and disease in our community. She also reported that secondhand smoke can negatively impact the whole family emphasizing that even brief exposure of secondhand smoke can cause health issues, especially if the person exposed has any cardiovascular or respiratory risk factors. Carleen continued by providing facts related to smoking in multi-unit housing. She stated that second-hand smoke is not the only danger from tobacco use. She also referred to third-hand smoke, stating it is the residual nicotine left on surfaces that stays long after the smoke clears and reacts with the air which creates cancer-causing compounds. Carleen noted that kids are especially at risk for this exposure, because they are constantly crawling around, touching everything and putting their hands in their mouths. Next, Carleen discussed use of smokeless tobacco of which is very addictive. She stated that it too, is also like smoking and can cause heart problems. Carleen then reported that the landscape of tobacco use in the U.S. has dramatically changed over the past 10 years. For instance, vape shops where one can purchase E-cigarettes, are everywhere. She noted that E-cigs come in many shapes and sizes and stated they have been sold in the U.S. for about a decade. She shared some examples which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, and e-cigars, known collectively as ENDS—electronic nicotine delivery systems. They're also sometimes called JUULs, vapes and vape pens. She stated that no matter their name, e-cigarettes are the most commonly used tobacco products among kids. She also reported that while much remains to be determined about their lasting health consequences, there's evolving evidence that shows e-cigarettes cause irreversible lung damage and lung disease. She informed that in 2018, the surgeon general declared that e-cigarette use among young people “is now a major public health epidemic” because early e-cigarette use and nicotine addiction can harm brain development and increase the risk of young people smoking cigarettes. She also discussed that some of these closely resemble a USB flash drive, emphasizing that JUUL has been described as the “iPhone” of e-cigarettes. She stated that the discreet, sleek, and techy profile is particularly attractive to youth and young adults, with an obvious part of its appeal being the ability to “JUUL” without detection in prohibited settings. She then provided some statistics reporting that JUUL sales increased more than 600% in a year, underscoring popularity among teens. In 2016, the number of devices sold was at 2.2 million while in 2017, that number was 16.2 million. She brought a few samples of some of the devices that are being used amongst teens today and share information related to cost, variety of flavors available and just how easy it is to order on-line. She also reported that JUUL is considered to be a part of the next generation of e-cigarettes and is a major concern among youth because it delivers the same amount of nicotine that is found in a pack of cigarettes, to the body and brain. In closing, she shared a statement that “My goal is to protect kids” made by NC Attorney General Josh Stein who has filed a lawsuit against JUUL. He claims the company illegally targeted minors by using flashy packaging, fruity flavors, and young social media influencers to market it all. Carleen then challenged everyone to go back and teach other adults who are “youth influencers” about this concerning epidemic of e-cig use among our youth. She stated that we all need to work to identify the best messaging that will resonate with our youth and influence them not to try these products and risk becoming addicted to nicotine as well as becoming a smoker.

IV. Public Comment

Dr. Tim Burgiss asked if there were any representatives in attendance for public comment. Seeing none present, it was noted there were no public comments.

V. Consent Agenda Items for Action (Attachment 1)

Dr. Tim Burgiss noted that since we do not have a quorum present, all items listed for action on the consent agenda will be moved to the August 8, 2019 BOH Meeting Agenda for approval.

VI. Items for Discussion and Action

a. Request Approval of BOH By-Laws and Operating Procedures (Attachment 12 – distributed in April packet)

Dr. Tim Burgiss noted that since we do not have a quorum present, this item will be added to the agenda for discussion and action at the August 8, 2019 BOH Meeting.

b. Request Approval of 2018 Child Fatality Prevention Team Report (CFPT) (Attachment 2 – presented by Laura Johnson)

Laura Johnson, CFPT Chair informed that the North Carolina Statute, Article 14, 7B-1406 and the CFPT Agreement Addenda with local health departments requires Local Child Fatality Prevention Teams to advocate for system improvements and needed resources where gaps and deficiencies may exist. As a result of this agreement, they are required to submit a report annually to their local Board of County Commissioners and Board of Health. She continued by stating there are 3 main purposes of the local CFPTs and those are to identify deficiencies in the delivery of services to children and families by public agencies; make and carry out recommendations for changes that will prevent future child deaths; and promote understanding of the causes of child deaths. She then referred to the document labeled as attachment 2, noting a total of 32 deaths in 2017. She provided a breakdown of the contributing factors related to the cause of these deaths. However, she informed that the CFPT only had data related to cause of death for 9 of those deaths due to the fact that these deaths were reviewed and determined by the Medical Examiner whereas the remaining 23 were reviewed by an actual physician. Laura asked if there were any questions regarding this report.

Commissioner Bowles asked if the data for the other 23 causes of death could be obtained. Laura informed that she will try to research this and if she is able to gather this data, she will provide an updated report to share with the board.

VII. Items for Discussion and Action as Needed

a. Health Director's Report (Handout A – Jane Hinson)

Executive

- **Employees of the Month:** Rhona Williams, Medical Office Assistant, was the April Employee of the Month. Karen Orrison, WIC Management Support, was the May Employee of the Month.
- **Employee Group Interviews:** Jane Hinson and Sandra Gregory, Iredell County HR Director, have conducted group interviews with all staff related to opportunities for improvement. Division leaders will be developing action plans with their supervisors to address feasible improvement opportunities.

- **DiSC Assessments:** All staff will receive individual DiSC assessments with consultant training to help better understand themselves and others. The DiSC is a personality trait assessment tool that can help staff increase their knowledge on how they respond to conflict, what motivates them, what causes them stress and how they solve problems. It can also help to improve working relationships by recognizing the communication needs of team members.

Administration

- **Personnel:** Congratulations to Jessica Ridgway for being promoted to the Director of Finance & Operations position. We are currently recruiting for the vacant Administrative Officer I.
- **Medicaid Managed Care:** The County Attorney is currently reviewing all 4 Prepaid Health Plan contracts and the 1 Provider Led Entity regional contract. We also hired a private law firm with health care expertise to assist with the final contract review.
- **NC Health Information Exchange:** We are in the process of training staff and anticipate going live with this information exchange by July 1, 2019. Legislation made this a mandatory requirement for all providers who receive funding from Medicaid.
- **Administrative Audit:** The agency had no deficiencies when the audit was conducted by the Division of Public Health on May 1st.
- **Budget:** The Board of Commissioner's approved the FY 19-20 budget at their June 4, 2019 meeting. They also approved a 2% salary scale adjustment and an up to 3% merit increase for all staff based on annual performance evaluation scores.

Clinical

- **Personnel:** We are currently recruiting for a laboratory assistant and a social worker.
- **Contracts:** All annual contracts have been reviewed and distributed.
- **Dental Clinic Amalgam Separator:** An amalgam separator is now required by federal & state regulation (40CFR 441). We do very little work with amalgam but purchased and installed this equipment to remain compliant with this legislation.
- **WIC Audit:** The first phase of the WIC Audit that is conducted as part of the County Audit was without findings.
- **Measles Outbreak:** There have been 1,022 cases of measles confirmed in 28 states according to the CDC from January 1st until June 6, 2019. This is the greatest # of cases reported in the US since 1992 and since measles was declared eliminated in 2000. Case count has more than doubled since the last BOH meeting.

Environmental Health

- **Virginia Tech/UNC Water Quality Community Meeting:** This meeting was held on April 18th at Mooresville High School with over 250 citizens in attendance. Thank you to Dr. Bundy, Commissioner Bowles and Susan Robertson for attending.
- **Thyroid Cancer & Coal Ash Facilities Community Meeting:** This meeting was held on May 9th at South Iredell High School. Local and state officials, DEQ/DHHS, Duke University, UNC researchers and local physician, Dr. Michelle Ong, presented at the meeting. Over 150 citizens attended the meeting to learn about the DHHS report on thyroid cancer incidence in Iredell County, the DEQ work related to monitoring coal ash facilities, Duke University's research efforts and the NC Thyroid Cancer

Research Advisory Panel. Thank you to Commissioner Bowles, Dr. Burgiss, Suzanne Corwin and Susan Robertson for attending.

- **NC Thyroid Cancer Research Advisory Panel Meeting:** On May 13, Brady Freeman and Jane Hinson attended the morning part of this meeting that was held at the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center in Chapel Hill. The purpose of the meeting was to assemble an expert panel of epidemiologists, clinicians and environmental scientists to review past research in NC and elsewhere. They are also developing next steps to further investigate the epidemiology of thyroid cancer including patterns and causes in NC. The panel will develop a set of recommendations for possible additional research to provide new evidence that might help explain the elevated rates of thyroid cancer in NC. The panel is sponsored by the NC Policy Collaboratory, the UNC Center for Environmental Health and Susceptibility & the Lineberger Cancer Center.

Public Health Development & Promotion

- **NC Healthcare Information & Communications Alliance Security & Privacy Conference:** Norma Rife and Jessica Ridgway attended this training in Durham on June 3rd & 4th.
- **Opioid Grant:** The second phase of this grant for local mitigation for the opioid crisis includes \$40,584 in funding to support Iredell County EMS Substance Use Peer Support Specialist through the end of August 2019. The Peer Support Specialist started on April 1st and since that time has made 40 contacts to 15 non-fatal overdose individuals and family members. 53 Naloxone kits have been distributed to non-fatal overdoses and community members. EMS received approval from the Board of Commissioners on June 4, 2019 to apply for a Federal Grant to continue and expand this program. Norma Rife provided technical assistance to EMS. The grant was due on June 5, 2019.
- **Safe Kids Coalition:** The Board of Commissioners gave approval for the health department to sign this multi-year agreement effective May 21, 2019. This agreement is with Safe Kids World Wide and will start not earlier than July 1st. The Coalition has already been meeting for several months as the Infant/Child Fatality Taskforce. Over 20 organizations are participating.
- **Partnership for Young Children:** We are providing educational coloring & activity books regarding fitness and healthy eating for their Early Learning Resource Center participants.
- **McGuire Nuclear Exercise:** The Public Information Officers participated in several PIO trainings related to the state mandated McGuire Nuclear Power Plant Exercise that will be held on August 13th. The PIO's work regionally with the surrounding counties to facilitate clear and concise communication in the event a nuclear disaster was to happen.
- **Iredell Statesville Schools Youth Risk Reduction and Employee Wellness:** In partnership with ISS, the agency was able to provide health and wellness materials and equipment (ex. jump ropes, yoga mats, arm weights) to 11 schools to be used by students during physical education classes and by staff for employee wellness activities.
- **Community Health Assessment:** The Community Health Assessment has been deployed to the community. The survey will be open until July 15, 2019. The survey committee has a goal of 1,500 survey participants. A link to the survey is found on our website and Facebook page. The survey is also available in Spanish.
- **Public Health Intern:** Kristen Estep, a senior Public Health Major from Appalachian State University, will be completing a 320-hour internship this summer that will include assistance with the

community health assessment and creating a PowerPoint with voiceover from the book, *Good to Great* by Jim Collins.

Drug-Alcohol Coalition of Iredell

- **Resource Guide:** The new Resource Guide has been completed. Electronic copies are available on the health department and DACI websites.
- **Coordinator:** The Board of Commissioner's approved the \$40,000 requested for S/F for the position. They also approved the donation of the Coordinator's desk, surface and software currently on the surface to DACI.

b. Activities Summary (*Handout B – Jane Hinson*)

Jane briefly reported on the data in the Activity Summary labeled as Handout B. She highlighted the following data noting a significant increase in the number of tests performed in our walk-in lab from 665 in April to 1022 in May. Susan Johnson added this was a record month for the lab clinic. Jane then reported on the Environmental Health data noting an increase in swimming pool inspections, which is to be expected for the timing of the year. Jane asked if there were any questions regarding the data noted in the activity summary report. There were no questions noted.

c. Financial Report (*Attachment 5 – April 2019; Handout C – May 2019 presented by Jessica Ridgway*)

Jessica Ridgway referred to the financial reports labeled as Attachment 5 and Handout C highlighting the financials for both April 2019 and May 2019. She stated the revenue and expenditure report reflects the essential services that are being provided at this agency. She noted the essential services include, but are not limited to, the provision of communicable disease services, health education/promotion, environmental health services, workforce development, and program and policy development. For the month ending April 2019, the Revenues were 67.8% and the Expenditures were 75.6%. She stated for the month ending May 2019, the Revenues were 67.8% and the Expenditures were 72.0%.

Jessica then asked for board discussion related to the financial report given. There was no additional discussion or questions noted.

VIII. Other Discussion

Dr. Tim Burgiss then asked if there was any additional discussion. There was no additional discussion noted.

IX. Adjournment

Dr. Tim Burgiss adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm noting a motion was not needed since there was not a quorum. He stated all action items for approval will be moved to the August 8, 2019 Meeting Agenda.

