

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
Full Association Meeting
Date: September 15, 2015
Embassy Suites Hotel, 460 N. Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, NC
(In conjunction with NCPHA Annual Conference)

Minutes

Meeting Called To Order: 2:05 p.m.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion to approve minutes of the August 20, 2015 meeting was made and seconded; motion carried.

Approve Treasurer/Financial Report: Motion to approve the Treasurer/Financial Report was made and seconded; motion carried.

President's Report – Buck Wilson

- Retiring Health Directors: Carmine Rocco, Haywood County, will be retiring November 1, 2015. Glenn Martin, Rockingham County, introduced Larry Johnson, Health & Human Services Director.
 - Education and Awards nomination forms (revised) will be sent out soon and awards will be announced at the State Health Director's Conference.
 - Because of increased legal discussions occurring related to cost settlement, etc., there is additional monitoring of the Association's email listserv activity. The purpose is to protect the association from emails that could be problematic in the event of a public records request. All association members still have access to post but if members have difficulty with an email going through the listserv let Buck know.
 - Special thanks to Helene Edwards for serving on the Advisory Committee for Cancer Coordination and Control. Thanks to Janet Clayton, Dr. John Morrow and Steve Smith for serving on the Health Services Block Grant Advisory Council. Thanks to Jerry Parks, Denise Michaud and Dr. John Morrow for serving on the NC Colorectal Cancer Roundtable. Thanks to Jerry Parks for working the legislative halls recently on Medicaid issues.
 - The Association, in conjunction with NCPHA and NCAPHA, had a booth at the recent NC Association of County Commissioners' Conference in Greenville. Buck encouraged the Association to participate in their conference each year and reminded members that our Association falls under the "umbrella" of the NC Association of County Commissioners.
 - Medicaid Reform – indications are that the legislature is going to pass some form of Medicaid reform. From what Buck is hearing, CCNC will probably stay in the final bill in some form and CC4C and OBCM will remain but pulled out from CCNC moving forward. With Medicaid reform it will take several years to develop and implement the transition.
 - Danny Staley pointed out that health departments' designation as an essential community provider is a critical point moving forward with Medicaid reform. Another key point is cost settlement and the fact that health departments provide Federal Title V programs (WCH among others) which authorize us to be cost based providers.
 - **Medicaid Cost Settlement** – Reminded members that the Association has an attorney and is using money that had been placed in a legal account from efforts a number of years ago. We've met with the Secretary of DHHS and other key DHHS/DMA staff. From that meeting we formulated action steps that we agreed on and asked them to review and provide a timeline for the action steps. We have concerns that DMA is not moving forward with the action steps as quickly as desired.
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- Recognized Steven Garner, who now works for the Association and is an employee of the Alliance. His email is SGarner@ncapha.org. Buck advised members to forward cost settlement information they may

receive to Steven for his review before taking any local action. For the settlement of the 2011 10% holdback, some are getting less than they originally expected, some are in a payback situation and some are getting more than they originally expected. For those in a payback situation or getting less than originally expected, Steven will have a meeting immediately after this meeting to discuss how counties can appeal. Our attorney has recommended such appeals and each county would appeal separately and Steven can assist with the process. If the attorney is needed for this appeal process moving forward we can decide at a later point if that cost should be borne by the Association or the counties. Roughly half of the counties are in a position where an appeal may be advisable.

- Buck pointed out that during the meeting with the Secretary and DMA officials, it was recognized that we were using charges instead of encounters in the SPA and that encounters would be more beneficial to health departments. It was stated in the meeting that DMA, with input from the Association, could ask CMS to change/amend that in the SPA to go back to encounters which would be the most beneficial for all of us. If that doesn't occur there's the possibility that through litigation, the new SPA invalidated and go back to the old SPA that uses encounters.
- Four health departments were to begin meeting with DMA officials and Steven Garner to discuss the local charge/claim process and ways it could be improved but we are delaying those meetings because there is still disagreement on the cost settlement methodology.
- Moving forward with the 2013 holdback and the full 2014 settlement is where the big disagreement lies because if there are not changes to the SPA it will have a big financial impact for health departments (\$20-\$40 million across the state).
- We are quickly exhausting the existing \$34,000 in our legal account. Approximately \$26,000 has been used to-date. The future attorney cost estimate, if there is litigation concerning the SPA, is approximately \$125,000 but the return would be between \$20-\$40 million and would benefit all LHDs moving forward. Buck asked for input on the best way to move forward in securing the necessary additional legal funding. He pointed out that the last time this was done, departments were sent a separate \$1000 invoice from the association and all counties complied.
- A motion was made to invoice health departments \$1,500 per health department for the legal fund. Motion was seconded. Discussion & comments pointed out that \$1,500 was a significant amount of money particularly for smaller health departments. It was also asked, if it reaches the point of suing, would it be DMA or CMS? At this point it appears such litigation would be with DMA. Comment was made that it may be premature to raise the funds now considering the litigation uncertainties. Buck pointed out that it may take some time to get the funding in and we need to be ready support the legal efforts as they evolve. Any unused funds would remain in the Association's legal account for future needs. A question was also raised about potential interest on the withheld cost settlement funding since the money was held longer than 18 months. It was encouraged that interest and lost interest on the delayed settlements be included in the legal discussion moving forward. Question was also raised regarding how to explain to county officials what they are getting for the \$1,500. Given the differences in the settlement amounts for counties due to changed DMA methodology (which is \$20-\$40 million statewide), the \$1,500 is essentially an investment to reclaim the lost settlement dollars. It will vary county by county but it's a significant amount of money.
 - A friendly amendment to the motion was made that unused money raised in this process could be used to apply toward county Association membership fees. The amendment was accepted and seconded. Discussion: Concern was raised that once the funding is received for legal assistance, it would be most beneficial to keep it for that purpose in the future if some is unused. The vote on the friendly amendment to the motion failed.
- The vote on the original motion passed. Clarification was made that the focus of these legal funds for our attorney would be on the 2013 and 2014 cost settlements and the process moving forward. The funds would not be for appeals of the 2011 and 2012 10% holdbacks. Steven Garner will work with interested counties to assist them in the appeals process since the basis of the appeals would be the same for each

county that is receiving less than the expected holdback amounts. There was also a request to share with the Association how the legal account funds were being utilized as we move forward.

- Question was raised about how Steven Garner's services were being paid for. As of September 1, he is being paid by the Alliance. The Alliance board will meet in December and discuss further.

NC Division of Public Health Report – Danny Staley:

- We have a tentative budget with some positives for public health.
 - o Office of Minority Health and PAN Branch received continuation funding and will have a programmatic review to assess further. They are funded out of the Preventive Services Block Grant. There are concerns because they essentially took state funds and are using federal funds for those programs. Should not have an impact to LHDs at least for this next year.
 - o There's a \$6.2 million reduction in state money for the AIDS Drug Assistance program. Have seen continual reductions in state funding in recent years and the state has been able to absorb the reductions through drug rebates and federal HRSA assistance. There's concern that the rebates could be discontinued or significantly reduced via 340B changes.
 - o Quit Line – able to use Administrative Medicaid match of about \$100,000 to support the program.
 - o DPH continues to have shortfalls in various areas that are difficult to fill with other resources.
 - o State Public Health Lab has a small increase in funding for indigent rabies program.
 - o Electronic Death Record system/program was funded.
 - o \$2.5 mil to address improvement of birth outcomes. Additional information & timeline for those efforts will be forthcoming. Will be a competitive bid process.
 - o Poison Control Center - \$1 mil
 - o Nurse Family Partnerships - \$900,000 state funds with new partnerships to be developed in the East and West. RFPs should go out next week.
 - o High Risk Maternity Clinics at ECU will continue to receive funding.
- Other DPH information:
- Have had several meeting with the new Secretary.
- Continued assistance regarding water quality and water testing related to coal ash testing & monitoring.
- Chronic Disease tracking and referral efforts are occurring in a couple regions
- Wrapping up interviews for WCH Section Chief
- State Flu Shot Campaign is getting started soon
- Looking at infrastructure improvement in the division related to accreditation and will be developing a task force work group in the near future.

NC Division of Public Health Report – Phyllis Rocco:

- Reminder that ICD-10 conversion starts October 1 and if assistance is needed, please let her know.

Executive Director's Report – Lynette Tolson

- Reminded members that she had sent a web link to the money report that breaks down the budget and will also send a link to the special provisions. Budget should be completed by Friday and then the focus will be on Medicaid reform. She's been advised that OBCM and CC4C are included but unsure if it will be pulled out from CCNC or remain there. Unsure of the status of CCNC.
- \$5 mil in the budget recurring for planning to get Medicaid reform transitioned. Seems likely that they would not be pulling DMA out of DHHS. There will be MCO and PLE networks so we need to get to know our local hospitals. It will take some time for Medicaid reform to be implemented.
- We do not have "safety nets" or "essential community providers" well defined in the Medicaid reform discussion. She's been working with the community health centers & free health clinic lobbyists to get this defined and included. Language has been included in the Medicaid Reform bill to encourage PLEs and MCOs to contract with safety net providers (includes health departments). Another issue is the rate that

health departments and community health centers are paid by Medicaid. This will need attention as reform efforts move forward.

- NC HIE is being moved out of CCNC in the budget. Providers who accept Medicaid will be required to transmit data through the HIE which is a positive for public health.
- There was a question to clarify that LHDs get paid more than private providers for some services. It was requested that a comparison list be provided to health directors.
- The future of Medicaid cost settlement under Medicaid reform is in question because many in the Senate want to see cost settlements discontinued.

NCAPHA Report – Jerry Parks

- Noted that the Alliance has worked hard to transition Steven Garner quickly to their employment and it points out the importance of having NCAPHA, NCALHD and NCPHA working closely together and supporting our collective efforts.

NCPHA - Lisa Harrison

- Welcomed members to the NCPHA Conference and encouraged all to attend the various sessions.

Action/Information Items - Committee Reports

Core Public Health –Denise Michaud:

Action/Motion: None

Information: Did not meet

Public Health Promotion & Prevention –Janet Clayton:

Action/Motion: None

Information: Did not meet

Technology – Beth Lovette:

Action/Motion: None

Information: Did not meet

Policy and Finance – Lisa Harrison

Action/Motion: None

Information: Did not meet

Planning and Innovation –Colleen Bridger

Action/Motion: None

Information:

- If interested in participating in the “Transformational Leadership” pilot project the Dorothy Cilenti presented two months ago, please contact her directly.
- As follow up from July’s meeting, Colleen will email a list of County DSS contacts for Carolina Access participants. These persons can be contacted to determine the Carolina Access patients who are assigned to your health department if you don’t have that information.
- Colleen extended a special thanks to Buck Wilson for his efforts in the General Assembly on the OBCM issue.

Education & Awards – Dave Jenkins:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Nominations & Bylaws – Doug Urland:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Action/Information Items - Public Health Regions

Region I – Janice Patterson:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region II – Jimmy Hines:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region III - Ann Absher:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region IV – Dorothea Wyant:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region V – Merle Green:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region VI – Tommy Jarrell:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region VII – Chris Szwagiel:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region VIII – Carolyn Moser:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region IX – Jerry Parks:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Region X – Davin Madden:

Action/Motion: None

Information: None

Liaison Reports

NC SOPHE – Ann Staples

- NC SOPHE is holding its 50th Annual Meeting October 8-9 in Hickory. For more information visit www.ncarolinasophe.org
- National SOPHE is holding its 67th Annual Meeting March 30-April 1 in Charlotte. This will be a great way for staff to attend a national conference without paying national travel! For more information visit www.sophe.org.
- NC Alliance for Health is working with Pfizer and 50 other partners to sponsor Race to Quit NC, October 5-9, 2015. This weeklong series of events is focused on encouraging North Carolina smokers to quit, talk to their doctor about quitting or think about making a quit attempt soon. More information is available at www.ncallianceforhealth.org/race-to-quit-nc

ANCBH – Barbara Ann Hughes, President

- ANCBH:

Contact Bob at Rblackburn1@carolina.rr.com if you are unsure your dues have been paid.

Remember to schedule training for your board of health by contacting Rachel Wilfort at the Institute.

- NALBOH:

Membership renewal begins October 1. Your Board of Health, partner or associate members will receive notice to renew.

The Fall Quarterly Newsbrief will be delivered on or about October 1. Ten copies will be mailed for board members. It will be available to NALBOH members electronically once hard copies have been delivered. Next Newsbrief deadline is December 4. Please send your local stories.

There are plans to offer 1-2 webinars in November and December. Add your board roster of members to your membership profile on the Website. You can e-mail the board roster, and articles for publication to NALBOH.

The Network for Public Health Law will be offering new resources and webinars. See NALBOH website for topics and dates, all FREE.

The person to contact at NALBOH is: Jamie Michael or Jamie@badgerbay.co

NC Institute for Public Health – Rachel Wilfert for Anna Schenck

- Training

- Still accepting requests for Boards of Health training
- Registration is open for the following courses:
 - Management and Supervision Update Webinar Series
 - September 30 – November 12, 2015
 - 32nd Annual School Nurse Conference
 - October 15-16, 2015
 - Introduction to Public Health Nursing
 - November 16-18, 2015

- Accreditation

- Interim Accreditation Coordinator, Joy Reed, is continuing to work with DPH Nurse Consultants to review and edit HDSAI; site visit teams and dates in early 2016 are being organized for the counties notified on 8/1/15.

- Staffing

- In interview process for Technical Assistance Manager position

- School events

- A new chair of the Health Policy and Management Dept, Dr. Daniel Lee, was appointed and began work on Sep. 1. He comes to UNC from the University of Michigan but was previously a faculty member at UNC for 9 years.
- The first two fall PHield trips for students, faculty and staff attracted more than 100 participants.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:45 pm

Next Meeting: October 15, 2015 9:30am

Location: DPH, Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh

September 15, 2015
NCALHD Attendance Roster - Health Director Initial by County
(Bold Indicates NCALHD Dues paid)

ADK	Alamance	Stacie Turpin Saunders		Jackson	Paula Carden
ADK	Albemarle District	Jerry Parks	MM	Johnston	Marilyn Pearson
ADK	Alexander	Leeanne Whisnant		Jones	Wesley Smith
ADK	Anson	Fred Thompson	ADK	Lee	Terrell Jones
ADK	Appalachian District	Beth Lovette		Lenoir	Joey Huff
	Beaufort	James Madson	MD	Lincoln	Maggie Dollar
	Bladen	Cris Harrelson	JL	Macon	Jim Bruckner
	Brunswick	David Stanley	MD	Madison	Tammy Cody <i>Marianna Doh</i>
ADK	Buncombe	Jan Shepard	ADK	MTW District	Terrell Davis
ADK	Burke	Rebecca McLeod		Mecklenburg	Marcus Plescia
ADK	Cabarrus Health Alliance	William Pilkington <i>ADK</i>		Montgomery	Mary Perez
ADK	Caldwell	Denise Michaud		Moore	Robert Wittmann
	Carteret	David Jenkins		Nash	William Hill, Jr.
	Caswell	Fred Moore	ADK	New Hanover	David Rice
	Catawba	Doug Urland		Northampton	John White, Int
ADK	Chatham	Layton Long	ADK	Onslow	Angela Lee
ADK	Cherokee	Towanna Roberts	ADK	Orange	Colleen Bridger
ADK	Clay	Janice Patterson		Pamlico	Dennis Harrington
	Cleveland	Dorothea Wyant	ADK	Pender	Carolyn Moser
	Columbus	Kim Smith	ADK	Person	Janet Clayton
ADK	Craven	Scott Harrelson		Pitt	John Morrow
ADK	Cumberland	Buck Wilson	ADK	Randolph	Mimi Cooper
	Dare	Sheila Davies	ADK	Richmond	Tommy Jarrell
	Davidson	Monecia Thomas	ADK	Robeson	William Smith
ADK	Davie	Suzanne Wright	ADK	Rockingham	Glenn Martin <i>ADK</i>
ADK	Duplin	Ila Davis	ADK	Swain	Nina Oliver
ADK	Durham	Gayle B. Harris	ADK	RPM District	James Hines, Jr.
	Edgecombe	Karen Lachapelle	ADK	Sampson	Wanda Robinson
	Forsyth	Marlon Hunter		Scotland	Bengie Hair
	Franklin	Chris M. Szwagiel	ADK	Stanly	Dennis Joyner
ADK	Gaston	Chris Dobbins	ADK	Stokes	Wanda East, Int.
ADK	Graham	Alicia Parham	ADK	Surry	Samantha Ange
ADK	Granville-Vance District	Lisa Macon-Harrison	ADK	Swain	Alison Cochran
	Greene	Michael Rhodes	ADK	Toe River District	Lynda Kinnane
ADK	Guilford	Merle Green	ADK	Transylvania	Elaine Russell
ADK	Halifax	Cardra Burns	ADK	Union	Phillip Tarte
ADK	Harnett	John Rouse	ADK	Wake	Sue Lynn Ledford
	Haywood	Carmine Rocco	ADK	Warren	Andy Smith
	Henderson	Steve Smith	ADK	Wayne	Davin Madden
	Hertford	Ramona Bowser	ADK	Wilkes	Ann Absher
ADK	Hoke	Helene Edwards	ADK	Wilson	Teresa Ellen
	Hyde	David Howard	ADK	Yadkin	Kimberly Harrell
ADK	Iredell	Jane Murray			

September 15, 2015
 NCALHD Attendance Roster - Health Director Initial by County
 (Bold Indicates NCALHD Dues paid)

	DPH Liaisons	Megan Davies		NCALHD Exec Dir	Lynette Tolson
1.		Danny Staley DS	SM	NCAPHA	Steven Garner
		Phyllis Rocco OR			
		Larry Michael			

Guests Liaisons from other Organizations

	DAVIDSON CO.	DARRIN N. LEOL			
	Rockingham Co	Larry Johnson			
	Summit	Caldwell Health Alliance			
	Susan Hays	RANDOLPH Co.			
	Joshua Northwest	Northampton Co.			
	Jashva Swift	New Hanover			
	Steve Eaton	Gaston			
	Rachel Wilfert	NCIPH/UNCSPH			
	Tammy Keezer	Macon County Public Health			
	Dorota Anthony	Macon County Public Health			
	Ann Staples	NC Society for Public Health Education			

Sally Herndon DPH Tobacco Prevention + Control