

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
Association Business Meeting
May 18, 2017
NC DPH – Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road Raleigh, NC

Minutes

Meeting Called To Order – Jim Bruckner

Jim Bruckner called the meeting to order. Jim shared with the group the update on the online presence with the pilot project. Jim stated that based on legal advice, we are considered to acting as a government entity, and we must follow those rules. Until further research is completed, in order to vote, you must be physically present.

Approval of Minutes – Janet Clayton

Motion to approve minutes of the April 20, 2017, was made and seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer's/Financial Report – Janet Clayton

Motion to approve Treasurer's/Financial report as of April 30, 2017, was made and seconded; motion approved. Janet Clayton presented the proposed budget for FY18. The proposed budget will be brought back for further discussion in June.

President's Report – Jim Bruckner

We have been invited to participate in and present during the annual NCACC conference. One topic is the funding of the communicable disease programs, and the second topic is a better understanding of Environmental Health services at the local level. We are looking for a third topic and for individuals who would like to present at the conference. David Jenkins volunteered to present. The recommendations from the floor were to have a presentation regarding opioids and public health effects, Medicaid, and Primary Care in PH vs private primary care. Jim will discuss with the Executive Committee.

Jim Bruckner had a conversation with Jim Flowers of DMA. DMA won the Cabarrus lawsuit regarding the use of the new statistic for FY13-14. Questions for Jim Flowers are: 1)when will DMA contact the other health departments regarding the other appeals and how the payback will be handled; 2) the 2015 settlement is being held up because of the pharmacy component; he is working with those counties individually, and 3) the status of our 10% holdbacks.

NC Division of Public Health Report – Danny Staley

- North Carolina has been accepted into the CDC multi-state collaborative around “6|18 Initiative” which is six high cost conditions with eighteen interventions. NCDPH has chosen three of the six- pregnancy intendedness, tobacco use prevention, and diabetes. The goal is high impact in 5 years, and DPH will be looking at social determinants to leverage payments.
- This year promises to be a high tick and high vector season. Threats are still there with Zika. There has been a child born in North Carolina with microcephaly; the mother tested positive in pregnancy.
- Opioids is another major focus of DPH and DHHS. Dr. Susan Kansagra, Chronic Disease Section Chief, is the lead person to guide the work around opioids. There will be an opioid summit at the end of the month. It will be held at the McKimmon Center on May 27 & 28.
- DPH is moving ahead with PHAB accreditation. Joy Reed is coordinating this effort for DPH.
- Budget Highlights-
 - o EH transfer to DEQ from DPH. DEQ does not want the DEH transfer, and DHHS does not want it to move. Talking points regarding this have been distributed. Locals have a much stronger voice than DPH with legislators regarding this, and there are a number of negative implications.
 - o There is an increase in tobacco funding.
 - o The Block Grant plans- There is another \$800,000 of carve outs proposed. There is over 25% of the block grant funds designated for carve outs. There are two buckets of funding. These new carve outs jeopardize funding. Legislators are funding special projects instead of traditional projects. It was suggested for

local health directors to go to the block grant plan and look at the entities that are being funded. Block grant funding has been flat since President Regan and buying power has gone down.

- Please use your ability at the local level to reach out to the legislators and discuss what you do at the local level.
- Dr. Julie Casani is leaving DPH. Danny thanked Dr. Casani for her guidance and leadership of the PHPR program for the past 11 years. She will be the Director of Student Health at NCSU. As of June 1st, Amanda Fuller Moore will be the acting director of PHPR for the month of June. Amanda will be the DPH pharmacist as of July 1st in LTAT Branch.
- DSS Regionalization Bill is in the budget bill.
- If you would like to see a webinar demo of a statewide and county level data system, look for an email from Joy Reed.

NC Division of Public Health Report – Phyllis Rocco

- Bruce Nawrocki is the new SAS Programmer that has been hired to work on the clinical reporting system. DPH staff will meet with vendors May 25th.
- CAP53- DSS has planned to recoup money from our Medicaid reimbursements July 1, 2013- June 1, 2015 go live of NC Tracks mostly due to same day service being billed. Edits are retroactively applied. Phyllis is trying to obtain amounts of recoupments and when the recoupment will happen. Recoupments are anticipated to be in FY18 through the reprocessing of claims. You will receive a 30-day notice. The total amount is \$1.6 million for LHDs. The Division has asked for these to be forgiven. There was a suggestion to write a letter to the Secretary regarding all of these recoupments, etc. **There was a motion for a letter to be drafted regarding the various recoupments and hand delivered to the Secretary by the officers; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**
- NCBON held a strategic planning meeting last week. There was a concern from all stakeholders regarding a workforce shortage of nurses; another concern is the use of opioids and the diversion of opioids by professionals; the use of telehealth and providing access to care in rural areas; DPH requested three items to be considered: first, to make it mandatory that every nurse in the state have disaster preparedness training for at least an hour every year to renew their license, and secondly, also requiring continuing education in communicable disease control or in the prevention of healthcare associated infections, and thirdly, requested NCBON to work with DPH on a position statement on the integration of Community Health workers.
- There was a quick survey last week regarding telemedicine. There were 47 responses received. Of those, 5 are doing telemedicine, 4/43 telepsychiatry; 11/47 are successfully billing for telemedicine and/or telepsychiatry.
- There was strong support of the NCBON for HB88- modernization of the Nurse Practice Act.
- Please complete the Local Health Department Survey that Eleanor Howell sent out earlier in April. The deadline is May 1st.

State Environmental Health Report – Larry Michael

- The Senate budget funds an expansion (6 positions) of the childhood lead poisoning prevention program through Medicaid receipts and lowers the blood lead intervention levels to CDC recommendations. The new positions will be used to support the increased caseload (~5 fold). This is great news and will provide enhanced services and environmental intervention to children across the state.
- The Senate budget transfers the On-Site Water Protection Branch to DEQ.
 - o EH has been transferred and fragmented (2011) in the past; this transfer would be the first time that local health department delegation of authority would be split between two state agencies.
 - o We have 912 REHS in North Carolina that work on the local level with a total of 3,366 authorizations, which averages 3.7 authorizations per REHS.
 - o This would create more bureaucracy, delays, confusion, and ultimately do a disservice to the public that we serve and protect.
 - o DEH confirmed that DEQ is not in favor of the transfer to occur and this issue has been elevated to one of the Department's legislative priorities.
- The Senate budget also reorganizes the REHS Board.
 - o This is tied to the OSWP transfer and appears under the same title in the bill. This proposal would reduce the number of board members from 12 to 9, and specifies that all current board members' terms expire on July 31. The REHS Board is sending a letter of opposition.
- The urgent need is for stakeholders to contact Sen or House of Rep members.

- The budget is being considered by the House now; the House budget will be released in 2-4 weeks.
- Other Legislative Updates-
 - o SB 131 is now law—SL 2017-10.
<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2017/Bills/Senate/PDF/S131v7.pdf>
 - The OSWP Branch is in the process of finalizing a position statement to address Sec. 1.3.
 - o SB24 “Grill Bill” has passed the House and Senate and is on the Senate calendar today for concurrence.
- CDC and FDA sent out a joint alert regarding the Magellan lead test analyzers for blood lead tests having been providing lead results that are lower than the actual levels. CDC recommends retesting children younger than 6 who had venous samples using this product.
- The recall on frozen hash browns was due to golf ball fragments.

Executive Director’s Report – Lynette Tolson

- BCBS and Amerigroup announcement was sent out yesterday.
- Lynette and Dave Richards, Director of Medicaid, will be meeting monthly. Dave wants to maximize cost settlements.
- Lynette has also been meeting with the Deputy Secretary for Health, Mark Benton regularly. He works closely with Danny and staff of DPH.
- If your department has any outstanding issues with United Healthcare and NC Tracks, contact Lynette.
- Complete template from Tim Gallagher and send to Lynette. There are 12 outstanding.
- Invoices for NCALHD dues will be sent by the end of the month.
- Communicable disease funding- 2 of 3 health directors in Rep. Dobson’s district will be meeting with him on Monday and is not in House budget. OSWP is coming out of the House budget. Lynette will be sending MCH info to Dobson as well.

Government Relations Coordinator Report – Buck Wilson

No Report

Safety Net Health System Update- Tim Gallagher

Tim Gallagher provided an update on the Safety Net Health System. (See presentation.) He reported the updated site number information. Collectively, 663 service sites offered. He shared with the group updated maps and data. **A motion was made to move this topic to Planning and Innovation Committee; motion was seconded; motion passed.**

Partner Reports

NCAPHA Report – Phillip Tart

- HIPAA and MOU papers will be coming out. Please let David Stanley or Buck Wilson know, if you will not be using the NCAPHA for the cost settlement. Invoices for dues, cost settlement, and accreditation will be coming.

NCPHA Report – Josh Swift

- Thanks to everyone for support of spring NCPHA. There were 150 in attendance.
- The fall conference will be September 27-29 at the Crown Plaza in Asheville. Registration will open on June 1st.

EDNCPHA Report- Carolyn Moser

Julie Gooding Hasty is the president of EDNCPHA this year.

Committee Reports

Preparedness/EPI – Lillian Koontz

Action: None

Information:

Evelyn Foust, Dr. Vickie Mobley, and Chris Hoke shared the updates for the proposed amendment to the HIV Control Measures. Staff has been working with a group of physicians providing HIV care and a subcommittee of health directors.

Two copies of the control measures were shared. The first was the proposal prior to the Health Director Subcommittee call (subcommittee members on the call: Lillian Koontz, Sue Lynn Ledford, Stacie Saunders, and Bill Smith). The second was a reflection of the suggestions made by the subcommittee. The subcommittee focused on a need for disclosure and how to determine viral suppression. Dr. Mobley and Ms. Foust explained that a person in treatment and virally suppressed is non-infectious, and that a person in treatment, following the plan, would remain virally suppressed. The changes state that a person who is not virally suppressed must disclose status to sexual partners.

There was discussion about a concern of different HIV strains, allowing two individuals to consent to sexual intercourse without protection if both were infected with HIV. Dr. Mobley shared that a person who is following a treatment plan will be protected against all strains of HIV.

There was also discussion regarding an update to the proposed language: “the person living with HIV is the victim of a sexual assault”. The language does not, in the opinion of health directors, convey the intent, that a person living with HIV is not non-compliant for not disclosing or not using protection if the person living with HIV is a victim of sexual assault. This concern was heard, and an update to the language should be made.

There is also proposed language to include the person living with HIV is compliant only when they are following the treatment plan as prescribed by the attending physician.

Ms. Foust shared the delicate balance of compiling the concerns from the state, local health directors, physicians, and persons living with HIV. Chris Hoke reminded us all that the proposed update is an attempt to de-stigmatize persons living with HIV and increase those seeking and staying in care.

The subcommittee will have another call. Please review the current proposal and send comments to Evelyn Foust or Lillian Koontz.

Maternal & Child Health, Care Management and WIC – Stacie Saunders

Action: None

Information:

- There was a brief presentation by OBCM and CC4C program coordinators. They presented current case management program process outcomes and expected benchmarks. There was discussion from the floor regarding long term outcomes, and the desire to see that data presented to the committee. Dr. Wroth, from CCNC, was also in attendance for a separate topic but added that aggregate statewide outcome data is being reviewed and requested an invitation to a future committee meeting to further discuss. Dr. Wroth then discussed the current unused funds in the case management programs. Funds will be used to prepare for Medicaid transformation, set up alternative IT needs, trainings overall system changes, and future program developments. Dr. Wroth would like to work with the association to determine other needs that may be met by these funds. There are 12 programs that will be contacted who have large balances for recoupment.
- Belinda Pettiford announced that legislation regarding child abuse treatment would require that an infant born exposed to substance abuse have a “plan of safe care”. DPH is working with DSS, Medicaid, hospitals, behavioral

health, and others to move on this as soon as possible. The committee has many questions, and due to time, Belinda will be invited back to further discuss.

- Lastly, counties will be receiving memo to request the AA715 spread sheet be sent back to DPH.

Environmental Health –Andy Smith

Action: None

Information:

Melissa Ham, Regional Environmental Health Specialist of the Food Protection Branch, presented information regarding the Quality Assurance Program for Food and Lodging Programs. Presentation will be posted.

Public Health Prevention & Promotion – Teresa Ellen

Action: None

Information:

- Jeremy Mosely gave a presentation describing the Faith Health Initiative from Wake Forest Baptist Hospital. Faith Health is a faith based lay health advisor initiative. They have leveraged over 20% of the congregations in their area to provide services such as transportation, navigation of needed resources, encouragement to those who delay care, and assisting with forms/insurance sign up. Their goals are to decrease hospital readmissions, increase the percent of those insured, and decrease the cost of care for the most vulnerable patients. A copy of Jeremy's presentation will be attached to the minutes and contains his contact information. Please do not hesitate to contact Jeremy if you are interested in replicating this initiative in your county.
- Sally asked the committee to assist with the naming of the Challenge Award. This was the award in honor of Sally's sister voted on by the NCALHD to celebrate those cities, counties, and communities that adopt tobacco free buildings, grounds, and places. It was decided that Sally would send out a survey to all Health Directors requesting that you choose from a few name options. In addition, Sally was and is often asked where some of the regions are currently as it relates to tobacco free policies. She stated they are more than willing to visit your Health Directors regional meetings to give an update.

Nomination and Bylaws – Buck Wilson

Action: None

Information:

- Did not meet.

Education and Awards – Suzanne Wright

Action: None

Information:

- Did not meet.

Technology – Beth Lovette

Action: None

Information: Did not meet

Policy and Finance – Dennis Joyner

Action: There was a motion to recommend that the Association support efforts to secure recurring youth tobacco prevention program funding as a sign-on organization. Motion was approved.

Information:

- **NCALHD Input on DHHS Medicaid Reform**
Lisa Harrison referenced the recently emailed draft document on the NC Public Health System and Medicaid Transformation that will be submitted to NC DHHS during their request for input on Medicaid

Transformation in NC. She encouraged members to provide comments on the document. Given the shortness on committee time, Lisa provided a brief review of the response document draft. **A motion from the floor was made to pursue a contract for services with an ASO that understands the costing of social determinants and the costing of services and requesting funding through Medicaid to support this; motion was seconded; discussion was held; motion passed.**

- **Medicaid Cost Report Preparation – Defining role and planning for the Future**

A brief background was provided on the history of the cost reporting process for local health departments and the more recent changes of moving that function to the Alliance. There were concerns mentioned that LHDs have historically placed a lot of trust and confidence in the individual doing the cost report, and we need to transition to planning for a service system that has capacity and safeguards where possible. Concern was also expressed that LHDs did not adequately understand the cost reporting process, and that it often seems unreasonably complicated. Ultimately, the cost report preparation is a local decision. It was recommended that the association encourage the Alliance to develop a capacity building and sustainability plan for their cost report preparation service.

- **Legislative Update**

- The On-site program move to DEQ was in the Senate budget bill. Advocating that provision be removed in the House Appropriation Act. Talking points have been emailed, and members were encouraged to contact their legislators.
- The \$7.5 mil CDx funding was not in the Senate budget and will be advocated for in the House. \$7.5 mil was in the Senate budget for community health center grants. There's some concern that there was confusion between the two funding items.
- Youth Tobacco Prevention Program funding was not included in the Senate budget. Efforts are underway to get it in the House budget.
- "Healthy corner store" funding was not in the Senate budget.

Planning and Innovation – Janet Clayton

Action: None

Information:

- **Advance Practice Research-Stacie Saunders**

Stacie Saunders asked the committee to think about where partnerships between practice and research can intersect. She introduced Nancy Winterbauers spoke about the Robert Wood Johnson grant for a Practice Based Research Network, which is a partnership between local health department practitioners and academic research. Comparative research is an example of the kind of study that can be done. The first study was on primary care about 10 years ago. NCIPH turned over the leadership of Academic Practice Based Research program to NCPHA. The last study was regarding the cost of EH services. Stacie Saunders proposed a study regarding WIC and the decline in participation, and what is the new normal. Beth Lovette reminded the group of the motion during the March meeting to research the WIC program decline; this study will move forward. Please send study ideas to Stacie Saunders.

- **HIPAA Workgroup Update-**

Bob Martin stated that there is a small group is working on minor's consent and will be participating on the all vendor's conference call later this month. Jill Moore provided a legal opinion memo regarding the HIEA and Minor's Consent issue. The memo states that both the State Law and HIPAA both support the minor's rights under the consent law. When the minor must be treated as the individual according to HIPAA and State law is outlined in Jill's memo. There needs to be a method to segregate records. Currently, technology does not allow this separation, which is a problem because someone's rights are being ignored. "Who should be responsible for the solution?" It is reasonable to expect that HIEA should be responsible because their own law requires the rights of individuals to be honored. Who gives the minor to right to opt out? Who's

going to enforce the giving the minor this right? This isn't just a health department issue. Jill is pursuing conversations with other providers.

Bob Martin urged health departments to follow recommendations of the memo. Beth Lovette recommended making sure that vendor is not exchanging data with NCHIEA at this point. Chris Hoke reminded health directors of the ethical problem, when we are telling minors that information is confidential, yet we are inputting data into a technological system that does not keep it confidential. We need to explore how we can protect the minor's information. Remember, that we have HIPAA regulations because of the confidentiality issues when the change came from paper records to EHR. Lab results will go to the HIEA as being part of the core data set.

Public Health Regions

No action items.

Region 1	Elaine Russell	Region 6	Robert Wittman
Region 2	Marianna Daly	Region 7	Lisa Harrison
Region 3	Ann Absher	Region 8	Cris Harrelson
Region 4	Dorothea Wyant	Region 9	Shelia Davies
Region 5	Layton Long	Region 10	Davin Madden

Information:None

Liaison Reports

North Carolina Institute for Public Health – Carol Gunther Moore

- The Institute is now scheduling orientation trainings for new BOH members for June and beyond. Please contact rachel.wilfert@unc.edu if you need to schedule training for your board.
- Registration opens May 1st for the July 24 & 25 accreditation skills building workshop in Durham.
- There will be a new AAC 101 training with NCPHA in the fall.
- LPH Nursing staff trainings are on the website.

UNC- School of Government- Jill Moore

- The Health Directors' Legal Conference will be June 7 and 8 at the UNC-SOG. Registration is open.

ANCBH- Barbara Ann Hughes

- The ANCBH Board met via conference call on May 2. The following decisions were made: annual awards will be presented during the NCPHA annual meeting, which is generally held in the fall. Any member can present an award with approval of the president, in the event the president or vice-president is not present.
- The annual business meeting will be held in Greensboro, a central location, in the fall after vacation season.
- One face-face meeting and three conference call meetings will be held annually. These changes will be on a trial basis for one year followed by an evaluation. If unacceptable, only 3 face to face meetings will be held.
- **NALBOH-**
 - o Please register by June 2 to receive a discount; deadline is July 11.
 - o Write a short story about some public health accomplishment.
 - o Nominate a NC board of health member to stand for election.
 - o Membership has been growing substantially. Only 4 NC boards are not members. Dues are on a sliding scale. Contact: Jamie@badgerbay.co to request information about dues, dates, etc. Most NewsBriefs are being sent electronically. The next one will be hard copy.
 - o Executive committee will recommend to the Board that 2018 conference to meet in N.C. A staff member makes visits venues.

- Conference speakers include the following: APHA president, Tom Quade, Health commissioner, Marion Co., OH; 2 speakers from Utah, Building relationships between health departments and hospitals to successfully assess community needs; Karen De Salvo, MD., formerly US DHHS, and 16 diverse topical presentations will be offered.
- BOH Member Belinda Jones of Halifax County was selected to receive a \$500 scholarship to the NALBOH Conference.

NCSOPHE- Julie Gooding Hasty

- The NCSOPHE annual meeting will be held October 26-27 at UNCW; please nominate Health Educators for awards.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting

June 8, 2017 – 1:00 pm

Location: UNC-SOG, Knapp-Sanders Bldg., 400 South Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27599