

**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors  
Association Business Meeting  
April 5, 2018  
UNC Health Directors' Legal Conference – Chapel Hill, NC**

**Minutes**

**Meeting Called To Order – Dennis Joyner**

The auditorium was abuzz with declarations of optimism and equally of reflective inquisitions, reminding all that April's arrival hath put a spirit of youth in everything as President Dennis Joyner convened the meeting at 1259.

**Approval of Minutes – Stacie Saunders**

Motion to approve minutes of the March 15, 2018 meeting was made and seconded; motion approved.

**Treasurer's/Financial Report – Stacie Saunders**

Motion to approve the Treasurer's/Financial Report as of was made and seconded; motion approved.

**President's Report – Dennis Joyner**

President Dennis Joyner invited Nidhi Sachdeva to address the association regarding Naloxone. Sachdeva informed the association about the potential for Naloxone kits for local health departments and those who are interested should contact her. Additionally, she informed the association about DHHS Community Grants that health departments for which local health departments may be eligible. The link to the Community Grant can be found at:

<https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/Opioid%20Action%20Plan%20Implementation%20Initiative.pdf>

President Joyner reminded the association that at last month's meeting, the membership has shown great interest in having a statement paper regarding Gun Violence. President Joyner stated that a draft is now being presented for discussion. President Joyner informed the association that the current draft was a revision of a statement paper from a few years ago on which Marianna Daly (Madison County) had worked. Discussion ensued regarding language in the statement regarding supporting funding for gun violence research and the need to clarify where research should take place.

**John Rouse (Harnett County) made a motion to adopt the Gun Violence Statement and motion was seconded by Lisa Harrison (Granville-Vance Health District).**

Further discussion ensued after the motion. Davin Madden (Wayne County) stated that he was concerned about the association having a position statement on an issue with a smaller magnitude of death impact than other public health issues. Layton Long (Chatham County) inquired if the statistics included in the statement were just accidental fire arm death. Stacie Saunders (Alamance County) clarified that according to the statistics on NC Injury and Violence Prevention Branch the statistics refer to all firearm deaths. Danny Staley (DPH) referred to an ASTHO document with similar language that the association may want to consider including in the statement. He also suggested that the association consider including language regarding mental health. Philip Tarte (Union County) inquired as to the reason for the need of a statement at this moment in time. President Joyner stated that this statement was actually created two years ago and it actually may be over due. He also stated that at a recent Joint Legislative Oversight Committee meeting, legislators did inquire if the association had such a statement. Wayne Raynor (Bladen County) then inquired if the association is taking this action because national public health associations have made a similar statement and if NCALHD would be endorsing any national statements. President Joyner stated that that could be possible. John Morrow (Pitt County) expressed that he believes the NCALHD has been behind on this issue and should have been in front two years ago. Morrow further added that the country is being told this is a Public Health issue and as such, the association should have a statement. Layton Long (Chatham County) expressed the need for revising specific language in the statement.

**Lisa Harrison then made an amendment to the motion on the floor that includes using the title and the first paragraph from ASTHO that includes some language addressing attention of this issue throughout the lifespan and the use of evidence based interventions.**

Marilyn Pearson stated that there are many changes needed. President Joyner stated that the vote could be tabled until May meeting. A motion still remained on the floor however.

**At that time, John Rouse (Harnett County) and Lisa Harrison (Granville-Vance Health Distract) rescinded their motion and second.**

President Joyner stated that a revised draft with incorporated suggestion will be sent out prior to May meeting for review. Adoption of the statement will be addressed at the May meeting.

President Joyner then provided an update regarding the communicable disease funding ask. He reminded the association about the Appalachian Health District infographic that was developed and encouraged other health department to do the same. President Joyner informed the membership that some health directors have contacted local legislators and have used the across the board \$80,000 for each county as the basis of their discussion. President Joyner provided an overview of a funding distribution exercise that looked at different distribution models for this funding if realized. President Joyner then opened the floor for discussion regarding the equal across the board distribution versus other funding models. Lisa Harrison (Granville Vance Health District) expressed that she acknowledges that an across the board distribution is not always appropriate and more dimensional approaches for distribution should be looked at depending on the issue, but that in this instance staying with the \$8M/\$80k for each county is likely best. Battle Betts (Albemarle Regional Health Services) expressed that this goes beyond the communicable disease request and that it is worthwhile to create a defensible rationale for distribution going forward but for this particular request of \$8M it may not be necessary. Sue Lynn Ledford (Wake County) agreed that \$8M is not where we end this process and that there are many rural counties need funds to stabilize. She recommended creating a formula for future funding requests that could be used. Ledford recommended staying with the across the board funding distribution for this request and look to formulas for future requests. Danny Staley (DPH) added other statewide context and the importance supporting the public health infrastructure. Scott Harrelson (Craven County) inquired as to what legislators were looking for regarding funding distribution. Stacie Saunders (Alamance County) stated that legislatures did not indicate that they wanted to dictate the ways of distribution but they did inquire as to how it would be distributed. Further discussion ensued and the association discussed metrics that may be valuable for future advocacy efforts. Karen Powell (Rutherford-Polk-McDowell Health District) provided a summary of her recent meeting with state representative and conveyed that the elected official's biggest question was "Why do you need it?" Powell reiterated that it is important to be able to tell legislators that this is about core services of which communicable disease is one service. Betts stated that the association should look at this as the first step in building a better funding foundation for local public health.

President Joyner then moved on to the Non-binding LOI status. President Joyner stated that 53 counties have signed on to the non-binding agreement for NCALHD to represent them in discussion with MCOs. President Joyner addressed the questions presented by Region 1 regarding the scope of work and deliverables regarding the MCO consultation services. President Joyner explained that timelines have shifted that are beyond the control of the association including the delay in the release of the RFP by the State, etc. President Joyner stated that the association would be getting an update as to the work that has been done thus far regarding the MCO consultation, what is pending, and potentially what could be done and the associated costs.

### **Medical Malpractice and Liability Update - Terrie Snowden**

Terrie Snowden gave accolades to the association for their continued support of the Snowden services. The association is celebrating 26 years of partnership with Snowden Group.

Snowden presented the Medical Malpractice and Liability Renewal document. The renewal rate per visit increased 5% and that rate had not been increased in many years. When preparing the renewal document, Snowden looked at a decline in number of visits over the last three years. Snowden touched on the importance of capturing the clinical services that may be taking place in consolidated agencies such as those conducted by LPCs and LCSWs.

Snowden then went over the notable claims for the past year of service. Snowden reiterated the importance of robust informed consent discussion particularly with IUD insertion and removal, including the product insert information as part of the conversation.

Snowden provided information regarding cyber liability and the importance of covering the agency. Snowden then moved to pharmacies and stated that health department pharmacies are covered under the policy. However, a county-run pharmacy is not covered under this policy. The policy only covers the operations of the health department. Steve Smith (Henderson County) asked if the pharmacy information applied to the 340B program and nurse dispensing. Snowden stated that clinical health department staff are covered in the policy. Danny Staley (DPH) added that the dispensing done by RNs under 340B are covered in the visit with a modifier codes. Smith further inquired about contracted pharmacist and their coverage under this policy. Snowden added that the contracted pharmacists' "home" company is not likely going to cover anything outside their company. In that case, contracted providers, including pharmacists, can be added to your policy.

### **Motion to adopt the renewal was made by Philip Tarte and was seconded by John Rouse. Motion passed.**

President Joyner asked that Snowden explain the 1% rebate to the association. Snowden explained that when the plan started in 1992, the NCACC had excluded medical malpractice in their self-insurance. The NCACC suggested, at that time, that there be an incentive for the NCACC participation in the medical malpractice policy. This was decided to be a 1% rebate to be sent back to the counties.

After 8-10 years, Snowden realized nothing was happening with this 1%. Snowden stated that then the 1% rebate was discontinued and no longer added to the medical malpractice and liability policy. Snowden stated that Lynette Tolson inquired about reinstating about the 1% rebate that could be then deposited into the NCALHD fund for use. Snowden stated this would be roughly \$9000. Tammy Cody (Madison County) asked if there was an immediate need for these funds. President Joyner state that there was no immediate need for those funds. After further discussion, President Joyner asked for clarification as to if the NCALHD was already paying this fee and Snowden stated that the NCALHD has not been paying the 1% for about seven years therefore, this would be a now added fee to the policy. Maggie Dollar (Lincoln County) inquired as to the rationale of such a fee and additionally stated that if the NCALHD needed additional funds, those funds could be received directly from the local health departments represented rather than going through the Snowden Group. Lynette Tolson then responded that NCALHD dues have not increased in almost 12 years and currently there is no funding in the NCALHD budget for additional projects.

**Sue Lynn Ledford made a motion to not include the 1% rebate in the policy and explore other dues action to fund NCALHD activities and was seconded by Doug Urland. Motion passed.**

#### **NCDPH Division Director Report- Danny Staley**

Danny Staley reported that 45 local health departments applied to the community health grants through Office of Rural Health.

Staley reported that the RFP has been posted on the DHHS website. <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/request-information>

Staley implored association members to convey any changes or service reductions that were made due to the MCH Block Grant reduction in funds experience last year. He asked that members relay those items to Beth Lovette. This should include counties that sought and received grant funding from Office of Rural Health.

Staley stated that he is pleased with the eWIC rollout.

Staley alerted the members to several publications of interest. This includes:

- APHA publication that features NC in regards to the wildfires and heat.
- Program evaluation division of the legislature did a survey of the school nurses which includes a recommendation of additional school nurses and funding mechanisms. School safety committee meeting on April 9 at 0900.
- NC Child Health Report regarding Oral Health.
- CDC released report on Healthcare Acquired Infections. Staff in the Epi branch have been doing a lot of work in this area and NC is featured in the publication.
- Social Determinants mapping goes live on the NC SCHS website next week. Reminded folks to visit their county's link on the NC Injury and Prevention Branch on Opioids.
- Surgeon General's report on Naloxone Distribution.

Dr. Kelly Kimple reported that the Women's Health Branch is getting their competitive application together for the Title X grant and local health department will need to respond by April 25.

#### **NC DHHS Chief Medical Officer/State Health Director Report- Dr. Betsey Tilson**

Not present

#### **NCDPH Technical Training and Assistance Branch Report- Phyllis Rocco**

No report

#### **NCDPH Environmental Health Report- Larry Michael**

Larry Michael informed the association that six new staff have been hired in Childhood Lead Poisoning program. Currently, working on training and certifications by July 1, 2018.

Michael went on to provide an update on the Periodic Review of Rules. He stated that the Comment Period closes April 20. Michael stated that thus far all comments that have been received have been in regards to the Childcare Rules. Michael anticipated that at least 14 of the rules will need to be adopted/readopted as a result of this process. The final decision as to re-adoption will occur after October 1.

The Conference for Food Protection will occur in Richmond, Virginia on April 16-19. Many state and local public health staff are attending.

Michael stated that the NC Board of Massage and Body Work Therapy are proposing new rules. Changes to the rules include the language that states they must comply to the NC inspection rules for this service and Michael stated that this is interesting as there are no such existing rules. He stated that there are provisions in the rules which states that licensees to obtain reports of inspection for fire, safety, health and sanitation and that they must comply to state inspection codes for Massage Parlors, of which there are none at this time. Michael stated that he is watching this closely and it could result in a permit process and fees much like tattoo parlors.

Michael stated that Food and Lodging Aid to County money will be dispersed May 1. He stated that this year there was a higher allocation to the counties, totaling \$2.2M coming back to the counties.

Michael reminded the association about the Rural Equestrian Games in Polk County. He reiterated that they need 50 volunteer staff to help cover the event and currently only have 8 that have volunteered. He urged local health directors to send staff to help.

Michael then moved onto the Onsite Rules. He stated that there have been a great deal of comments regarding the Onsite Rules. He stated that the rules were amended based on the comments and the revisions are considered substantive changes. Because of the substantive changes, the rules must be refiled. Additionally, a new fiscal note had to be written and the fiscal note has been approved by OSMB. Currently, DPH is seeking approval from the Commission on Public Health. If all goes well, rules will be posted in May.

The Legislative report on the proposal to move the private well program from DPH to DEQ is nearing completion. An official report will be coming soon. Michael also stated that he is seeking a proclamation for Environmental Health Specialist month.

Sue Lynn Ledford (Wake County) asked about the birth centers and the lack of regulations of those facilities. Danny Staley (DPH) informed the association that there have been a few deaths at birthing centers at one center. He stated that the practices taking place in birthing centers is covered by the Nursing Board and that there is an accreditation program in place for such centers. DPH is looking at what approach could be taken to improve the process and currently looking at the State Health Director's authority to review the records. Staley then went on to say that the question remains what one does once the information is obtained. Ledford then asked if local health department can ask for records. Jill Moore stated that the authority to review records is only at the State Health Director level not at the Local Health Director authority in this particular instance.

#### **NC Office of Rural Health- Maggie Sauer**

Not Present

#### **Executive Director's Report – Lynette Tolson**

Lynette Tolson stated that United Healthcare has decided to fund a safety net health system. Tolson stated that a notice from United Healthcare will be going out soon and because we are a part of the safety net, the NCALHD will be listed.

Tolson addressed members in the Medicaid Region 2 and stated that this group has received an email from Tim Gallagher regarding Centene's desire to work on the Social Determinants of Health. She stated that a regional collaborative has been meeting already to discuss this and Marlon Hunter from Forsyth County has been very active. Tolson encouraged members within that Medicaid Region to attend.

Tolson stated that an email went out from Joanne Brassington from the NCAPHA for health directors in the east and the west about future visits.

Tolson stated that the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee wanted a Communicable Disease metrics alike to the school nurses and the Communicable Disease work group has been working on.

Tolson reminded the association that it is National Public Health week and ask that members send any photos or information about local events to her or Kim Dittman in order to share on social media.

#### **Committee Reports:** Committees did not meet

#### **Nomination and Bylaws – Jim Bruckner**

**Action:**

**Information:**

#### **Education and Awards – Suzanne Wright**

**Action:**

**Information:** President Joyner reminded the membership that New Health Director Orientation is scheduled for May 15 at 9am at the NC Medical Society building in Raleigh. The cost of the training is \$30.

**Technology – Jim Madson**

**Action:**

**Information:**

**Policy and Finance – Steve Smith**

**Action:**

**Information:**

**Planning and Innovation – Janet Clayton**

**Action: None**

**Information:**

**Preparedness/EPI – Lillian Koontz**

**Action: None**

**Information:**

**Maternal & Child Health, Care Management and WIC – Teresa Ellen**

**Action:**

**Information:**

**Environmental Health – Heath Cain**

**Action: None**

**Information:**

**Public Health Prevention & Promotion – Helene Edwards**

**Action:**

**Information:**

**Public Health Regions-** No action or information items

**Partner Reports**

**NCAPHA Report - Not Present**

**NCPHA Report – Not present**

**NCSOPHE- Julie Gooding-Hasty**

Julie Gooding-Hasty reminded the association about the upcoming EDNCPHA conference on April 25-27.

Gooding-Hasty also reminded members that NCSOPHE is November 8-9 in Hickory.

**Liaison Reports**

**ANCBH/NALBOH – No report**

**NCIPH/SPH Update- Amy Belflower**

**❖ Training**

- Currently accepting applications for the 2018-19 **NC Public Health Leadership Institute** through April 30<sup>th</sup>. This year-long program is designed for state and local public health leaders who have some previous management experience, with preference given to those with 2+ years of management experience. Apply at: <https://sph.unc.edu/nciph/ncphli/>.

- Applications are open through April 30<sup>th</sup> for the **Emerging Leaders in Public Health** program. This national program, sponsored by the Kresge Foundation, supports teams (health director + a co-leader from the same agency). In addition to receiving leadership coaching and development, each team receives a grant of up to \$125,000 to develop and implement a transformative concept designed to deliver a new model of public health for its community. Learn more at <https://kresge.org/elph>.
  
- **Accreditation**
  - Registration for **Accreditation 101: New Agency Accreditation Coordinator Training** will open in ~June with NCPHA FEC registration information. It will be held September 18 from 9-4 at the Hilton Charlotte University Place.
  
- **NCIPH/SPH Other**
  - UNC Gillings **Going Viral: Impact and Implications of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic** has an evening event tonight which is free and open to the public:
    - **Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup> 6 pm: *The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and the Search for the Virus that Caused It***, a lecture by New York Times journalist and best-selling author, Gina Kolata at the Friday Center. The lecture will be followed by an evening reception and book-signing. Register at: <https://sph.unc.edu/nciph/1918-flu-symposium/>.

**UNC-School of Government**

No report

**Meeting Adjourned**

Motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 3:11 pm.

**Next Meeting** –May 17 2018 , @ 9:30 am, Division of Public Health, Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC