

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
Association Business Meeting
May 17, 2018
Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh NC

Minutes

Meeting Called To Order – Dennis Joyner

From outside the door, passersby could hear the Cardinal's song as health directors reunited, for the wheel of fortune is ever turning; bringing them back to this gathering space. President Joyner looked upon the crowd and called the rousing minds before him to order at 0932.

Approval of Minutes – Stacie Saunders

Motion to approve minutes of the April 5, 2018 meeting was made and seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer's/Financial Report – Stacie Saunders

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

President's Report – Dennis Joyner

President Joyner welcomed any new or interim health directors to the fold. At that time, Stephanie Cannon introduced herself as the Interim Health Director in Carteret County. President Joyner then recognized retiring health directors. Ila Davis from Duplin County announced she would retire on June 29, 2018.

President Joyner reminded the association about the proposed Resource Platform that will be the community/population approach to addressing the collection of the Determinants of Health data in Medicaid Reform. A press release about the proposed Resource Platform was shared around May 4. NCALHD has indicated to DHHS support of the endeavor and expressed desires to be a partner. President Joyner stated that the bulk of the financial support of the Resource Platform would be from larger private entities. President Joyner inquired of the membership its desire to contribute financially to the effort and opened the floor to discussion.

Bruce Robistow (Halifax County) made a motion that the association consider an in-kind contribution. Carolyn Moser (Pender County) seconded the motion. Further discussion ensued.

President Joyner reiterated that in addition to any contribution NCALHD makes, local health departments will be a major player in the effort at the ground level of implementation. Moser inquired that once the Resource Platform was initiated who or what entity will manage the Platform. Betsy Tilson (DHHS/DPH) provided background and intent of the platform. Tilson stated that the goal is to secure funding for 3-5 years for the Resource Platform by private funders. The sustainability plan would then include a licensing a fee through the PHPs. Tilson stated that at the professional society level (i.e. groups similar to NCALHD), the support of the effort is conceptual and commitment to participation has been declared. Tilson stated that the Resource Platform would be a program of the Foundation of Health leadership and Innovation.

President Joyner called the vote. Motion passed.

President Joyner provided an update on the Medicaid Consulting contract. President Joyner discussed that no additional funding is available for said contract. At this time, the NCALHD association suspended the contract until further notice. Additionally, the MCO Ad Hoc committee evaluated the deliverables in the contract versus the work completed. The committee also looked at what future needs NCALHD may have. At this time, President Joyner stated that the association would seek further consultation at the time NCALHD needs it but no further consultation at this time.

In a related matter, President Joyner informed the membership that currently 59 counties have signed the non-binding LOIs Delegation form. President Joyner recognized that for other counties that are not among the 59, it is not because of a lack of desire to participate; but rather issues with local legal systems not allowing them to participate in the delegation procedure. President Joyner recently met with AmeriHealth Caritas, a potential MCO, about their interest in a non-binding LOI. President Joyner reiterated that discussion and communications on behalf of the association with MCOs is occurring via the association officers and executive director. President Joyner expressed that the MCO committee felt at this point in the process it is favorable to continue communications and relationship with any interested MCOs and not necessarily eliminate or decline any LOIs unless the mission and vision of the MCO is discordant to the mission and vision of NCALHD.

President Joyner thanked Suzanne Wright (Davie County) for her coordination of the New Health Director Orientation that occurred on May 15. The orientation was well attended.

President Joyner stated that in the coming month, NCALHD would be seeking a replacement for Ann Absher (Wilkes County) on the Environmental Health Specialist Registration Committee. The Governor's Officer makes this appointment and seeks recommendations from NCALHD.

President Joyner recognized various members serving on the DHHS Medicaid Transformation work groups.

President Joyner recognized Durham, Orange, Watauga, Catawba, and Gaston Counties for the Tobacco Free Communities Challenge Award. President Joyner gave thanks to the DPH for recognizing these communities.

NCDPH Division Director Report- Danny Staley

Danny Staley stated that Occupational & Environmental Epidemiology Branch has launched a Well Water testing tool on the website. <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/oeo/index.html>

Staley also reminded membership of the NC Opioid statewide plan that is available on the website. Staley shared that the number of opioids prescribed per person in the state is shocking.

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/north-carolinas-opioid-action-plan>

Staley informed the association that the 2017 Outbreak Report would be released at the upcoming Communicable Disease Conference. He stated the report indicates there were over 300 outbreaks for the previous year; this is almost one outbreak a day. Staley stated that long-term care facilities are prime areas for outbreaks. GI-related illnesses accounted for approximately 53% of the outbreaks reported.

Staley then shared that due to the contributions made on Income Returns, 540 additional women will receive BCCCP screening.

Staley reported that NC DPH has approximately 24-26 person-hours left in order to complete the Public Health Accreditation Board process.

NC DHHS Chief Medical Officer/State Health Director Report- Betsey Tilson

Betsey Tilson mentioned the recently released Social Determinants of Health mapping tools available from NC State Center of Health Statistics and encouraged members if they have not already to please explore the tool.

Tilson stated that a large part of the work falls to DHHS to think through the structure and design elements of the proposed Regional pilots, as well as obtaining CMS approvals. Tilson stated that in the fall, the expectation is communities would apply in an RFP process to be pilot sites. Tilson discussed a recent meeting with LHD Region 5 exploring how communities might function as pilot sites. Tilson reiterated that regional pilots will occur in Medicaid regions.

Tilson reported that the General Assembly short session convened yesterday. She expressed the DHHS priority items in this session including continue to advocate for opioid funding, early childhood focus and family resilience, and closing the coverage gap. Another big goal in this short session is to have General Assembly support the integration of behavioral health into physical health, as the Secretary does not want to go into managed care without the integration of care.

Lynette Tolson (Executive Director) asked what the timeframe was for getting the RFP out to the PHPs. Tilson stated that late Spring/early Summer is the expectation. Tilson stated that DHHS continues to work with CMS to get waiver approval.

Sue Lynn Ledford (Wake County) asked how far along the conversations were with the regions about the regional pilots. Tilson stated current conversations with CMS regarding the pilot have centered on how the funds will flow in the pilots. Tilson stated that there is a co-investment model for funding these projects. To date, there has been no decisions made about where the pilots will be implemented.

NCDPH Technical Training and Assistance Branch Report- Susan Little

Susan Little stated that due to the legal review process within Medicaid, the CAP 53 recoupment of payments will not occur until July 2019. She further stated that local health departments had denials that were incorrectly denied and the repayment is delayed.

Little also stated that for those that have completed the requirements for the Principals and Practices for Public Health Nursing or Public Health Management course, the reimbursement for those two courses needs to be submitted to Beth Murray by May 30.

Little also reminded membership that the Aid to County Essential Services Report needs to be completed and submitted to Beth Murray by June 29, 2018. This report is a requirement of Agreement Addenda (AA) 110.

Little also encouraged the association to meet early in the Hurricane season to assess nurse readiness in the event of a natural disaster.

Beth Lovette (NC DPH) stated there was a need to get Medicaid Transformation information to Director of Nursing (DON) and Nursing Supervisors. Lovette stated that she and Phyllis Rocco would be working to provide training through the Nursing Regular meetings.

NCDPH Environmental Health Report- Larry Michael

Larry Michael provided an update on two national outbreaks/recalls. He stated that the Romaine Lettuce recall involved produce coming from the Yuma Arizona area. He stated there were 149 cases affecting 29 states; North Carolina was not one of them. Additionally, there were 64 hospitalizations and 1 death. Michael further added this was an E Coli O157 H7 outbreak. Michael continued to say that the second outbreak/recall was closer to home and involved the Rose Acre Egg Farm located in Hyde County. He stated the pathogen identified was Salmonella. He added 279 million eggs were recalled. To date, 35 cases were identified in nine (9) states. North Carolina experienced five (5) cases during this outbreak. Michael commented on the cross-agency work that involved NC DPH, NCDA and 26 local health departments and required visiting various long-term care facilities that may have possessed the egg product. He added that North Carolina is a model for other states in how to handle large outbreaks as such.

Michael stated that the Private Well Study has been completed and submitted to the General Assembly. This bill directed DEQ and DHHS to study and report on whether transferring functions of the Private Well Inspection and Permitting Program from DPH to DEQ would 1) enhance program effectiveness, 2) enhance operational and financial efficiency, and 3) enhance customer service. Michael reported the both agencies and all stakeholders agreed that the current structure should be maintained.

Lastly, Michael reminded folks that in October 2016 Hurricane Matthew hit North Carolina. For those counties that were affected and for those that volunteered to help other counties, DPH understands that compliance in completing inspections may fall due to the relief work. He went on to state in the most recent aid-to-county disbursement the hurricane adjustment was not accounted. To remedy this oversight, Michael stated that the adjustment would be added to the next aid-to-county cycle. Michael explained the criteria for which counties would be eligible. Michael stated that email communication went out to affected counties this week. He implored that if a county believes themselves to be an affected county and did not receive an email to contact him for review.

NC Office of Rural Health- Maggie Sauer

Not Present

Executive Director's Report – Lynette Tolson

Lynette Tolson stated that Dana Hathcote mailed invoices out this week for NCALHD and Accreditation dues. She reported that the Alliance finalized cost settlement services invoices last week.

Tolson reported that 24 health departments received Community Health Grants.

Tolson stated that as of July 1, 2018, the number of local health departments will change to 84. Hertford County is moving into the Albemarle Health District making it an eight (8) county region.

Tolson also mentioned that NACCHO board election are occurring now. She reminded members that Lisa Harrison (Granville-Vance Health District) is on the ballot.

Additionally, Tolson reminded members that a call-in option is available for Wednesday Committee meetings. However, call-in is not available for the Thursday Full Association meeting.

Lastly, Tolson informed the members that the first electronic legislative update would be sent out this week on May 18. This document will be updated and sent out every Friday.

Committee Reports:

Nomination and Bylaws – Jim Bruckner

Action: No update

Information: No update

Education and Awards – Suzanne Wright

Action: None

Information:

Technology – Jim Madson

Action:

Information:

Jim Madson reported that Bob Martin provided an NCIR interface update. The interface has gone through alpha testing and has been successful. Beta testing will begin with counties and their various EMR vendors. There is no set date for start but it is anticipated in this year. In preparation, health department should register with intent to connect to NCIR. An email with a link will be sent out for registration. Health Departments will need to identify all users within the agency.

Policy and Finance – Lisa Harrison

Action: Chris Dobbins made the motion to approve the firearm statement as amended. Jane Hinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Information:

Dennis Joyner provided an update on the MCO Consultation with Tim Gallagher in the President’s Update (please see above notes and see attached document).

Lisa Harrison presented the proposed changes to the firearm statement that came out of committee. Committee suggested removing the language regarding determining gun ownership. Full association then took action on the statement (please see above notes and see attached final document).

Steven Garner presented an update on the pregnancy medical home (PMH) payments. DMA is now able to include those payments and it will offset the settlement that health departments would normally receive. Payments have reflected an offset cost for PMH. For those who submitted your cost settlement earlier, an adjustment will be seen. The adjustment is only related to the 0280 and 0281 codes regarding the incentive payment for PMH. President Joyner stated that he is requesting further clarification on this adjustment from DMA.

Harrison stated that the final item discussed in committee was the resource platform for social determinants of health (SDOH). This item was discussed in the President’s update, as well (please see above notes).

Tolson encouraged members to reach out to representatives regarding the Communicable Disease funding (proposed \$8M in state funding to local health departments).

Planning and Innovation – Janet Clayton

Action: None

Information:

Jessica Whelan provided information to the committee regarding the make-up of the Community Care Physician Network (please see attached documents).

- CCPN is a non-exclusive network of independent practices working to improve the health of all patients.
- CCPN provides programs and tools to enhance the quality and efficiency of services and to help control cost, while improving patient outcomes.
- Currently, there are 27 local health departments in the network and over 2,000 clinicians.
- CCPN is trying to recruit Behavioral Health Specialists and Ob/Gyns.
- CCPN is actively working on a system for quality reporting data for providers to utilize.
- There is a one-time \$75/provider enrollment fee.
- CCPN coordinates the “Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative” is a 4-year grant through CCNC (2015-2019).

Preparedness/EPI – Lillian Koontz

Action: None

Information:

Zack Moore shared that a new Communicable Disease (CD) interactive dashboard is available. Also shared the new tool for private well testing on website. This gives individuals the opportunity to input well testing results to determine what steps should (if any) be taken next to ensure their water is safe for consumption. Continuing to work with other states and closely monitor Hepatitis A in North Carolina. Advising local health department staff to be proactive in immunizing high-risk populations for Hep-A including but not limited to: homeless, IV drug users, those in jail, and substance abuse centers.

Evelyn Foust thanked the Association for allocating time for a TB update, sharing it had been quite some time since the CD Branch provided an update. Before introducing staff members Jenny White and Lynn Kearney, Foust stated we should all be extremely thankful for the hard work and attention put into the TB program by local health department staff. Jenny Wheeler and Lynn Kearney shared that while TB case numbers are not increasing (2017-213 cases in North Carolina) that the TB Control Measures and treatment are extremely time consuming. While there were only 213 cases there were approximately 2,000 contacts related to the 213 cases. Direct observation therapy is extremely taxing on local health department staff---reminder that when using electronic methods for direct observation you must have an internal policy. Additionally, if a patient misses two or more sessions electronically the state recommends returning to in person direct observation. Children under the age of five are at an extremely high risk for complications related to TB and exposure prophylaxis is suggested. White and Kearney also reminded that latent TB is not reportable in NC. January 1, 2020 the CDC will have a new case report form for TB, training for staff will be held prior to this time. White prepared handouts that were shared with the Association.

On behalf of Region X, Scott Harrelson shared an "Option B" for the NCALHD CD funding request. Harrelson shared that some legislators have already made comments regarding the flat \$80,000/county funding. Option B is an excel spreadsheet including a base funding level per county and then allocating the remaining funds on a percentage basis. This spreadsheet was shared with the Association. Region X, nor Harrelson are suggesting to change the request to legislation, rather proactively identified a potential solution to the concerns they are hearing (please see attached document).

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

Action: None

Information:

Beth Lovette gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding OBCM, CC4C and Advanced Medical Home care management and the Medicaid Transition (please see attached document). In summary, she began by stating that DHHS will require Prepaid Health Plans (PHP's) to contract with local health departments for the provision of OBCM and CC4C care management. Health Departments will then have the right of first refusal to provide the service for 2 years. There is not likely to be a common documentation platform. The PHP's will be responsible for the oversight of care management as they are assuming the risk. We will continue to have the same referral process in that two years and training and technical assistance will remain in place for local health departments.

Lovette went on to talk about the Advanced Medical Home (AMH) model. If you are providing primary care, then you should be researching the required components of the AMH model. This will include care management for patients who are high need and high utilization. Many of these will be patients with chronic disease. There will be three tiers of care management. Tier One will include those practices that are currently Carolina Access I. Tier Two will be those who are currently Carolina Access II and Tier Three will be the components of Access II plus advanced care management capabilities. The per member per month for tiers one and two will be like our current Carolina Access payments for the first two years. Tier Three will include negotiated rates for advanced care management services. There will eventually be a Tier Four that will capture advanced alternative payment arrangements based on your outcomes.

The Care Management workgroup that consists of local health directors and local health department staff will continue to work through these details and this work will be ongoing. A request was made that DPH consider a regional face-to-face training or a webinar to provide further education regarding care management to health department staff.

Environmental Health – Heath Cain

Action: None

Information:

Heath Cain reported that Melissa Ham provided presentation on the cold holding and the update food code.

Cain urged members to pay close attention to SB 469 as the language strips Environment Health of many of the duties they currently have and transfer those duties to licensed soil scientist and geologists. Also of interest are SB 434, HB 250, HB 374, HB 794, which include Environmental Health issues. Tolson stated the bills mentioned are included in the Legislative Update that will be going out to members at the end of the week.

Public Health Prevention & Promotion – Helene Edwards

Action: NONE

Information:

Lillie Armstrong provided a Safe Syringe Update (please see attached document). Information included:

- Data is available on the NC Injury and Violence Prevention Branch website.
- At the present time, there are 29 active syringe exchange programs covering 34 counties.
- Eleven counties are seeking information on implementing SEPs in their regions.
- Ms. Armstrong reiterated the value of the local health departments having interaction with SEPs.
- Ms. Armstrong explained the involvement with the criminal justice department about the safe syringe program and legal issues that need to be addressed with any SEP.
- Eight teams have participated in the Opioid Academy at UNC-Chapel Hill.
- In April 2018, some local health departments requested Narcan for their counties. The State had limited amounts of Narcan; therefore, the State sent a portion of the Narcan requested to the local health departments.
- The following attachments were provided during the committee meeting:
 - ✓ NC Responds to the Overdose Crisis Resources and Materials for Local Health Departments (Handout attached)
 - ✓ NC Syringe Exchange Programs and Legal Protections (Handout attached)

Sharon Boss-Nelson and Tish Singletary presented on Community Health Worker Efforts. Information included:

- The introduction presentation of the Community Health Workers Program was provided to the NCALHD in 2015.
- The summary of the Community Health Workers (CHW) Program is outlined in the brochure [Community Health Workers in North Carolina: Creating an Infrastructure for Sustainability](#). The CHWs are beneficial to medical care teams by assisting with education and resources for the patients.
- NC wants to standardize the CHW training programs within the State.
- DPH and Office of Rural Health want to develop a curriculum for addressing specific disease management such as Diabetes, Asthma, etc. to assist patients in rural communities with limited resources.
- Office of Rural Health would like to promote employment opportunities for CHWs in local health departments and FQHCs.
- CHW education curriculum will be provided at community colleges and AHECs.
- For more information contact: Ms. Sharon Boss-Nelson sharon.boss.nelson@dhhs.nc.gov

Sally Herndon provide a Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch Update (please see attached document). Information included:

- The Challenge Awards Certificates were available for distribution. Ms. Herndon explained the buttons for the webpages to recognize the Challenge Award winners. (*Mr. Dennis Joyner presented the Challenge Awards Certificates to the Health Directors who received the awards during the NCALHD President's report on May 17, 2018.*)
- NC Youth Tobacco Prevention Snapshot Report was discussed during the committee meeting and a copy is attached.
- Ms. Herndon is working on funding efforts to support the Healthy Homes for Asthma Initiative. The funds requested are approximately \$1.7 million. For more information contact: Ms. Sally Herndon sally.herndon@dhhs.nc.gov

Public Health Regions- No action or information items

Carolyn Moser reported that the Primary Care Committee met last month. Currently, the committee is defining what primary care is as it looks different in various health department. Moser also mentioned that the committee is working closely with Beth Lovette. The meeting is open to all members.

Partner Reports

NCAPHA Report –

President Joyner reported that the Alliance Board is meeting after the association meeting.

NCPHA Report –

David Jenkins (Stanley County) reported that membership renewal is occurring electronically. He also mentioned that awards nominations information has gone out. Tolson added that a new award has been established for local health departments and is name after Dr. Sarah Morrow. Fall conference registration opens June 1.

NACCHO –

Chris Dobbins (Gaston County) reported that the NACCHO Annual Conference will be occurring in July in New Orleans. Dobbins encouraged members to vote for Lisa Harrison, as it would be a great asset to have two North Carolina representatives on the national board. Dobbins added that a new executive director for NACCHO has been named.

NCSOPHE- Julie Gooding Hasty

Julie Gooding Hasty stated that NCSOPHE is now taking application for the Health Education Awards. All awards are due June 30.

Liaison Reports

ANCBH/NALBOH – Barbara Ann Hughes

Barbara Ann Hughes reminded members of the Annual NALBOH Conference occurring in Raleigh in August. Seventeen (17) scholarships are being offered for registration. Hughes provided information on scheduled NALBOH Annual Conference speakers and presenters.

Hughes encouraged members to recommend a NC Board of Health member to serve on NALBOH. Recommendations for membership should be sent to Hughes. Tolson volunteered to email out the nomination form to members.

NCIPH/SPH Update- Rachel Wilfert

Rachel Wilfert gave thanks to those who participated in the Going Viral: 1918 Flu Symposium hosted by UNC and NCIPH.

Wilfert mentioned that registration for Accreditation 101 for any new agency coordinators will be a part of NCPHA Fall Conference. Registration for the training will open up on June 1. Also, on August 6-7, an Annual Accreditation Skills Building Workshop will be offered. This training will be at the Sheraton Imperial in Durham. Registration for this event will open on July 2.

Fall courses registration will open in July.

UNC-School of Government – Jill Moore

Jill Moore expressed appreciation to members for allowing HIPAA officers to attend the HIPAA Alliance.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 1105.

Next Meeting –June 21 2018, @ 9:30 am, Division of Public Health, Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC

PLEASE NOTE: JUNE COMMITTEES (ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20) WILL MEET AT THE NC STATE LAB LOCATED AT 4312 District Drive, Raleigh. FULL ASSOCIATION MEETING (THURSDAY, JUNE 21) WILL MEET AT DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, CARDINAL ROOM.