



**CONSOLIDATED HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021 – 6:00 PM

Call to Order / Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance

The Stanly County Consolidated Health and Human Services Board met on Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM in the Health and Human Services Auditorium.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Scott Efird	Commissioner	Present	
Nancy Smoak	Board Member	Present	
Joan Eudy	Board Member	Present	
Ric Cain	Vice Chairman	Present	
Beth Thomas	Board Member	Present	
Tom Norwood	Board Member	Present	
James Marshall	Board Member	Present	
Shirley D Lowder	Board Member	Present	
Amy Jordan	Board Member	Present	
Georgette Edgerton	Board Member	Present	
Larry Gibson	Board Member	Present	
Tommy Jordan	Vice Chairman	Present	
Jann Lowder	Chairman	Present	
Elizabeth Teal	Board Member	Present	
Laura Harbeson	Board Member	Present	
Kristi Small	Board Member	Present	
Wendell Drye	Board Member	Present	
Diane Robinson	Board Member	Present	
Dr. Eric Johnsen	Board Member	Absent	

Chair Jann Lowder called the meeting to order with Dr. Amy Jordan leading the invocation and pledge of allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Tom Norwood motioned to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Ric Cain. The Motion carried by unanimous vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tom Norwood, Board Member
SECONDER:	Ric Cain, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Efird, Smoak, Eudy, Cain, Thomas, Norwood, Marshall, Lowder, Jordan, Edgerton, Gibson, Jordan, Lowder, Teal, Harbeson, Small

Scheduled Agenda Items

1. Swearing In of New Members

Wendell Drye and Diane Robinson participated in a swearing in ceremony and received their oaths of office by Teri Bowers, Notary Public and Clerk to the Board.

2. COVID-19 Update

Mr. Jenkins provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic including the number of confirmed cases for the county, number of daily new cases, current hospitalizations, total deaths and total of first and second vaccinations administered by the health department thus far. He shared that we are currently vaccinating group 4 with April 7th being the date that anyone sixteen (16) and over can come and get the vaccine. He reviewed the allotment the health department is receiving stating that we are now receiving Pfizer vaccine, however those who received Moderna for their first shot, will get Moderna for their second shot as well. The presentation also included information from the NCDHHS COVID-19 Dashboard, vaccine performance and risk of vaccination versus COVID-19 infection. Following the presentation, Mr. Jenkins responded to questions and comments from the Board.

D.S.S. Updates

A. DSS Report of Services - February 2021

Mrs. Dolly Clayton reviewed the Report of Services through February, 2021 included in the Board member's packet. She reviewed program highlights and states revenues are at 53% with expenditures at 63% through February 2021. As she mentioned last month, they have over one thousand more households receiving food and nutrition services (FNS) and two thousand more Medicaid recipients, compared to last year, which emphasizes the impact the pandemic has had in the county. Some highlights of staff accomplishments include filling the Program Integrity position in FNS through an internal promotion, and FNS processing times met federal guidelines. Some challenges include filling two vacant Child Protective Services (CPS) positions, however they have hired a temporary staff person to help as they continue to try and fill those positions, all while preparing for a Recipient Eligibility Determination Audit (REDA) which starts in April.

In preparing the budget, Mrs. Clayton shares challenges faced by the continuing economic impact due to the pandemic has led to a significant increase in FNS, Medicaid and increased workloads in CPS, with all CPS workers over their case load standard of 10. There is also a lot of unknowns with Medicaid transformation and the Families First Prevention Services Act which can have unknown economic impacts to the budget, including changes in non-emergency medical transportation, and limitations in federal IV-E funding for children in group settings. The federal IV-E funding pays 50% of cost for a child placed in a group home setting. Mrs. Clayton states they currently have 5 children in group homes placements, which would be affected by implementation of Families First Prevention Services Act. One child alone has a cost of \$4,000.00 per month. Currently, IV-E funding provides for half the cost, so county costs for this child are currently \$2,000 per month. However, with the implementation of Families First Prevention Services Act, IV-E funding will terminate after the 14 day in placement, making the county responsible for the entire amount if this funding is cut.

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Mrs. Clayton also wanted to make Board members aware that there were two new bills filed in legislation yesterday which involve transition of Child and Adult Welfare case management to NCFAST, noting that NCFAST has been a challenging program to work in. The other is H.B. 470 which is for Medicaid Expansion, proposed to cover those not covered in the gap. She also provided some handouts and emailed Board members the 2021 NC Data Card for Stanly County. The NC Data Card provides a snapshot of how the county is doing related to child well-being, in turn, highlights key indicators that help policy makers understand where to target relief to be most effective, as she pointed to the areas Stanly County is lagging or excelling compared to state averages. In closing, she announced that April is Child Abuse Awareness Month stating that statistics show that just one caring adult makes an impact on a child. She handed out blue pinwheels to Board members, a symbol for Child Abuse Prevention Month, and encouraged DSS staff to wear blue today in recognition.

Health Department Updates

A. Expense/Revenue thru Feb. 2021 *Action Required*

Mr. Jenkins reviewed the Health Department's Budget Performance Report through February 2021, included in the Board member's packet, stating that revenue is still being affected due to COVID-19 which varies with each program. We have gained some revenue by billing Medicaid and private insurances for vaccine administration. He states expenses are holding steady and Environmental Health is doing well with building still going strong. With no questions, Shirley Lowder made a motion to accept the Budget Performance Report as presented, seconded by Dr. Tom Norwood. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Shirley D Lowder, Board Member
SECONDER:	Tom Norwood, Board Member
AYES:	Efird, Smoak, Eudy, Cain, Thomas, Norwood, Marshall, Lowder, Jordan, Edgerton, Gibson, Jordan, Lowder, Teal, Harbeson, Small

B. Activities Summary Report - Feb. 2021

Mr. Jenkins reviewed the Activities Summary Report pointing out that the majority of activities in the clinic area are COVID-19 vaccinations. He had no other specifics to share.

Public Comments

No public comments were made.

Adjournment

Shirley Lowder wanted to give praise to Director Dave Jenkins for the tremendous job he has done, navigating the department through the pandemic. She shared that he has kept everyone including, Albemarle City Council up to date with everything that is going on and has worked diligently with all agencies to provide information. Chair Jann Lowder agreed, mentioning the difficult sale of Home Health, transfer of Animal Control, and handling the COVID-19 pandemic among some of the hurdles he's faced and shared her thanks as well. Mr. Jenkins commented that none of this could have been accomplished without the dedicated, excellent staff that has stepped up during these times, and he thanked the Consolidated Health and Human Services Board and County Commissioners for their support and understanding.

A motion was made by Dr. Amy Jordan to adjourn with a second by Larry Gibson, passed by unanimous vote.