



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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2019 – 6:00 PM

Call to Order / Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance

The Stanly County Consolidated Health and Human Services Board met on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the Commissioners Meeting Room.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Nancy Smoak	Board Member	Present	
Joan Eudy	Board Member	Present	
Ric Cain	Board Member	Present	
Beth Thomas	Board Member	Present	
Tom Norwood	Board Member	Present	
James Marshall	Board Member	Absent	
Shirley D Lowder	Board Member	Present	
Amy Jordan	Board Member	Present	
Georgette Edgerton	Board Member	Present	
Larry Gibson	Board Member	Present	
Mike Barbee	Commissioner	Present	
Tommy Jordan	Commissioner	Present	
Jann Lowder	Board Member	Present	
Elizabeth Teal	Board Member	Absent	
Michael A Williams	Board Member	Present	
TJ Smith	Board Member	Present	
Laura Harbeson	Board Member	Present	
Kristi Small		Present	

Director Jenkins called the meeting to order with Ric Cain leading the invocation and pledge of allegiance.

Swearing In of Members / Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Jann Lowder, Dr. Joan Eudy, Larry Gibson, Beth Thomas and Kristi Small participated in a swearing in ceremony where each took their oaths of office. This is Mrs. Small' s first term of office and the others were reappointments.

The floor was opened for nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board.

Motion: A motion was made by Shirley Lowder to nominate Jann Lowder as Chair of the Consolidated Human Services Board, with a second by Larry Gibson. There were no other nominations. Motion carried by unanimous vote in favor of appointing Jann Lowder as Chair.

As newly elected Chair, Mrs. Lowder presided over the remainder of the meeting. She opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

Motion: A motion was made by Michael Williams to nominate Ric Cain as Vice Chair of the Consolidated Health and Human Services Board with a second by TJ Smith. There were no other nominations. Motion carried by unanimous vote in favor of appointing Ric Cain as Vice Chair.

Adoption of Agenda

With no amendments to the agenda, Dr. Tom Norwood moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second by Shirley Lowder. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Introduction of New Staff

Mrs. Dolly Clayton introduced Courtney Shepherd who began work September 23rd in Family and Children's Medicaid. She then introduced Katie Dick, who started as a Social Worker in Child Protective Services on October 28th and BJ Callicutt who began work in Child Protective Services on November 6th.

Scheduled Agenda Items

1. Energy & Crisis Assistance Programs Presentation 11-07-19

Mrs. Dolly Clayton shared a Powerpoint Presentation on Energy and Crisis Assistance Programs offered at Stanly County D.S.S. She explained each program and reviewed guidelines and income limits. These programs include Emergency Assistance, General Assistance, Crisis Intervention Program Low Income Emergency Assistance Program (LIEAP) and Division of Aging and Adult Services. Mrs. Clayton allowed time for questions and comments and was thanked for her presentation.

2. 1458 : Community Linkages to Care Grant (Action Required)

Jennifer Layton used a powerpoint presentation to present the Community Linkages to Care grant that the Health Department recently applied for in the amount of \$275,000.00, which is only available to Health Departments in North Carolina. She discussed the rising rates of infectious diseases, such as Hepatitis C, and the solution of access to education and materials. This grant will provide education and materials to those in need through a supporting community partner. The grant runs from December 2019 to August 2022. Time was allowed for questions and comments from board members and then a motion was made by Dr. Joan Eudy to accept and approve funds upon award with notification being November 8th, with a second by TJ Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joan Eudy, Board Member
SECONDER:	TJ Smith, Board Member
AYES:	Smoak, Eudy, Cain, Thomas, Norwood, Lowder, Jordan, Edgerton, Gibson, Barbee, Jordan, Lowder, Williams, Smith, Harbeson, Small
ABSENT:	Marshall, Teal

3. Repeal of the Stanly County Board of Health Regulations Governing Compulsory Tuberculin Skin Test Rule

As discussed in the October 3rd meeting, Mr. Jenkins discussed the repeal of the outdated regulation regarding the Compulsory Tuberculin Skin Test rule which is currently no longer recommended by the North Carolina Tuberculosis Branch protocols. After the required 10 day public notice was given, a public hearing was opened by Chair Jann Lowder for anyone to address the board regarding the rule. With no one addressing the board to speak for or against, Chair Lowder turned the meeting back over to Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins stated per NC G.S. 130A-39, he would like to seek a motion to repeal the Compulsory Tuberculin Skin Test rule. Motion was made by Tommy Jordan with a second by Larry Gibson to repeal the Compulsory Tuberculin Skin Test rule. Motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tommy Jordan, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Larry Gibson, Board Member
AYES:	Smoak, Eudy, Cain, Thomas, Norwood, Lowder, Jordan, Edgerton, Gibson, Barbee, Jordan, Lowder, Williams, Smith, Harbeson, Small
ABSENT:	Marshall, Teal

4. Home Health Discussion

Mr. Jenkins stated that in regards to Home Health, the top priority has always been patient care and the employees. He recently has had very involved conversations with Debbie Bailey, Home Health Supervisor and Patricia Hancock, Nursing Director who believe with the availability of Home Health and therapy services through the private sector combined with turnover in staffing, difficulty in recruitment and overall competition for patients, they mutually agree they are no longer able to provide the level of patient care that they strive for. He noted that nationally, turnover rates are around 21% due to rising salaries for LPNs, RNs and PTs. At this point they have halted new admissions and with the most recent staff resignation this past week, this leaves them with two full time nurses, one full time physical therapist, one part-time nurse, one full-time processing assistant and one community health assistant. Mr. Jenkins explained they are evaluating options on retaining the longer tenured staff.

In previous Home Health discussions, there have been concerns expressed regarding the availability of pediatric therapy services in the county. Mr. Jenkins shared that he has spoke with Cyndi Secura with Moore Pediatric Therapy Services to verify that they have a location in Albemarle and are actively seeing pediatric patients in Stanly County.

Based on this information, Mr. Jenkins asked the Board to support recommendation to the Board of Commissioners a resolution of intent to sell the Home Health Agency which is contingent upon the county receiving acceptable proposals. If the Board of Commissioners pass the resolution to sell, this could possibly be a four to six month process and patients will continue to be seen until discharged.

Beth Thomas asked if Home Health has enough staff to take care of the current case load and Mr. Jenkins explained they are actually in the process now of trying to contract an additional nurse. Laura Harbeson asked if there were any possibility of a merger between an existing local private provider and Stanly County Home Health. Mr. Jenkins shared that those discussions would come after the commissioner's vote on the resolution. Commissioner Jordan stated that as discussed in previous meetings, Home Health is competing with private practices in every aspect of service we provide, even pediatric therapy services, which was once a concern. Michael Williams asked what the contingency plan is should staff leave for other jobs once they hear the agency is up for sale, leaving no one to provide care for current patients. Mr. Jenkins answered that the department would have to "scramble" to hire contracted nurses to provide care which would come at an extreme cost and any contract would have to go before the county manager and commissioners for approval because it would require money from Home Health fund balance. He states the current fund balance is \$148,569.00 due to utilizing \$95,600.00 to cover contracts for speech services which have been in high demand recently, with hopes that revenues will be coming back in to cover cost. Chair Jann Lowder states that there are assets, and to support this discussion and allowing the commissioners to proceed, they do have negotiating power, and the Consolidated Health and Human Services Board does not. She continued, she hopes the commissioners would be involved in the negotiating process and not just hand this to the County Manager, but continue to stay involved. Beth Thomas asked at what point would the current patients be given an opportunity to choose alternative care. Patricia Hancock, Nursing Director, states that they currently have a case load of 134 clients, 44 being nursing clients. They are currently trying to take nursing patients who only need supplies, and link them with companies who can provide those supplies without having nurse visits, in hopes that they can get the case load down to a manageable level for the two nurses that are left. She shared those two remaining nurses are having to take on-call duties alternating every other week. She stated that once a decision is made to sell, they would start a conversation with patients about the process and help them transfer to another agency if they choose. Nancy Smoak asked what will happen to the nursing staff if the agency is closed. Mrs. Hancock explained that we currently have two full time and one part time nurse. She shared that we do have an upcoming vacancy in the clinical unit of the Health Department and if they were interested in that, they would certainly be considered for that position, and every effort would be made to secure employment for remaining staff either with the purchasing agency or another county position, but clarified nothing is guaranteed. Beth Thomas shared that in her line of work, being in and out of homes, she has always heard good things about the agency and the great work they do. Chair Lowder also took a moment to address Home Health staff who were present stating she appreciates everything they have done, the extra work they have put in to answer all their questions and search for efficiency to try to make it work.

After questions and discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Commissioner Tommy Jordan with a second by Michael Williams to recommend the approval of the Resolution of Intent to Sell the Home Health Agency. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tommy Jordan, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Michael A Williams, Board Member
AYES:	Smoak, Eudy, Cain, Thomas, Norwood, Lowder, Jordan, Edgerton, Gibson, Barbee, Jordan, Lowder, Williams, Smith, Harbeson, Small
ABSENT:	Marshall, Teal

D.S.S. Updates

A. DSS Report of Services - September 2019

Mrs. Dolly Clayton gave the DSS update stating that revenue is at 10% with expenditures at 21% through September, 2019 and reviewed the Report of Services included in their packet. She took a moment to recognize excellent work by staff: Food and Nutrition services were able to move a huge load of boxes for scanning; Unexpected Medicaid audit, currently processing the review of findings; September they held an eligibility worker appreciation event. They continue to fill vacancies in Foster Services, Food and Nutrition and Family and Children's Medicaid. They had a performance development plan review in Child Welfare and they continue to review the findings to look for ways for continued improvement. They also had an in-home aide monitoring in October. She reminded Board members that Medicaid transformation will take place in February 2020.

Mrs. Clayton shared that in October, they had seven families to complete Model Approach to Partnership and Parenting (MAPP) and after completion of final paperwork, they will have these new foster families to offer service for the children they serve.

She shared that due to new federal requirements in child support, all child support workers were fingerprinted at the Sheriff's Department.

She closed by stating that she is proud of the staff for their hard work with challenging cases and managing the large case loads they have with limited staff.

Health Department Updates

A. 1462 : Expenitures / Revenue - September 2019 (Action Required)

Mr. Jenkins reviewed the expenditures and revenues which are included on the Budget Summary Report, through September 2019, stating revenue is 25%. He pointed out expenses are a little higher at 33% which he attributes to increased speech therapy services in home health, which was discussed previously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan with a second by TJ Smith to accept as presented the Budget Summary Report. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Activities Summary - Sept. 2019 / FY2018-19

Mr. Jenkins asked Board members if their were any questions in reviewing the Activities Summary Report which is included in their packet. No questions or comments were made.

Consolidated Human Services Updates

Mr. Jenkins shared that we are working hard to get contracts in place for Medicaid Transformation, and states we are working with Community Care Physician's Network (CCPN) to assist us with Tier 3 to meet those requirements and we hope to have that contract in place soon.

Finally, Mr. Jenkins welcomed first term Board member Kristi Small and thanked her for volunteering to serve.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Dr. Tom Norwood with a second by Larry Gibson to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tom Norwood, Board Member
SECONDER:	Larry Gibson, Board Member
AYES:	Smoak, Eudy, Cain, Thomas, Norwood, Lowder, Jordan, Edgerton, Gibson, Barbee, Jordan, Lowder, Williams, Smith, Harbeson, Small
ABSENT:	Marshall, Teal

A. 1467 : HHS Meeting Minutes - 10/03/19

Public Comments

No public members present who asked to speak before the Board.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Shirley Lowder, seconded by Nancy Smoak and unanimously approved by the Board.