

The Cleveland County Public Health Board met on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Chair Sara Karner, Ronnie Whetstine, Robert Miller, Kale Meade, Christina Alexander, and Marty Hamrick

Health Department staff present: Tiffany Hansen, DeShay Oliver, Andrea Power, Nathan McNeilly, Alisa Leonard, and Anne Short

County Attorney Present: Martha Thompson

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Chair, Sara Karner called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed everyone.

Mr. Miller gave the invocation.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION:

No citizens requested to appear before the Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR APRIL 11, 2023, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING:

Chair Karner presented the proposed agenda for the April 11, 2023, Public Health Board meeting for consideration of adoption.

Motion: A motion was made by Ronnie Whetstine with a second by Robert Miller to adopt the agenda for the April 11, 2023, Public Health Board meeting as prepared. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 14, 2023, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Chair Karner presented the March 14, 2023, Public Health Board meeting minutes for consideration of approval.

Motion: Ronnie Whetstine moved that the minutes of the March 14, 2023, Public Health Board Meeting be approved, and Robert Miller made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS:

Chair Karner introduced Anne Short with the 2023 County Health Rankings. These rankings are compiled by the University of Wisconsin and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The numbers are drawn from 3000 counties across the Country. Health outcomes are based on 2 sets of factors which are length of life, that is measured by premature death before the age of 75 due to preventable disease, and quality of life. There are 10,900 years of life lost to preventable diseases

such as heart disease, diabetes, and respiratory disease. Cleveland County does rank #83 out of 100 ranked counties in NC. Our identified peer counties are Edgecombe, Lenoir, Rutherford, Watauga, and Wilson. Health behaviors such as adult smoking, obesity, and physical inactivity are areas that CCHD works to educate our community members on. We are hopeful that with the addition of Primary Care at CCHD we will see our numbers in Cleveland County improve as those who are uninsured or underinsured will have the ability to obtain a primary care physician for their health care needs.

PRIMARY CARE UPDATE:

Chair Karner introduced Tiffany Hansen with the Primary Care Update. The establishment of Primary Care at CCHD was funded by a \$5 million dollar state grant provided by the General Assembly. Care for Cleveland (Primary Care) will be located within CCHD on the previous maternity wing. The maternity clinic has moved to the Adult Health wing for its services. We are recruiting additional staff for this clinic that will include a Physician Extender, a Processing Assistant, an Interpreter, a Lab Tech, an RN, and a Pharmacy Tech. Who is eligible for services? We will see Cleveland County residents with a target population of those residents that are uninsured or underinsured. We will also bill insurance for those residents that have insurance. Cleveland County Government staff will be able to visit the clinic for \$25 if insured by the County. For those that are eligible for County insurance but not on it, the fee will be \$25 plus the cost of any labs that are drawn. We will begin taking appointments for the clinic on May 1 and will officially open the clinic on May 15. We will also have a mobile medical unit that will go out into the community for screening purposes. We will be checking A1C, blood pressure, and cholesterol and refer to Primary Care for any follow-up care the patient may need. We will also deploy a dental unit that will provide dental services to students at Cleveland County Schools. The dental unit is currently on back order and will not be able to deploy until the year 2024. The Cleveland County Health Department staff are very excited to assist in helping meet the needs of our community.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Chair Karner introduced DeShay Oliver with budget amendments for CCHD.

ITEM NUMBER ONE:

The Cleveland County Health Department has received \$20,000 from Kintegra Health to partner with them to address opioid use disorder and overdose in Cleveland County through the HRSA RCORP grant. These funds will be used to help support the purchase and distribution of naloxone to first responders and community partners, provide education to healthcare providers, and implement a community education campaign. We request these funds to be budgeted in our CODAP (549) department.

ITEM NUMBER TWO:

The Cleveland County Health Department has been allocated \$17,640 from NC DHHS Environmental Health Section/Food Protection and Facilities branch related to the Food and Lodging Activity. These funds will be used towards existing salaries that support local Food and Lodging programs and activities. We request these funds to be budgeted in our Environmental Health (541) department.

Motion: A motion to recommend the proposed budget amendments to the Board of Commissioners was made by Kale Meade and a second was made by Robert Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Chair Karner asked if there was any miscellaneous business to discuss.

Tiffany Hansen reminded everyone that we will be partnering with the Dover Foundation YMCA to host a Healthy Kids Day Event at CCHD on April 22nd from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM.

ADJOURN: 6:34 PM

There being no further business, Chair Karner called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Robert Miller moved, with a second by Kale Meade that the Cleveland County Public Health Board meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Tiffany Hansen, Secretary
Cleveland County Public Health Board