

The Cleveland County Public Health Board met on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Chair Sara Karner, Mark Heiner, Ronnie Whetstine, Robert Miller, Marty Hamrick, Kale Meade, Christina Alexander, Heather Bridges Moore,

Health Department staff present: Tiffany Hansen, DeShay Oliver, Andrea Power, Nathan McNeilly, Alisa Leonard, Jamie Todd, Leslie McSwain, 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 MAY 9, 2023, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING:

Chair Karner presented the proposed agenda for the May 9, 2023, Public Health Board meeting for consideration of adoption.

Motion: A motion was made by Robert Miller with a second by Ronnie Whetstine to adopt the agenda for the May 9, 2023, Public Health Board meeting as prepared. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 11, 2023, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Chair Karner presented the April 11, 2023, Public Health Board meeting minutes for consideration of approval.

Motion: Mark Heiner moved that the minutes of the April 11, 2023, Public Health Board Meeting be approved, and Marty Hamrick made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

2023 PRIDE SURVEY RESULTS:

Chair Karner introduced Jamie Todd with the 2023 Pride Survey Results. As part of our Drug Free Communities grant, we are required to implement the Pride Survey to our 6th, 9th, and 12th grade students at all Cleveland County schools every other year. We had a total of 2296 participants this year with a total enrollment for students at around 3400. The total annual use for students that use tobacco in 6th grade was 0.9%, 9th grade was 7.6% and 12th grade was 14.9%. E-Cigarettes was

8.7% for 6th grade, 20.6 for 9th grade, and 27.8 for 12th grade. Alcohol use for 6th grade was 2.1%, 14.7% for 9th grade, and 41.3% for 12th grade. Marijuana use for 6th grade was 0.7%, 8.0% for 9th grade, and 24.8% for 12th grade. Prescription drug use for 6th grade is 0.4%, 9th grade is 2.1%, and 12th grade is 4.8%. Opioid pain killer is 1.1% for 6th grade, 3.7% for 9th grade, and 1.3% for 12th grade. The rate for annual prescription drug use has decreased since 2012 for 9th and 12 graders but has had a small increase for 6th graders. Illicit substance use among students has increased over the past year. Sixth grades had a 4% annual usage rate in 2021 compared to 8.5% in 2022, 9th grade had a 11.3% annual usage rate in 2021 compared to 20.5% in 2022, and 12th grade had a 28.4% annual usage rate compared to 31.8% in 2022. The 30-day prescription drug and opioid pain killer use trends have decreased since 2012 for 9th and 12 grades but has increased slightly for 6th grade. The 30-day marijuana use, alcohol use, and tobacco use trends has increased for 6th and 9th grades but decreased for 12th grade. E-Cigarettes usage among 6th and 9th grades has increased since 2019 but has decreased for 12th grade. Students surveyed said their main source of supply for E-Cigarettes was from a friend, family member was second, and gas station was third as the main supply sources. We are working with law enforcement to help with underage sales at gas stations and vape shops. Over 60% of 6th and 9th grades indicated that they use drugs at home, and over 80% of that is on the weekends. 20% of 9th grade students indicated that they use drugs at school. Among students surveyed for thoughts of suicide, 31.5% of 6th graders reported having thoughts of suicide, 33.8% of 9th graders, and 40.4% of 12 graders. In 2023 16.8% of 6th graders attempted suicide resulting in injury treated by a doctor or nurse, 14% of 9th graders, and 15.3% of 12th graders. Among 6th, 9th and 12th grade students were asked if they have used Delta-8 or Delta-9 in the past year with 14.5% of 12th graders indicated that they had. Among students surveyed asking if they know that Delta-8 or Delta-9 is derived from THC, and most of those students did not know. There aren't any restrictions on THC derived products currently, and it is very easy for students to access those products. The risk and protective factors for 2022 were indicated as attending church, taking part in community activities, and taking part in school activities as the top three. The only risk factor that was indicated was getting trouble at school. Chair Karner asked how long the survey is and how long it takes a student to complete the survey. Jamie indicated that it is 100 questions and takes about 40 minutes to complete.

COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS:

Chair Karner introduced Anne Short with the Community Satisfaction Survey Results. The survey this year was shorter than previous years with only 6 questions. Under 100 people answered the survey and the questions and answers are as follows:

1. Have you in the past 12 months used Cleveland County Health Department clinical services or programs? 81.82% said yes and 18.18% said no. Anne said this is an improvement from 2022 when we had 45.05% answer yes and 54.95% answer no.
2. How would you rate your satisfaction with your experience? 64.71% said excellent, 23.53% said very good, 5.88% said not so good and 5.88% said other. Anne expressed that there was some improvement from 2022 answers of 58.33% excellent, 32.14% very good, 7.14% average, 1.19% not so good, and 1.19% other.
3. The staff members were polite and professional in their interactions in these services. 70.59% said they strongly agree, 23.53% said that they agree, 5.88% strongly disagree.

The 2022 results were 69.51% strongly agree, 24.39% agree, 4.88% disagree, and 1.22% strongly disagree.

4. Are you satisfied with the health department's hours of operation for regular services? 93.75% said yes and 6.25% said no. In 2022 89.02% said yes, 6.10% said no, and 4.88% other.
5. Would you refer your family or friends to the health department for services? 87.5% said yes and 12.5% said no. In 2022 93.9% said yes, 4.88% said no and 1.22% other.
6. Do you have any suggestions for improving the services provided by CCHD?
 - None – the building and staff are amazing.
 - Continue to offer services to the community. There are lots of needs in the County.
 - It would be great if there were an online portal to complete paperwork for appointments ahead of time, view my lab results, or pay my bill.
 - Faster check-in time if possible.
 - More live answers for questions and verifications.

The answers for this survey completed by the public are completely anonymous.

OPTOMETRIST UPDATE:

Chair Karner introduced Tiffany Hansen with an Optometrist Update. We do have an optometric vacancy for our Public Health Board. We have reached out to several optometrists in the County with no interest. Dr. Michael Alexander did agree to temporarily fill that seat until we can fill that role. Martha asked if it could be someone outside of Cleveland County and we can seek outside of the County if we are unable to recruit within our County.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Chair Karner introduced Leslie McSwain with budget amendments for CCHD.

ITEM NUMBER ONE:

The Cleveland County Health Department has been awarded \$91,514 in Opioid Abatement Funding from Partners Behavioral Health. The funding will be utilized to purchase Naloxone and Fentanyl Test Strips and use billboards, social media, and other paid advertising to support marketing and outreach efforts to promote community distribution and encourage utilization. We request these funds to be budgeted in our CODAP (548) 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. Deshay did have a reminder that we will have a ribbon cutting at CCHD for our Primary Care clinic on Thursday, May 11. Deshay also took time to congratulate Christina Alexander on her recent graduation for her Doctor of Nursing Practice from Gardner Webb University. Ronnie did ask about mental health service availability within our County. We do not currently provide mental health services at CCHD, but we do connect patients with providers that offer mental health services.

ADJOURN: 7:11 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