

The Cleveland County Public Health Board met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Chair Sara Karner, Ronnie Whetstine, Marty Hamrick, Kale Meade, Henry Gilmore, Heather Bridges Moore, Christina Alexander (remote)

Health Department staff present: Tiffany Hansen, DeShay Oliver, Andrea Power, Nathan McNeilly, Leslie McSwain, Heather Voyles, Anne Short

County Attorney Present: Martha Thompson

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:**

Chair, Sara Karner called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and welcomed everyone.

Nathan McNeilly gave the invocation.

**CITIZEN RECOGNITION:**

No citizens requested to appear before the Board.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR AUGUST 8, 2023, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING:**

Chair Karner presented the proposed agenda for the August 8, 2023, Public Health Board meeting for consideration of adoption.

**Motion: A motion was made by Ronnie Whetstine with a second by Henry Gilmore to adopt the agenda for the August 8, 2023, Public Health Board meeting as prepared. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF MAY 9, 2023, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

Chair Karner presented the May 9, 2023, Public Health Board meeting minutes for consideration of approval.

**Motion: Kale Meade moved that the minutes of the May 9, 2023, Public Health Board Meeting be approved, and Marty Hamrick made the second. The motion carried unanimously.**

**HEALTH DIRECTOR EVALUATION AND JOB DESCRIPTION:**

Chair Karner introduced Tiffany Hansen with the Health Director Evaluation and Job Description. Tiffany informed everyone that an email was sent out by Andrea Power before the Board meeting with the job description for the health director for Cleveland County. Tiffany asked that everyone review the job description and provide any suggestions for change. She also explained that

everyone should have received an email with the health director's annual job performance survey link included, she asked that everyone complete that review at their earliest convenience and offer any suggestions for improvement. Chair Karner presented the proposed health director job description for consideration.

**Motion: Marty Hamrick moved that the Health Director Job Description be approved, and Ronnie Whetstine made the second. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **PRIMARY CARE AND MOBILE UNIT UPDATE:**

Chair Karner introduced Deshay Oliver with the Primary Care and Mobile Unit Update. Care for Cleveland Primary Care was launched at CCHD on May 15, 2023. Since we opened on May 15, we have had a total of 389 visits to Primary Care for adults. We have had a total of 241 unduplicated visits. 44% of our PC patients have private insurance, 19% Medicaid, 5% Medicare, and 32% are self-pay. We did not include Cleveland County employees in that data. Self-paid patients are billed on a sliding fee scale, with the average cost of \$65/person. We also performed a breakdown of our patient demographics. So far, we have had 63% female clientele and 30% male. We have had 16% of our patients that are Hispanic, 70% have been white, 25% African American, 2% Asian, and 1% multi-racial. We also looked at zip codes of where our patients are coming from with 82% from Shelby, 31% from Kings Mountain, 13% from Grover. Overall, we have had patients from all areas of the County. We have also been marketing the opening of our Primary Care clinic through Channel 19, full page ads in the Shelby Shopper and Shelby Star, billboards, social media, bookmarks that will go out to all elementary schools in Cleveland County, and referral cards. Our mobile screening unit has been wrapped and we are now ready to begin the process of pointing out locations that would be beneficial in the County it could visit, define the schedule we will use for the unit, and the staffing model. Sara asked what the approximate start date is for the screening unit. Deshay explained that we are expecting to have it operational by early to mid-2024. Ronnie suggested that it might be a good idea to have the bus parked at the Cleveland County Fair for marketing purposes. Ronnie asked if we feel that the volume of patients that are being seen is where we expected it to be. Deshay explained that we do have room for growth, but overall, with the amount of time that the clinic has been open we are where we should be. Ronnie also asked about patients that have been seen that do not live in Cleveland County, and Deshay explained that those visits were from Cleveland County employees.

### **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. We have several marketing strategies that have been distributed via the Cleveland County Health Department website and the Cleveland County government website. We reviewed the general statutes for our composition of the board, and we do have the ability to change this seat to a public citizen. We did reach out to Nancy Lundquist (Ophthalmologist) for interest but have not received a response. Sara and Marty will reach out to her for interest.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:**

Chair Karner introduced Leslie McSwain with budget amendments for CCHD.

**ITEM NUMBER ONE:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been allocated an additional \$4351.00 in funds from NCDHHS for our WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program. These funds will be used towards existing salary and fringe. We ask that these funds be budgeted in our WIC (540) department.

**ITEM NUMBER TWO:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been allocated an additional \$712.00 in funds from NCDHHS for our Child Health program. These funds will be used towards the purchase of medical supplies for the clinic. We ask that these funds be budgeted in our Child Health (537) department.

**ITEM NUMBER THREE:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has received a \$50.00 donation from a private citizen to support the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Hygiene Drive. These funds will be used to purchase supplies. We ask that these funds be budgeted in our Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (536) department.

**ITEM NUMBER FOUR:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been allocated \$346,148.00 in Public Health Infrastructure: Local Workforce Development to be used over a 5-year period. These funds will be used to provide training for employees and other activities supporting staff development. We ask that these funds be budgeted in our General Administration (530) department.

**ITEM NUMBER FIVE:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has received a \$250.00 donation from Wake Forest University. These funds will allow us to participate in a Youth Engagement Approach (YEA) study to learn how to engage youth in substance use prevention strategies. We request these funds to be budgeted in our CODAP (548) department.

**ITEM NUMBER SIX:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been awarded a \$2000.00 grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics to support school-based tobacco cessation for adolescents. These funds will be used to provide motivational interviewing for adolescent tobacco cessation

training for nurses and mid-level providers in our school-based health centers, primary care, and child health clinics. We request these funds to be budgeted in our CODAP (548) department.

**ITEM NUMBER SEVEN:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been awarded \$28,750.00 from Cabarrus Health Alliance to support training opportunities to enhance the skills and expertise of department staff. These funds will be used towards staff training expenses. We request these funds to be budgeted in our General (530) 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 Marty Hamrick. The motion carried unanimously.**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Chair Karner asked if there was any miscellaneous business to discuss. Tiffany provided an update for our Director of Nursing, Alisa Leonard. Alisa retired in July, and Heather Voyles has stepped in as our interim Director of Nursing while we recruit a permanent director. Anne provided a local resource guide to all board members. Anne also let the board members know that we have an electronic copy available on our website. Anne also provided the board information for our Community Health Assessment that will be released on September 1. She asked that when this information is received, to please distribute to as many contacts as possible. There are possible incentives for completing the survey that include a \$750 amazon gift card, (2) \$500 amazon gift cards, or (4) \$250 amazon gift cards.

**ADJOURN: 6:37 PM**

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

**Motion: Henry Gilmore 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