



North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors Meeting
September 26, 2023 – 2:00 pm
Carolina Room, Embassy Suites, 5400 John Q. Hammons Dr NW, Concord
(In conjunction with NCPHA Fall Education Conference)

Call to Order	Lillian Koontz
Approval of Minutes from August Meeting	Jen Greene
Treasurer's/ Financial Report	Jen Greene
President's Report.....	Lillian Koontz
Executive Director's Report	Patrick Brown
NC DHHS Assistant Secretary for Public Health.....	Dr. Susan Kansagra

ACTION ITEMS AND UPDATES - from Work Groups

Partner Update	Quintana Stewart/Patrick Brown
Communications	Sheila Davies
Emerging Issues	Iulia Vann
PH Funding and Investments	Jen Greene
PH Data and Performance Measures	Wes Gray
PH Workforce.....	Janet Clayton
Nominations and Bylaws	Scott Harrelson
Education and Awards.....	Tracey Kornegay

Region Reports

Region I	Elaine Russell
Region II	Karen Powell
Region III.....	Jessica Wall
Region IV.....	Jennifer McCracken
Region V.....	Tony LoGiudice
Region VI.....	Helene Edwards
Region VII	Lisa Harrison
Region VIII.....	David Howard
Region IX.....	Ashley Stoop
Region X.....	Joy Brock

Partner Reports

NCAPHA	Janet Clayton
NCPHA.....	Rod Jenkins
NACCHO	Lisa Harrison
NCIPH	Margaret Nemitz
ANCBH	Merle Green
UNC-SOG.....	Kirsten Leloudis
NC SOPHE	Ashley Rawlinson

Adjourn

Next Meeting:
October 19, 2023 – 9:30 am
Cardinal Room, DPH, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh



North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors

Association Business Meeting

August 17, 2023

Cardinal Room, NC Division of Public Health, 5605 Six Forks Rd. Raleigh, NC

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called To Order -

President Koontz (Davidson) called the July NCALHD meeting to order at 9:30am and welcomed all to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were distributed with the packet via email. President Koontz entertained a motion for approval of the Minutes. John Rouse (Harnett) made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Bruce Robistow (Halifax). President Koontz called for a vote; all ayes; minutes were approved.

Treasurer's/Financial Report

The Treasurer's/Financial Report was also included in the emailed packet. President Koontz entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's/Financial Report. Janet Clayton (Person) made a motion to approve the Treasurer's/Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Iulia Vann (Guilford). President Koontz called for a vote; all ayes; Treasurer's/Financial Report was approved.

Special Guest – State Treasurer Dale Folwell

Patrick Brown introduced State Treasurer Dale Folwell. He reported that the state pension plan is in great shape and it is one of the best pension plans in the United States. We have the twenty-fifth largest pool of public money in the world. The plan is designated number one in North America as far as its efficiency. We were able to cut \$700M out of the cost structure of the pension plan. That should be important to you because in all of the agencies you work for, one of the biggest costs is the contribution to the pension plan. Retirement readiness is important. We are facing challenges in local governments with transparency. Major report about health care on the Office of State Treasurer website. He noted that liens and judgements hospitals are putting on individual properties is a moral issue. People don't know what they are being billed for and how much. There have been two executive orders from the last two Presidents ordering hospital to show costs. This is the sixth year that the State Health Plan has frozen family premiums and have not gone up on copays and deductibles. Wake Med does the best with charity care. He thanked everyone for being public servants. Thank you for advocating for the invisible in your daily jobs. We will be transitioning the State Health Plan from BlueCross to AETNA. Lisa Harrison asked about sharing profits. He stated that we don't do a good job at all in this aspect. We should be matching charity care with the tax benefits health care providers receive. NCCash.com has a billion dollars setting in it. No charge to make a claim. Other states have this as well. Lillian thanked him for coming.

Lillian noted that Dr. Tilson and Dr. Kansagra are not in attendance but Stacie Saunders will provide updates.

NC DHSS Assistant Secretary for Medicaid –Jay Ludlam

Jay Ludlam reported that he did receive the NCALHD letter regarding Managed Care and appreciates the feedback. He doesn't have all questions answered but should finalize today or tomorrow with the help of Stacie Saunder's office. The passage of the budget has not happened. The budget contains financial direction and language that may require programmatic changes for Medicaid Expansion. We are hoping for October 1 deadline but that is dependent on the budget passage. The state is leaving money on the table when the budget is not passed. We will receive \$1.8 Billion just for going live; 90% of the funding is from federal government, 10% from hospitals. There is no reason to have Medicaid Expansion tied to budget. Medicaid Expansion should be decoupled and passed. It is literally one line in a bill. We will continue to move forward with October 1 date. We will prepare the state in a way that will locally provide 300,000

individuals with a family planning benefit with Medicaid Expansion with full benefits. Around 450,000 will qualify for family planning benefit via their income. We will run algorithm after September 1 and will determine who will qualify for full expansion benefits. We hope the General Assembly will find time to pass budget in time to move forward. Rod Jenkins thanked Jay for his attendance and work he does for this. Jay noted that all the information is being shared with DSS. It is a message that has not resonated with folks. We are doubling down on the message; please share with your counties. Jay meets with DSS directors next week. There are no new forms required; people are administratively moved. We do have a plan once we have authority to move forward. Generally, all systems are ready for expansion. Some administrative processes will delay start up because work to load up monies in technical systems has to be done. If we don't make October 1 date, the earliest we could go live is December 1. There are lots of efforts to support counties. Discussion was held regarding ambassador role vs navigator role. The goal is to find tools to assist people more effectively. Librarians have asked if there is toolkit that would allow them to support people using the libraries computers for access to systems. They could support community members. The ambassador role is another way to support your communities. A toolkit will be coming. We are evaluating if some of the processes are necessary and streamline to support people so they receive timely care. Scott Harrelson (Craven) inquired about eligibility requirements for Medicaid Expansion. Jay responded that he will forward a link to Health Directors. Jay appreciates the partnership and feedback from this group. Feel free to contact Jay for managed care issues, etc.

President's Report –Lillian Koontz

Lillian asked if there are any retiring health directors – Bruce Robistow, Halifax County Health Director, is retiring November 1, 2023. Shelley Carraway, Jackson County Health Director, is retiring October 1, 2023. Congratulations to Shelley and Bruce!

Lillian thanked health directors that have volunteered for special projects, Janet Clayton and Karen Powell for Environmental Health, Jennifer McCracken for WIC project. Patrick Brown is an excellent navigator and safe space to assist with Medicaid and Care Management. Regarding Care Management, there is a lot of work to be done leading up to 2026.

Executive Director's Report – Patrick Brown

Patrick Brown reported that there aren't any legislative updates. He will reach out to Representative Potts and White to see what they need regarding the Communicable Disease funding. More specifically, make sure the technical correction is considered regarding the districts.

The Vaccines for Children's Program allows participating providers to provide free vaccines to children who are uninsured and underinsured. A very technical rule in the program states that health departments can't vaccinate underinsured children without being deputized by a FQHC. There is no reporting or oversight; very procedural. Patrick suggested that all health departments be re-deputized by Craven, AppHealth, and Wilkes as FQHCs with the NCALHD Executive Director signing the procedural agreement on behalf of all health departments. Bruce Robistow (Halifax) made a motion that all health departments be re-deputized by Craven, AppHealth, and Wilkes as FQHCs with the NCALHD Executive Director signing the procedural agreement on behalf of all health departments. The motion was seconded by Rod Jenkins (Durham). Lillian asked for questions or discussion. This agreement is covering the clinic entity that does vaccinations not individual persons. There is no standard timeframe. No reporting required. It is a HRSA regulation, not state or CDC requirement. We will share agreement with health departments for your records. This is a formality and last time it was done was 2012. Vote was taken; motion was in favor unanimously.

Patrick reported on our new business venture with insurance. We have filed the Articles of Incorporation and are seeking to fill the Board positions; if you are interested in serving on the board for the *NC Public Health Innovations*, let Patrick know. We are working on the final contract with Worksite Resources. The final details are substantial but are regulatory processes. Steve Worgan has connected with all regional leads. He can talk to you locally. Steve and Matt Worgan will be at FEC in Concord to provide an update in September. They are exhibiting at NCPHA FEC. We are waiting on final answer from NCACC on their endorsement. Steve talked with NCACC last week. We will ramp up the ancillary outreach in September. The 2024-2025 medical malpractice overage year will be with Worksite Resources.

Care Management Programs – The letter from NCALHD has been sent and receipt acknowledged by Jay Ludlam. The committee met two weeks ago and will meet twice a month to get started; focus groups are continuing and are good productive conversations. We will send 3-4 question web form asking you to describe a challenge, how often, how many people affected, etc. We will categorize and share feedback within next few weeks. We need a decision very soon about a request to ARPA regions to get money to take on short term contractor to help with this. Subject matter expertise is needed. We have had focused conversations on short term, bridge, measurement plan; we don't want it to get lost in short term; we also need to think of long-term focus on these programs, 2026 and beyond. Lots of questions and real introspection; how to run programs locally so they are sustainable and efficiently. Lisa Harrison (Granville Vance) inquired about the requirement of data management on those that there are doing the work. Important to know what people doing every day. System is not efficient. Efficiency is not onus on locals only. If person is hired, need to talk about local public health and value-based care. Find language to convince DCFW and the state that we are doing value-based care. Expect updates from group.

Deputy Director, Section Chief, Local & Community Support, DPH – Stacie Turpin Saunders

Regarding Aid to County, the sign-in process has changed and emails have been sent. It changed from using your NCID to gain access to using your email address and password. Some had no problems. These issues have been elevated to the Aid to County team and to DIT. Liaisons are working between counties and DIT. Mike Thompson, Aid to County, and Jason Johnston, DIT, are the two-point people. Stacie will send out troubleshooting guide. If there are issues, please email Stacie or Angela Calicut and they will get you to the right people.

The Governors Roundtable for Medicaid Expansion as it concerns rural health and rural hospitals has met. Governor Cooper has visited Martin and Richmond Counties; and is visiting Yadkin today. Thanks for helping identify people to tell their stories. This underscores urgent need for Medicaid Expansion to begin.

Reminder that the Governor's Office created the new Office of Violence Prevention. Gerard Tate is the Director. He will be invited to attend NCALHD meeting in October to tell you more about that office. They are really dedicated to the public health approach to violence prevention; he is interested in the local public health piece.

Doug Urland gave update in the Funding Workgroup yesterday regarding agreement addenda spend rates. There is lots to see regarding AA spending rates. How would you like to see the data? They can share with everyone. COVID AA 543 and AA 746 have an expiration date of May 31, 2024; there appear to be lots of dollars left on table. AA 546 has expiration date of December 31, 2024; there is money left there as well. AA 117 is public health infrastructure monies. You should use the other buckets of monies first. Legislators see dollars not spent and don't see plans, etc. They see federal funds that are unspent and it is difficult to ask for money when money is being left on the table. People would like to know what other folks are doing with COVID dollars and best practices. Lisa Harrison noted that funds used for staff appear to be unspent; how do we communicate that to Legislators. We do have potential to get more Communicable Disease funds. Spend money that is expiring first. Reach out to your AA Program Managers if you have questions. Local and Community support team can assist as well. We are still waiting on AA 716 to be finalized; we are finalizing budget estimates for the FY24 AA.

Zack Moore gave a presentation yesterday regarding vaccines. If you have vaccine questions, contact Amanda Fuller Moore. AAs 543 and 746 could come in handy for vaccines. We still have Vaccines for Children Program. We are waiting for final information on Bridge Access Program; it is supposed to cover vaccines and treatment. The pool of treatments is so big those products are not going immediately commercial. The key to the number of vaccines is based on who qualifies for a provider for that program. There are not enough details to start Bridge Access Program. A question was asked as to when they can order vaccines for flu and RSV. They have to add products in NCIR. Flu should be there in the next several days. Adult RSV vaccines are available at most pharmacies which is why doctors don't stock them. They are covered by most insurance but there could be a copay. RSV for kids is another story in regard to availability and insurance coverage.

Lillian noted that if you need to send something out to health director listserv; send to Karen Davis (kdavis@ncapha.org) to send out via the NC Health Director listserv. This is specifically for health directors only.

INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS – from Work Groups

Partner Updates –Patrick Brown

No action.

Communications – Lisa Harrison

Lisa gave the update from the Communications Work Group. Around twenty people joined the meeting from around the state. Reminder that the aim of the Communications Workgroup is focused on elevating and magnifying communications around the roles and values of local public health. We received updates that included information from our partners. Stacie Turpin Sanders came to connect with us on opportunity of funding available in the Health Disparities Grant that can some support some Communications priorities with the NCALHD and the Communications Work Group to effectively convey the value of public health across the communities. No action was made in the Work Group but there was consensus that the expectation from the Communication Work Group was that Patrick and Stacie work together on the Health Disparity Grant funding and the Communications Work Group could see some products come out of the training module series that other can access as well. Patrick mentioned that this is very connected to a priority of the NCALHD Executive Committee around training for local health department staff on how to communicate public health to local decision makers, especially county commissioners. This is a great first step in leveraging that priority with a state opportunity. Patrick suggested we tailor training around communicating this to local decision makers. Stacie wanted to make sure we are supportive of this initiative. The consensus is that we are supportive.

Emerging Issues – Iulia Vann

Iulia gave update from the Emerging Issues Work Group. Main topic on agenda was regarding local health directors providing feedback to state partners when there are audit and consultant visits; how can we as local health directors provide official feedback. Work group is bringing forth a proposal that we do have an official way to give feedback to our state partners; this is strictly on a volunteer basis and it is not asking for anything to be implemented by the state. Health departments want to provide feedback with standardized process. This will show the great value of consultants that are coming in for growth and quality improvement and a good tool to use. We want the tool to be simple, brief with a few points to provide feedback and recommendation. When you receive final follow-up from audit or technical visit then use this tool to provide feedback. We would like to share with the NCALHD the tool that Region 3 drafted. We would as changes that need to be made for the next two weeks. We will work with Lillian and Patrick to get finalized and communicate with state partners. Let Iulia know of topics that need to be discussed at future Emerging Work Group meetings.

PH Funding and Investments – David Howard

David gave the update from the Funding Work Group. It was suggested to add spending plans to management team agendas every week. Gave update on AA QI Project which is a major project this Work Group; it is going well, we have had meetings with state staff (Stacie, Doug, Ryan) that were very productive and we learned a lot about how the AA process works. We also learned what the state staff deals with working with the Feds. We have set up a process to do a deep dive on 3 AAs. Work groups working on AAs should provide input every year before October. We want to set up system to identify questions/concerns on funding questions, deliverables, reporting; and decide which ones we will do a deep dive on each year. We will be meeting several times this fall. We put together teams on each AA. We can learn what can and can't be edited and make process more efficient. We need to make this an annual process. Survey going out; look for information from Stacie or Chelsea. Broad survey on the three AAs will collect information from your staff; results will be collated and discussed with work group members.

PH Data and Performance Measures – Wes Gray

Wes reported for the Data Work Group. No action. They had a presentation from Ryan Jury and Willysha Jenkins regarding discussing the broad data modernization efforts of the division for DMI efforts and CDC grant. We are really close on data letter; just need 3 more to be complete. We are missing 35 counties' information for finance template.

PH Workforce – Janet Clayton

Janet reported for the Workforce Work Group. The presentation from Julie Tunney, Region 9 has been sent out via listserv. Jennifer McCracken gave a WIC nutritionist update. Health directors from that group met and they are focusing on communications and nutritionist specifications. A survey will be coming from the state and we will give you heads up. The health director and WIC director need to complete the survey; important.

Nominations and Bylaws – Scott Harrelson

Scott reported that we need nominations for NCALHD Secretary for next year. One nomination has been received at this point. We will work on Bylaws and Operating Procedures.

Education and Awards – Tracey Kornegay

Tracey reported that class #2 for New Health Director Orientation is being held today. The third class will be held in October. Forms for the nomination of awards will go out in September; the awards will be presented in January at the NCALHD Annual Luncheon.

Region Reports

No reports.

Partner Reports:

NCAPHA Report – Janet Clayton

No report.

NCPHA Report – Rod Jenkins

Rod reported that the Fall Education Conference is in September. You will be receiving an email from Kim Dittman about door prizes.

NACCHO – Lisa Harrison

Lisa reported that NACCHO in Denver was a great conference and it was good to see so many health directors. Next year's conference will be in July in Detroit, Michigan on the river near the border to Canada. NACCHO 2023 Practice Award Winners will be shared.

NCIPH/SPH Update

Margaret Nemitz is the interim through the fall for the NC Accreditation Program and NCIPH representative. They have finished interviews for the new faculty director of the NCIPH and will soon be making an announcement of who that will be.

Accreditation – A two-page summary document was shared with health director feedback from public comment and annual survey. A similar document with additional appendix data, along with interactive annual survey results, will be posted on their website by early September. This summer they will start a series of discussions with DPH staff to talk through how to best address the duplication of monitoring activities. Lillian noted that we need to spend more time talking about this; we need to be on the same page about the association's position on accreditation. Margaret is willing to listen to opinions. Patrick noted the importance of having conversation sooner than later; we will need to reach overall strategy consensus. Health directors need to agree on opinion and be on same page.

Next week NCIPH will be reaching out to several local health department directors to explore their interest in potentially forming a public health partnership hub relationship with Gillings (Gillings' proposed initiative to provide high intensity support and resources for five to ten years with a limited number of and well-defined communities with critical equity opportunities.) This follows five months of background work talking with key informants, looking at health data, CHAs, CHIPs, and gather information from an internal and external advisory group. They will have more information next month after they do some initial consulting with those health department directors. This initiative is one of the priorities in the Gillings Practice Strategic Plan and was mentioned at last year's NCPHA Fall Conference.

ANCBH/NALBOH – Merle Green

Merle Green reported three awards will be presented at ANCBH – Carl Durham Award will be presented to Surry County and the Outstanding Board of Health Award will be presented to Stanly County. The annual meeting will be held on September 20; looking at location in Asheboro.

The ANCBH Bylaws state that they present the slate of officers at annual meeting; all health departments they pay dues have right to vote on slate of officers. We do not have time to mail out the slate of officers. The slate of officers has not changed; officers serve two-year terms. She is hoping that the Membership will allow us to not have to implement technicality with a ballot. She will talk to Lillian and Patrick. They will take nominations from the floor at the meeting. Thanked health directors who have sent contact information in for their Board of Health members.

UNC-School of Government – Kirsten Leloudis

Kirsten reported that there is an update on HB808 on their website. A public health legislative update will go out soon. There is a three-book series by Kristi Nickodem with good information about local social services boards; information on their website. The 2024 Legal Conference is scheduled for April 17-18, 2024.

NC SOPHE – Ashley Rawlinson

Ashley reported that their annual meeting is November 2-3, 2023 at Fayetteville State University. The call for abstracts has gone out.

Next Meeting –Tuesday, September 26th at 2:00 pm at Embassy Suites, 5400 John Q. Hammons Dr NW, Concord; this is in conjunction with the NCPHA FEC.

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Robistow (Halifax) and seconded by Rod Jenkins (Durham). All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc
Statement of Financial Position
As of August 31, 2023

ASSETS

Bank Accounts

CD-SECU *4185	40,000.00
Checking-SECU *6586	
Accreditation Fund	84,539.71
General Operating	51,642.79
Total Checking-SECU *6586	\$ 136,182.50
Money Market-SECU *0321	
Accreditation Fund	258,474.45
General Operating	273,571.15
Legal Fund	59,886.40
Total Money Market-SECU *0321	\$ 591,932.00
Savings-SECU *1387	43.99
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 768,158.49
Accounts Receivable	67,469.10
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 835,627.59

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	20,537.50
Dues Invoiced for Other Orgs	8,340.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 28,877.50

Net Assets

Temporarily Restricted Funds

Accreditation Fund	128,514.16
Legal Fund	59,886.40
Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 188,400.56
Unrestricted Funds	228,424.90
Change in Net Assets	389,924.63
Total Net Assets	\$ 806,750.09
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 835,627.59

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc
Statement of Activities - Budget vs Actual
July - August 2023

	Actual	Budget	Amt over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue				
Interest/Dividend Income	757.45	2,700.00	(1,942.55)	28.05%
Membership Revenue				
NACCHO Rebate	0.00	3,300.00	(3,300.00)	0.00%
NCALHD Dues	136,629.77	136,680.00	(50.23)	99.96%
Total Membership Revenue	\$ 136,629.77	\$ 139,980.00	\$ (3,350.23)	97.61%
Total Revenue	\$ 137,387.22	\$ 142,680.00	\$ (5,292.78)	96.29%
Expenses				
Admin Services	12,500.00	75,000.00	(62,500.00)	16.67%
Awards	0.00	700.00	(700.00)	0.00%
Bank Charges	2.00	12.00	(10.00)	16.67%
Licenses	0.00	950.00	(950.00)	0.00%
Meetings/Travel	1,639.59	7,000.00	(5,360.41)	23.42%
Professional Services				
Accounting Fees	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)	0.00%
Consulting Fees	12,000.00	45,000.00	(33,000.00)	26.67%
Legal Fees	776.00	10,000.00	(9,224.00)	7.76%
Total Professional Services	\$ 12,776.00	\$ 56,500.00	\$ (43,724.00)	22.61%
Sponsorships/Marketing	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00%
Website & Technology	45.00	970.00	(925.00)	4.64%
Total Expenses	\$ 26,962.59	\$ 142,132.00	\$ (115,169.41)	18.97%
Change in Net Assets	\$ 110,424.63	\$ 548.00	\$ 109,876.63	20150.48%