

WILSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

January 09th, 2024

The Wilson County Board of Health held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, in the Board Room at the Wilson County Health Department. Members present were:

Scott Dixon D.D.S. (Virtual)	Shannon Drohan M.D. (Virtual)
Catherine Melin N.P. (Virtual)	Dr. Matthew Aldrich (Virtual)
William T Bass (Virtual)	Leslie Atkinson (Virtual)
Linda Cooper- Suggs (Virtual)	

Others present:

Cinnamon Narron, Jessica Williams, Jennifer Dixon, DeEtt Taylor, Celita Graham, Amy Harrelson, Anna Bass, Lori Winstead.

Welcome

Dr. Scott Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed all in attendance.

Approval of Minutes September 12th, 2023, Meeting

The minutes from the November 14th, 2023, meeting was accepted without corrections, additions, or deletions.

A Motion to accept was made by Ms. Linda Cooper- Suggs and seconded by Dr. Shannon Drohan. The motion carried unanimously.

Review and approval of the minutes shall be construed as review/discussion/approval/of all items distributed prior to the meeting for consideration and shall be so reflected in the minutes.

Administration

Ms. Jessica Williams, Deputy Health Director, introduced Ms. Amy Harrelson as the new Agency Accreditation and HIPPA Privacy Officer. Cinnamon Narron, Jessica Williams, Celita Graham, and Jennifer Dixon all presented at the recent Commissioners meeting. Ms. Williams shared the Eastpointe Grant that has been awarded, and the Commissioners board approved to move forward with the funds. The Health Department applied on September 1st, 2023, for funding to address whole person integrated care in the WASH clinics for \$60,000 dollars. The award was granted by Eastpointe and will allow the Health Department to place a Licensed Clinical Social worker into a WASH Clinic. \$59,500 dollars will be allocated for salary, and the remaining \$500 will go towards travel expenses. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker will be able to diagnose and provide treatment for mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders that may have been missed. The Licensed Clinical Social Worker position has been posted.

Personal Health

Ms. Jennifer Dixon, Director of Nursing, reported the PHN III (STD Nurse) is vacant with interviews ongoing no applicants have accepted. PHN III (Child Health Coordinator) position will be vacant due to a resignation and is posted. PHN I (Postpartum Home Visit) position will be posted soon. Anna Oakley, FNP is fully trained and switched to a Part- Time three day per week schedule. Hannah Jonas, PA is currently in training working with Rebecca Hunt- Hawley and Lisa Wepler. Public Health Nurse Anna Bass gave a report on Wilson County Communicable Disease numbers from last year (See Attachment). Ms. Dixon gave a Child Fatality Prevention Team (CFPT) annual report for calendar year 2021 and 2022 (See attachment). The Child Fatality Prevention Team has a goal to call to action an increase of

attendance and participation in quarterly meetings. Attend events in the community this year, bringing awareness to firearm safety, mental health services, pool safety and baby-sitting classes. The Child Fatality Prevention Team is an important group and receives zero funding for the program. Ms. Dixon has reached out to the Program Coordinator and County Manager about possible available funding.

Environmental Health

Ms. DeEtt Taylor, Environmental Health Supervisor, reported the Food and Lodging Program Specialist, and Food and Lodging Environmental Health Specialist are vacant and posted online. A Wastewater violation is currently open due to numerous complaints. The initial site visit was July 20th, 2023, and visible wastewater and effluent surfacing was noticed indicating a failing septic system. Three violation notices have been issued since July 27th, 2023. A repair permit was issued September 20th, 2023. The County Attorney has filed a legal injunction for the owners to vacate the property or have the system repaired. Royal Farms should be opening at the end of the month. Three Wawa locations, Burrito Shak, and Outback have successfully submitted plans to NCDHHS. All Food Lion locations and the Neighborhood Walmart have undergone renovations. The GPS units are working well. Two have been purchased so far with approval for two more. The GPS units help decrease the margin of error, makes taking measurements during installations safer, drawing permits and site sketch plans are quicker. Over 1200 data entries have been completed by two people since purchasing the GPS units.

Health Education

Ms. Celita Graham, Communications Manager and Health Education Supervisor notified the Commissioners at last night's meeting about a grant that was recently received from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. The grant will support women's health services. The grant is worth \$600,000 dollars and will be dispersed over the course of four years. The funding will start February 1st, 2024, and will continue through May 31st, 2027. The focus of the grant is to reduce unplanned pregnancies by increasing contraceptive methods and extending normal business hours. The teen clinic will be implemented again, operating once a month with staff available until 7 pm. Members of the community older than 18 can also make appointments but the primary focus is on teens. The second part of the grant will implement postnatal home visits. A PHN I will make home visits between the delivery process and post-partum to check in on both the baby and the mother. This will help with transportation barriers, assess the living situation, and make sure the newborn is sleeping properly and safely. A Community Health worker will act as a liaison for the entire grant connecting the community, the Health Department, and Clinical Staff.

A Health Educator will also be working under the grant in conjunction with the Community Health Worker. The Health Educator is currently working with maternity clients. The Health Department is excited and very grateful for the grant. The Health Department has an Agreement Addendum with the State to implement Healthy Community strategies. This year the focus will enhance breastfeeding friendly spaces in the county. Tomi Meachum, the WIC Health Director, has been working with the Health Education Team to identify areas in the county for breastfeeding spaces. The library is partnering with the Health Department to help provide a breast-feeding friendly space at the library. The space will not just be for staff but for any mother wanting a private space to breastfeed. The Health Department helped to make the breastfeeding room safe and accommodating. The Health Education Team is also reaching out to other community partners to see where else other Breastfeeding friendly spaces may be added.

Health Director's Report

Ms. Cinnamon Narron, Health Director, reported to commissioners about the Duke Endowment Foundation Grant that will assist the Health Department in expanding Dental services into the school systems. The grant is a three-year funded grant and a fourth year of reporting. Over the three years, the Health Department will receive \$400,000 which will help to get staff, supplies, and equipment. The

Health Department will also be receiving technical assistance from ECU Dental school. The Grant was approved at the commissioners meeting. The funding for the grant starts immediately and ECU Dental School will provide technical assistance throughout the duration of the grant. Currently the Health Department is recruiting for a Full Time Dentist and the grant will help with funding for salary. Ms. Narron gave her financial report (See Attachment). The immunization and vaccine program has a slight deficit. The Health Department hasn't received all the revenue from vaccines and is still collecting funds. Vaccines are still being dispersed to patients, and the clinic is staying busy. Primary care is in the negative due to billing behind. The Dental program is in the red without a full time Dentist on staff. A Dentist is available on Fridays to see patients. The Net revenue is looking good overall. At the end of every year, the Health Department sends patients with a balance owed over \$50.00 to debt set off. Letters were sent late December, and the Health Department received \$4,500 in debt set off payments so far. The Debt Set Off program is worth the effort of collecting funds owed. The Health Department is excited and looking forward to providing services and helping the community with the new grant funding.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Member Comments

None

Chairperson's Report

None

Public Comments

None

Adjournment- Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cinnamon Narron, Secretary
Wilson County Board of Health

CN/JNC