

Due to the ongoing social distancing restrictions in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Durham County Board of Health Meeting was conducted virtually. The virtual option aligns with social distancing requirements which ensure the safety of citizens who wish to participate as well as Board members and Durham County Government staff.

The agenda, weblink and access code were posted to DCoDPH website and provided to the Clerk to the Board office 48 hours prior to the meeting for citizens to join by computer or phone.

A Regular Meeting of the Durham County Board of Health was held March 10, 2022 with the following members present:

Rosemary Jackson, MD; Spencer “Spence” Curtis, MPA, BS; Mary Braithwaite, MD, MSPH; James Miller, DVM; Gene Rhea, PharmD, MHA; Josh Brown; Victoria Orto, DNP, RN, NEA-BC; and Anthony Gregorio, MBA

Absent: Commissioner Nida Allam; Roger McDougal, DDS

Others Present: Rod Jenkins, Rosalyn McClain, Kristen Patterson, Liz Stevens, Attorney Bryan Wardell, Will Sutton, Michele Easterling, Chris Salter, Marcia Richardson, Jim Harris, Lindsey Bickers-Brock, Marissa Mortiboy, Hattie Wood, Josee Paul, Dr. Jeff Jenks, Kathy Everett-Perry and Rod Walton

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Rosemary Jackson called the virtual meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

DISCUSSION (AND APPROVAL) OF ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: DISCUSSION (AND APPROVAL) OF ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Chair Jackson requested the following additions:

1. Budget Amendment (*new business*)
2. National Public Health Week Proclamation Discussion/Approval (*new business*)

Mr. Curtis made a motion to accept the agenda. Dr. Orto seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the board members as identified in the attendance roster above.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING/ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL:

Dr. Rhea made a motion to approve the minutes for February 10, 2022. Mr. Curtis seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the board members as identified in the attendance roster above.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

STAFF/PROGRAM RECOGNITION:

Mr. Rodney Jenkins, Public Health Director for Durham County Department of Public Health recognized Allied Health staff for a successful CLIA Inspection.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Chair Jackson called for administrative reports/presentations:

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FY 22CLIA INSPECTION REPORT (Activity 10.1)

Jose Paul, Allied Health Division Director provided the board a brief overview of the Durham County Department of Public Health CLIA Inspection. Allied Health will present an official report at the next Board meeting.

- The lab was inspected one week later than originally scheduled (Thursday March 3, 2022) therefore we missed the deadline for submitting our report.
- The lab is excited to report that our CLIA inspection was a success. The lab received zero citation. The lab would like to point out that we've had zero citation for the past two consecutive CLIA inspections.
- Three inspectors arrived at about 8:45 am and concluded with the inspection at about 4:45 pm.
- The inspectors visited the lab area and met with the lab staff. Mr. Jenkins, Dr. Jenks, Ms. Stevens all met with the inspectors as well. It was a team effort.
- The inspectors were very thorough. At summation, they were complementary of the lab, given the challenges we've had to face (COVID, Staffing, Epic implementation etc.)

FY 22-23 PROPOSED BUDGET & FEE SCHEDULE REVIEW/APPROVAL (Activity 39.3)

Mr. Sutton, Local Finance Administrator provided the board with an overview of FY22-23 Proposed Budget & Fee Schedule and requested board approval.

Summary Information:

- Public Health has completed its preliminary budget development process for fiscal year FY 22-23.
- Provided high level overview with grand totals of current FY and the upcoming proposed FY. Overall increase of 9%.

Funding Sources:

- County Funding percentage constant (73%)
- Other – (27%)

Personnel vs Operating breakdown:

- Personnel increase 8.11%
- Operating increase 10.13

New Spending Requests:

- P-1 School Nurses – Originally had 4 in the request. Budget asked how many FTEs it would take to fill every school with one nurse. 15 (with DPS continuing to support with their nursing positions). Per Budget – Increase it to 15 and mgt/BOCC can decide on approving 15 or lowering for the upcoming year and providing more the following.
- P-2 CHA - The Durham County Community Health Assessment occurs every three years. As part of this process, the Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) in partnership with Duke Health conducts a door-to-door survey with community residents. In the past, DCoDPH and Duke Health have relied on volunteers (community members, students, partners, etc.) to conduct the survey. Relying on volunteers is inefficient so the increased costs related to the Community Health Assessment in FY 23 are mainly from hiring individuals to conduct the survey in order to complete in within a much shorter timeframe (weeks instead of months).

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- P-3 GI – Lead Program Specialist (1 FTE) and 1 Vehicle. In the past 2-3 years there has been a huge increase in Lead work for EH. EPA and DHHS lowered the threshold level of action for investigations and there has been an increase in the need to monitor legacy housing in DC. There’s also the Clean Water for Carolina Kids program and the requirement for sampling at all childcare centers that has also increased this activity. Bottom line – Time spent managing lead issues had reduced time spent on mandated inspections.
- P-4 Reclass On-Site Program Specialist from standard Registered Env Health Specialist to Program Specialist – Goal of increased production, improve client services, as well as increase potential for employee retention.
- P-5 Lactation focused PH Nurse Specialist– Previously partially funded by a grant. Request county funding. MH clinic server on average 30-50 patients per day. Significant racial and ethnic disparities among black and brown women can be seen in rates of initiation and duration during breastfeeding and it has many benefits for both the parent and child. Since this position is currently filled, we want to continue the work with no disruptions.
- P-6 Add an additional Processing Assistant FTE in EH GI. Request is supported by the doubling in size of EH program over the last decade and a half with EH admin staff remaining constant at 2. As a result, field staff has had to cover front desk operations at times and of course this has a negative impact on mandated workloads and customer service.
- P-7 Replace 5 existing Onsite Water Protection 2007 Ford Ranger Pickups with 2021 models. Per county policy these vehicles are past due for replacement. Of course, there is the issue of increased maintenance and gas mileage of the older vehicles versus the new (15 vs 22).
- P-8 GI 2 New Vehicles Requested – 2 new vehicles are needed to ensure GI staff have adequate transportation to complete all legacy and new requirements from the state via the Quality Assurance program. Team leads and section supervisor must observe the REHS inspections staff executing field duties for ethics and program uniformity.

Detail Expenditures:

- 6216 Health Ed Increase OMH Grant funding.
- 6222 Immunization (increase of Refugee Health funding – AA 583 Refugee Health grant)
- 6233 CH (SH positions and grant funding included - moved from SH, increase in personnel costs – particularly FLEX 18,159
- 6235 Jail (MCPI % increase added) Holding place – Larger amount requested
- 6241 – GI (New requests)
- 6244 Onsite (New Requests)
- 6250 Population Health (New Requests)
- 6236 SH - 3 FTEs & 2 grants (AA 352 Child Fatality Prevention, AA 351 Child Health) moved-6233

Detail Revenues:

- 6216 OMH grant rev
- 6233 CH two grants added from SH

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- 6250 Duke CHA funds

Fee Schedule Updates/Changes:

- Dental Fees
- Fee Additions, Changes, Removals
- Additions for Lab 340B and Non-340B, Medical Services SL modifiers (zero charge),

Additional Notes:

- Jail Health Budget - Holding Place with 2.5% currently in the budget, WellPath asked for 8.445% with is approximately an additional increase of \$206,000
- Bull City United and Project Build Programs will no longer be part of Public Health budget effective July 1, 2022.
- Current we have received notification of 3 COVID grants via the state which will carry forward into FY 23
- DCoDPH applied for 400K per year (3 year) SAMHSA grant – No update on application status

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is attached to the minutes.)

Dr. Rhea made a motion to accept and approve FY22-23 Proposed Budget and proposed fee schedule changes. Mr. Curtis seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Mr. Curtis: Where is Environmental Health in the proposed expenditure budget?

Mr. Sutton: Environmental Health consist of the following three cost centers (6241-General Inspections, 6244, Onsite and 6245-Local PH preparedness).

Mr. Curtis: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Gregorio: Hi Will, just to clarify for me, the 50 new school nurses, is this already based into this particular schedule?

Mr. Sutton: Yes. It is.

Mr. Gregorio: It is for cost center 6236-School Health. So the 1.32% increase, it seems like it would be a delta between that and the 1.3 million dollar increase for the 15 school nurses, so would you speak a little bit more to that delta.

Mr. Sutton: Very good question. What is off-setting that increase in the school health nurses is the movement of a lot positions. There were a few other positions that were moved out of school health into child health. That is pretty much off-setting the increase that you see in school health as well as there are two grants and the expenditures associated with those grants were moved into child health.

Mr. Gregorio: Got it. So that's driving 6233. What cost center is 6222.

Mr. Sutton: Immunizations.

Mr. Gregorio: Okay. Thank you.

Dr. Braithwaite: I have a question for you. Cost Center 6242—PPP is that the government loan.

Mr. Sutton: That is Triple P-Positive Parenting Program

Dr. Rhea: I think that the 340B prices should only change quarterly. So you should be able to update those once a quarter once the government publishes those prices.

Mr. Sutton: Great. Sounds good. Is there another question?

Mr. Gregorio: I've worked with the 340B process before, so I understand your pain here. Out of curiosity, for the cost that are associated with these operational expenses, especially the ones that are

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supplied by the state and there are no charges, are there cost also associated to that same cost center or is it off-set somewhere else.

Mr. Sutton: The SL modifiers are the ones the state provides to us so there is no other charge associated with it.

Mr. Gregorio: Okay. I just wanted to make sure there were no other cost associated to that same GL.

Mr. Gregorio: Will Thank you so much for that presentation, I have two questions. 1) This is concerning the NSRs, I believe one of the items for 6244, there were five cars, did you say they were for water protection or general inspections?

Mr. Jenkins: General Inspections.

Mr. Gregorio. Okay. Question 2) if I did my math correctly, I was looking at that 8.79 increase percentage wise which represents about 2.5 million increase to FY23, if I were to take out the NSRs of 1.9 million or so that leaves about \$680, 000 or about 20% of that 8.79% increase would it be fair if we could just have a very simple paragraph variants explanation of the top two or three drivers of that remaining increase?

Mr. Sutton: Absolutely but I can assure that it's going to be personnel increases. I will put that information together and send it to the board.

Chair Jackson: Are there any other questions for Mr. Sutton?

Dr. Braithwaite: I have one. Thank you for that review, Mr. Sutton. With regard to the vehicle replacement are there any issues with the current vehicles besides the age and high gas prices? I just want to know how wise it would be to get seven new vehicles this year.

Mr. Sutton: Good question. The information I was provided was the maintenance that is associated with those particular 2007 Ford Trucks.

Mr. Salters: The vehicle replacement policy requires them to be replaced after seven years and if not, we are going to have more maintenance problems.

PUBLIC HEALTH VACANCY REPORT (Activity 37.6)

The board received a copy of the vacancy reports through the end of February 2022 prior to the meeting. The vacancy rate for February 2022 was 15.8%.

(A copy of February 2022 Vacancy report is attached to the minutes.)

NOTICES OF VIOLATIONS (NOV) REPORT (Activity 18.2)

The board received a copy of the Environmental Health Onsite Water Protection Section NOV report through the end of February 2022 prior to the meeting.

(A copy of February 2022 NOV report is attached to the minutes.)

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Chairman Jackson: I do have one question concerning the Cheek Road property that we have been working with since 2016. They were sent two demand letters, the last one was in January. What would be the next step? Attorney Wardell: The Cheek Road case, I believe we sent out a new demand letter including the administrative fees in our demand. so that would give them time to respond, if they don't respond administrative fees would be applied on that also. The next step would be to file a law-suit and once we file a law-suit, then we will seek conjunctive relief and enforce the administrative fines as well. What we found is Cheek Road is one of several that we sent out new demand letters because we want to include the provision for the administrative fees. Typically once they receive the demand letter with the administrative fees, the property owner responds and we get it resolved.

As a matter of fact, I was going to give a report on 213 Snowhill Road. We filed a lawsuit and received an entry of default on our motion this week. That is one that will be resolved fairly quickly. You will see on the report that there may be multiple demand letters where we wanted to make

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sure we included the administrative fees that were recently decided within the last 6-8 months to pursue the administrative fees.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 10, 2022

Division / Program: Nutrition Division/Implementation of the Durham County Government Healthy Vending Machine Policy (Accreditation Activity 10.2 - The local health department shall develop, implement, and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and educational materials for the public.)

Program description

- The Health Department assisted Durham County Government enact a healthy vending policy, following the American Heart Association's guidelines.

Statement of goals

- Ensure 100% of foods beverages sold in vending machines located in County owned buildings follow American Heart Association's guidelines.
- Create healthy spaces for Durham residents and employees to work and live.
- Reduce sugar, sodium, and saturated fat consumption.
- Limit marketing and sales of foods and beverages high in sugar, sodium, and saturated fats in order to put pressure on food and beverage companies to make more nutritious products more widely available and affordable.

Issues

- **Opportunities**
 - Durham County Government signed and is in the process of executing a healthy vending policy.
 - Durham County Government has signed a contract with the vending company Canteen. Canteen also services Mecklenburg County Government which has a healthy vending policy. Therefore, they are able to stock machines with foods and beverages meeting the American Heart Association criteria.
 - Durham County Wellness Team and Health Department staff will monitor the machines monthly to ensure compliance with the vending policy.
 - Acceptance of products and behavior changes the policy cause will be captured by surveys of staff. Sales data will also be closely monitored.
 - Taste tests of new products will be provided in heavily used vending areas around the County.
- **Challenges**
 - Staff and residents are used to purchasing certain foods and beverages from machines and may find it difficult to change these habits.
 - Due to the pandemic, many staff continue to telework, and offices remain closed. It will be more difficult to promote the new vending initiative and compare sales data pre and post implementation.

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Implication(s)

- **Service delivery**
 - All County Vending Machines will only sell products that meet the American Heart Association's recommendations by late spring/early summer 2022.
- **Staffing**
 - DCoDPH Nutrition and Health Education divisions, Durham County General Services, and the Durham County Wellness team are involved in this project.

Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies

- Work with Canteen to agree on a planogram, which lists foods allowed to be sold in the machines. A month following this agreement, 50% of products sold will meet criteria; two months following the agreement 100% of products sold will meet the new policy guidelines.
- Provide taste tests and promotion of the vending initiative.
- Work with the Wellness team to ensure compliance.

Division/Program: Dental/ Give Kids a Smile Event (Free Dental Clinic)

(Accreditation Activity 20.1- The local health department shall collaborate with community health care providers to provide personal and preventative health services.)

Program description:

- The annual Give Kids a Smile Program was held on Thursday, February 17, 2022, providing free exams and services to youth under 21 years of age.

Statement of goals:

- To promote good oral health in children 0-20, and to provide oral health instruction to patients and their families, as well as the community at large.

Issues

- **Opportunities**
 - The event was held on Thursday (as opposed to first Friday of February) so the Division could offer morning and afternoon sessions, providing more than exams and x-rays.
 - In addition to the Department's dental team, the UNC Adams School of Dentistry sent six dental students under the direction of faculty member Dr. Jeannie Ginnis.
 - UNC brought the school's therapy dog, Grayson for the full day.
 - Patients received exams, and the team provided operatory work for some patients.
 - The event included tables for the Gun Safety Team: Donna Rosser (Health Ed.) and Crystal Eatmon (Bull City United), and Nutrition: Ileana Vink.

- **Challenges**

- Although this is an opportunity for free dental care, there were five no-shows.
- The Dental Students work in teams of two and see up to six patients in a day, which limits the numbers of children we can schedule.

Implication(s)

- **Outcomes**
 - The opportunity to provide additional services was well received by patients as well as UNC dental students.
 - The therapy dog, Grayson, was popular with patients and the team. In addition to the patients, she visited with some of their families as well.
 - Vendors donated the materials and have pledged to do the same for next year's event.
- **Service delivery** – The event ran from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and 28 patients received dental services. Families received Nutritional information and were given materials on gun safety, including locks (when requested).
- **Staffing**- Three dental assistants, two hygienists, Director of Dental Practice, Division Director, and front desk staff assisted with the event.
- **Revenue** – The Division provided services free of charge.
- **Other** –N/A

Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies

The Dental Division has formed a committee to discuss ways to expand next year's event, devising a schedule that will allow us to see more patients.

Division / Program: Public Health / Environmental Health
(Accreditation Activity – 4.1 The local health department shall engage in surveillance activities and assess, investigate and analyze health problems, threats and hazards, maintaining and using epidemiological expertise.)

Program description

- **February 23rd, 2022, Abbott Formula Recall:** *Cronobacter* bacteria is found naturally in the environment and can cause diarrhea and unitary tract infections in people of all ages. *Cronobacter* has been found in products such as powdered milks, herbal teas, and starches. *Cronobacter* infections are rare, but they are frequently lethal for infants. On February 17, 2022, Abbott Nutrition company initiated a voluntary recall of powdered infant formulas including Similac, Alimentum and Elecare. The recall was initiated after four consumer complaints related to *Cronobacter* or *Salmonella* in infants. Currently 5 children have been hospitalized and two deaths have been reported where *Cronobacter* infection may have contributed to the cause of death for both infants
- In response to the recall, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Health Section of NCDHHS asked local health departments to prioritize childcare inspections and visits to complete a recall effectiveness check.

Statement of goals

- Ensure childcare centers and long-term care facilities are aware of the recall
- Provide education on the recall to facilities to distribute to families through email and onsite visits
- Label and/or dispose of any recalled product found during visits

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- Report findings to NCDHHS Emergency Preparedness and Outbreak Coordinator

Issues

- **Opportunities**
 - Remove recalled product from childcare centers
 - Reduce the risk of recalled product being used
 - Environmental Health working with owners and operators to build relations and trust throughout the community
- **Challenges**
 - Coordinating the response of staff
 - Providing easy information for staff and operators to look up lot numbers of recalled product

Implication(s)

- **Outcomes**
 - 117 childcare centers were visited, 8 attempted visits to centers that were not currently operating
 - 24 long-term care facilities visited or contacted
 - Recalled product found at 2 childcare centers
 - Reduced the risk of Durham County residents using recalled products, possibly saving infant lives
 - Increased communications between Environmental Health and childcare center operators
- **Service delivery**
 - Residents and childcare operators knowledgeable about recalled products.
- **Staffing**
 - 14 DCoPH Environmental Health members spent 2/23/22 and part of 2/24/22 visiting childcare and long-term care facilities.
 - 2 DCoPH Environmental Health administrative staff emailed all childcare, long-term care and residential care facilities on 2/22/22 with recall information and on 3/1/22 with updates.
 - Planning meeting to divide the list of 125 active childcare centers and 24 long-term care facilities (priority to those with infant care).
- **Revenue**
 - No revenues associated with this activity

Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies

- Continue to monitor recall updates and requests for further action
- Continued public education via PSAs and social media
- Inform childcare centers of any recall updates (recall was updated 2/28/22 and another email was sent to all childcare centers and long-term care facilities)

Division / Program: Pharmacy & Health Education / Safe Syringe Program

(**Accreditation Activity 10.1** -The local health department shall develop, implement, and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and materials for the general public.)

Program description

- On April 2, 2018, the DCoDPH Pharmacy launched the Safe Syringe Program based on the guidance and program requirements from the NC Division of Public Health.

Statement of goals

- To offer new needles, syringes, and injection supplies to reduce the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C in the community.

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from the NC Division of Public Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch.

- **Staffing**
 - Pharmacy and Health Education team members have received training from the NC Division of Public Health and the NC Harm Reduction Coalition regarding harm reduction strategies and Safe Syringe Program practices.
- Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies:**
- Statistics from the Safe Syringe Program will be monitored and reported to the Board of Health monthly.
 - The Opioid Response Committee will continue to work with the NC Division of Public Health to improve our program and develop strategies to further our goals.
 - In partnership with Durham County Emergency Medical Services (DCEMS), and Together for Resilient Youth (TRY), DCoDPH applied for a Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Harm Reduction Program Grant in early February. Notification is expected in mid-May, and if awarded, the grant would provide up to \$400,000 for up to three years to enhance community-wide harm reduction services, including the DCoDPH safe syringe program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BOARD OF HEALTH OPERATING PROCEDURES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT (Activity 34.1)

The Board of Health Operating Procedures Committee will consist of Dr. Mary Braithwaite, Dr. Victoria Orto, Dr. Jim Miller and Dr. Roger McDougal. Dr. Braithwaite will act as Chair and Dr. Jackson will act as Ex-Officio.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT (Activity 37.3)

Chair Jackson requested that the current members of the personnel committee continue to serve. The personnel committee will consist of Dr. Mary Braithwaite, Dr. Victoria Orto, Dr. Jim Miller and Dr. Roger McDougal. Dr. Braithwaite will act as Chair and Dr. Jackson will act as Ex-Officio.

OLD BUSINESS:

REVISED BOARD OF HEALTH OPERATING PROCEDURES (Activity 34.1)

Dr. Rhea made a motion to approve the revised Board of Health Operating Procedures. Mr. Curtis seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the board members as identified in the attendance roster above.

• **COVID UPDATE:**

Dr. Jeffrey Jenks, Medical Director for Durham County Department of Public Health provided the board with a COVID-19 and vaccine update.

Summary Information:

- Review previous CDC COVID-19 metrics
- Introduce current CDC COVID-19 metrics
- COVID-19 Updates
 - Trends
 - Hospital data
 - Vaccine updates

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- To offer free HIV and Hepatitis C testing and follow-up care.
- To offer education, treatment information, and referrals to community members.
- To provide a safe method of disposal for used needles and syringes.

Issues

• **Opportunities**

- Reduce the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C by offering new needles, syringes, and injection supplies.
- Reduce the risk of bacterial infections (i.e. endocarditis) that occur when injection supplies are reused.
- Connect participants with community resources including treatment options, health care, and housing assistance.
- The following items are provided in the Safe Syringe Kit:
 - 10 sterile 1.0mL syringes with fixed needles
 - Alcohol swabs
 - Tourniquet
 - Condoms
 - Sharps Container
 - Additional injection supplies
 - Participant ID card
 - Printed material for harm reduction and ancillary services
- Fentanyl testing strips and Naloxone kits are also offered with each SSP Kit.

• **Challenges**

- Ensure that used needles and syringes are properly discarded in a puncture proof container. Sharps containers are included with SSP Kits and participants are encouraged to use of them and return the container to the DCoDPH Pharmacy.
- Ensure that used needles and syringes are not deposited in the medication drop box in the HHS lobby.
- Bull City United was previously housed within the Department of Public Health but moved to form a separate County department for FY 21-22. BCU staff are working closely with DCoDPH staff to update all protocols to continue to distribute naloxone to program participants.

Implications

• **Outcomes**

- The following statistics have been collected for Feb 2022:
 - New participants: 2
 - Total contacts: 14
 - Syringes dispensed: 350
 - Syringes returned*: ~2,590
 - Sharps containers dispensed: 5
 - Fentanyl strips dispensed: 0
 - Naloxone kits distributed (with SSP): 12
 - Naloxone kits distributed (non-SSP): 81
 - Naloxone reversals reported: 0

*“Syringes returned” metric includes needles/syringes returned directly to staff regardless of usage (i.e. substance use, medical use, prescription use)

• **Service delivery**

- Planning and implementation were completed by the Opioid Response Committee with guidance and support

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is attached to the minutes.)

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Chair Jackson: One quick question Dr. Jenks so fully vaccinated, now we're talking 2-doses of Pfizer and Moderna and 1-dose of Johnson & Johnson so how are we doing with boosters in the county?

Dr. Jenks: Boosters varies by age group. I'm guessing a little bit here I think it's around 50-55% and those over 70 we are up near 60-70%. The younger ages are lagging behind. It especially hard when cases are decreasing for people to continue to feel the urgency to stay updated.

Dr. Braithwaite: Thank you for that Dr. Jenks, I'm hopeful that we can find creative ways to continue to try to vaccinate because we do have some vulnerable populations that remain unvaccinated and unboosted.

Dr. Jenks: If this becomes pandemic and seasonal, we are going to need to keep our food on the pedal as far as maintaining high vaccination rates or we could run into problems again. That is going to be the big challenge going forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK PROCLAMATION**

Mr. Jenkins, Public Health Director requested board approval to move forward with a recommendation from the board of health to present proclamation to the Board of County Commissioners in recognition of "Public Health Week" April 4-10, 2022.

Dr. Braithwaite made a motion to move forward with a recommendation from the board of health to present proclamation to the Board of County Commissioners in recognition of "Public Health Week".

- **BUDGET RATIFICATIONS**

The Durham County Department of Public Health request approval to recognize funds in the amount of to recognize \$25,000 from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health.

The Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) was awarded funds from the state, to initiate planning and implementation of approved strategies, including the formation or expansion of local Gun Safety Teams to promote safe storage practices, the initiation of Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) trainings, and the planning for future gatekeeper training sessions to prevent suicide and suicide attempts in their local community.

The Durham County Department of Public Health request approval to implement CY 2022 Family Planning Sliding Scale Fee effective 2/1/2022.

Mr. Curtis made a motion to approve the (2) budget ratifications recognized above. Dr. Orto seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the board members as identified in the attendance roster above.

- **BUDGET AMENDMENT**

The Durham County Department of Public Health request to authorize the Interim County Manager to execute a contract for \$341,864 with Matthews Specialty Vehicles for the purchase of the new Mobile Medical Unit.

The Durham County Department of Public Health provides services that prevent disease, promote health, and protect the environment. Services are typically provided at the Department of Public Health on Main Street in Durham. The Mobile Medical Unit would extend the reach of the

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Department by visiting communities to offer care to underserved populations who may lack health insurance, transportation, or time to travel to Department or other health facilities.

Funding for the Mobile Medical Unit will come from the AA 543 Grant.

Mr. Curtis made a motion to approve the budget amendment recognized above. Dr. Orto seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the board members as identified in the attendance roster above.

• **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING**

- Covid Update
- CLIA Inspection Report
- Refugee Health Program Presentation

INFORMAL DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

After some discussion, the board decided to reconvene in-person at the May 12, 2022 board of health meeting. The April 14, 2022 board meeting will be held virtually.

Dr. Rhea made a Motion to adjourn into closed session pursuant To N.C.G.S. 143-381.11 (A) (3) And (6) to consult with an Attorney Employed Or Retained By The County Of Durham to preserve the Attorney-Client Privilege; and, to discuss a personnel matter.
Mr. Curtis seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Orto made a motion to reconvene into regular session Mr. Gregorio seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the board members as identified in the attendance roster above.

Dr. Rhea made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:35pm. Mr. Curtis seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the board members as identified in the attendance roster above.



Rosemary Jackson, MD, Chair



Rodney E. Jenkins, Public Health Director