



Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County
Board Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2019

The Cabarrus County Public Health Authority Board met on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at Cabarrus Health Alliance, 300 Mooresville Road, Kannapolis North Carolina.

Members Present: James T. Mack, Jr., Chairman
Tedra Claytor, MD, Vice-Chairman
Lara Pons, MD
Mark Spitzer
Steve Morris
Tom Kincaid

Members Absent: Phyllis Wingate

CHA Staff Present: Dr. William F. Pilkington, Secretary to the Board, Dianne Berry, Clerk to the Board, Erin Shoe, Kim Ragan Marcella Beam, Ryan McGhee Sue Yates, Suzanne Knight

Others Present: Zac Moretz, Legal Counsel for Board

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mack called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm and offered the invocation

ADOPTION OF THE REVISED AGENDA

Chairman Mack noted that NCTN had been removed from the agenda under New Business, and for a motion to approve the revised agenda. Mr. Kincaid made a motion to approve the April 9th revised agenda. Upon a second by Dr. Claytor, the motion passed 5:0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Spitzer made a motion to approve the February 12, 2019 Board meeting minutes. Upon a second by Dr. Claytor, the motion passed 5:0.

REPORTS

The Financial Summary Report for Month ending February 28, 2019 and the Single Audit Closure Report for Year Ended June 20, 2019 were presented by Mrs. Yates. The 3rd Quarter Separations Report FY19 was presented by Mrs. Shoe.

CONSENT AGENDA

Budget Revisions and Amendment Requests and Adoption of 2019 Records Retention & Disposition Schedule Upon a motion by Mr. Kincaid, and a second by Mr. Spitzer, the Consent Agenda was approved 6:0.

BUSINESS AGENDA

Finance Policies

Mrs. Yates presented the Finance Policies with revisions needing Board approval, which included Dental Clinic Eligibility Policy; Public Health & Primary Care Services Eligibility Policy; Travel Policy. She noted that the Reserve Policy was for review only. Upon a motion by Mr. Spitzer and a second by Dr. Claytor, the motion passed 6:0.

Cabarrus County 2018 State of the County Health Report

Marcella Beam presented the 2018 SOTCH report, noting that the State of the County Health Report provides updates and information regarding the counties efforts to address the community priority areas: Substance Use, Mental Health and Childhood Obesity. The report includes data specific to these priorities, along with collaborative efforts and implemented strategies to address the needs of the community. The report is developed annually between the needs assessment process. Mrs. Beam also reviewed emerging issues that affect health status and new initiatives in Cabarrus County, including Lifestyle Medicine, eWIC Implementation, Peer Support Specialists, and El Puente Hispano. Upon a motion by Mr. Morris, and a second by Dr. Pons, the 2018 SOTCH report was approved 6:0.

Membership Criteria for Public Health Authority Board

Dr. Pilkington reminded the Board that following the February 12, 2019 CHA Board meeting, a sub-committee convened to review and make recommendations. The sub-committee included Dr. Lara Pons, Steve Morris, Mark Spitzer, Erin Shoe, Dr. William F. Pilkington, and Dianne Berry. As a result of that meeting, Board Legal Counsel Zac Moretz began the process of drafting a revision of the current By-Laws that have been in place since 1997. Some recommendations from that meeting included 1)striking the Treasurer for the Board and noting that representatives from Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners and Atrium Health would be allowed to serve longer than two 3-year terms.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS/SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Chairman Mack called for public comments. There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Health Update

Dr. Pilkington stated that year ago, Cabarrus County withdrew funding for Women's Health, and this year, there has been a larger deficit totaling \$470,000 to date. Dr. Pilkington reported that CHA's Women's Health Services are vital, and that he had consulted with Phyllis Wingate and Shad Ritchie at Atrium Health in an effort to understand the sudden downshift in women's health services. He recommended that monitor Women's Health services carefully for the next 6-8 months and then re-assess our options at that time. He further stated that his plan was to only award a 1.5% cola to CHA employees earning < \$60,000 annually in FY 2019, and immediately stop all travel and purchasing. He noted that two Women's Health employees have already been RIF'd, and this situation looks dire. Mr. Morris also asked what the impact would be to those employees not receiving raises. Would they go elsewhere? Dr. Pilkington responded, "I don't know. But I need to get Board approval before notifying staff that there will be no salary increases.

Dr. Claytor inquired about the structure of CHA Women's Health. Dr. Pilkington responded that we have mid-level Providers and two part-time OB's. He noted that hospital deliveries by our OB's ended 7/1/2018.

Dr. Pilkington noted that Dr. Russell Suda is a champion for our substance abuse maternity patients. Mr. Spitzer stated that the biggest concern here is the greater costs long term for drug-related issues in newborns.

Dr. Pilkington requested Board approval of the changes he recommended. Mr. Spitzer stated “this is such a fine staff. There is a major disconnect between the problem and the solution. So first, I want to better understand the problem. Is there an alternative?” Dr. Pilkington stated the only alternative at this point is to take the monies from the reserves to pay employee merit increases for FY19. He reminded the Board that 89% of our costs are employees. Mr. Morris asked why maternal health patients need to continue to come to CHA. Don’t other’s OB’s accept Medicaid? Dr. Pilkington responded, “Yes, but CHA provides wrap-around services here, even WIC!” Mr. Spitzer added, “If I were the Health Department, I would create a case to cause the Cabarrus County Commissioners to understand the importance for those patients served and the consequences for those if not served. For now, bridge the gap.” Mr. Morris added, “Women’s Health funding in LHD’s was cut years ago. It was a county government vs. hospital issue. Mr. Morris also noted, “the Cabarrus County budget is tight. It’s time for a re-education process. We have new County Commissioners in place now. If it’s a crisis situation, present it.”

Mr. Kincaid added, “If we withhold salary increases, we lose good people. I would need more information first.” Mr. Spitzer added, “If the Cabarrus County Commissioners help, Atrium and CHA can dig in deeper. Collaboration. If the Board has to subsidize Women’s Health, that’s one thing.”

Mr. Morris asked, “How would eliminating Women’s Health at CHA impact this organization? If we turn people away, will they go to the hospital? With no pre-natal care and not paying, how would this help?” Dr. Pons added that infants born to drug-addicted mothers cost a lot more. The newborn has to stay in the hospital longer. It’s a burden to the system. And many of the mother’s end up getting reported to DSS.”

Dr. Pilkington noted that if we add salary increases back in to the FY20 budget, that’s an additional \$200,000. He added, “if we lose women’s health services, we also eventually will lose pediatrics.” Dr. Clayton asked, to better prevent loss, do we do acute cuts now or try to rectify later?” Dr. Pilkington responded, “We did some cuts just 2 weeks ago. We don’t know the full impact yet.” Mrs. Yates added, “We have five strategies in place now, in an effort to increase efficiencies. We are making good strides in the right direction.” Mr. McGhee added that changes have been made in the Clinical Services schedule to increase the number of visits daily.”

Mr. Spitzer summarized next steps:

- Keep the money in the FY 20 budget for salary increases
- Talk to Cabarrus County Commissioners and request 200,000 for funding clinical services
- Pull funds from reserves, if needed
- Evaluate all Clinical Services
 - How to rectify
 - Dissect and Decide

Mr. Morris noted that none of us know yet how the Medicaid transformation will impact CHA. Dr. Pilkington committed that for now, we will just get through this.

Dream Center Project – The Village

Erin Shoe announced that CHA has operated a Dental Clinic at First Assembly Village for many years now. She recently looked at the adjacent space previously occupied by Bayada Nursing to lease for use for Community Dental staff, WIC, and then subleasing to NC Works and Department of Social Services to have satellite locations at that site. Mrs. Shoe stated that this area is 4,000 SF, but First Assembly will only charge us for the space being used. She added that there will also be a Wellness Center for Concord Dental staff in this area, and GATE Pregnancy is in this same area, along with the Crisis Assistance Food Pantry.

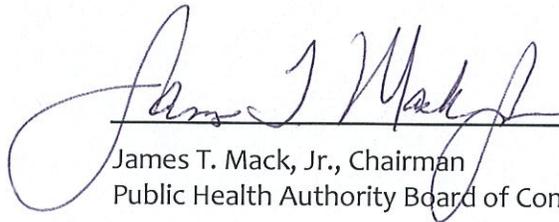
Mrs. Shoe added that CKRIDER Transit is working on new bus routes/stops to accommodate this location. Slated to be a collaborate network of community partners in Cabarrus County, the Dream Center will offer less expense and easier access.

National Public Health Accreditation – Update

Dr. Pilkington stated that CHA is one of two national accredited Local Health Departments. However, from the recent PHAB re-accreditation process, CHA did not meet several PHAB requirements, but we're working to rectify this by the end of June when our PHAB accreditation status will be reviewed by the PHAB Board

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Kincaid made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Upon a second by Mr. Spitzer, the motion passed 6.0



James T. Mack, Jr., Chairman
Public Health Authority Board of Commissioners

ATTEST



Dianne P. Berry, CMC, NCCMC
Clerk to the Board