

The Cleveland County Public Health Board met on Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Sara Karner, Ronnie Whetstine, Street Hamrick, Robert Miller, Marty Hamrick, Patti Alexander, Deanna Mosely Lawrence, and Tom Spurling,

Health Department staff present: Tiffany Hansen, DeShay Oliver, Alisa Leonard, Leslie McSwain, Anne Short, Nathan McNeilly, and Zakoya Spikes

Tim Moore and Martha Thompson, County Attorneys were present (remote).

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Chair Spurling called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and welcomed everyone.

Mr. Miller gave the invocation.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Mr. Hamrick was sworn into office as the new Pharmacy Representative to the Board.

DeShay welcomed Marty Hamrick as the new Pharmacy Representative to the Board. He comes to us from Atrium Health. He will be a great asset to the Board.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION:

No citizens requested to appear before the Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR MARCH 9, 2021 PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING:

Chair Spurling presented the proposed agenda for the March 9th, 2021 Public Health Board meeting for consideration of adoption.

Motion: A motion was made by Ronnie Whetstine with a second by Robert Miller to adopt the agenda for the March 9, 2021 Public Health Board meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9, 2021 PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Chair Spurling presented the February 9, 2021 Public Health Board meeting minutes for consideration of approval.

Motion: Patti Alexander moved that the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Public Health Board meeting be approved as presented. Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

DeShay Oliver provided a COVID-19 update to the Public Health Board. All the data is available on the NC DHHS COVID-19 dashboard. As of today, March 9, 2021 we have a total of 10,463 confirmed cases in Cleveland County. We have had a total of 472 cases within the last 14 days. In the last 7 days, we have had a total of 171 cases. We have 12 residents currently hospitalized and 218 deaths as of today in Cleveland County.

As of March 9, 2021, 56% of confirmed cases were female and 44% were male. Percentages by age group were as follows; 34% ages 25-49, 23% ages 50-64 and a very small percentage have been in individuals under the age of 18.

Ages 65-74 contain 25% of deaths and 56% of deaths fall into the age of 75 and older, 41% male and 54% of deaths were female.

Of the confirmed cases, 15.7% Black or African American, 61.7% were White, 10 % were Other and 10% Unknown. The deaths broken down by race are as follows; 22.1% Black or African American, 70% were White, 6.5% Other.

Ms. Oliver also shared the percentage of positive tests as compared to the total tests in the county. As of today, 6.4% for Cleveland County, 4.6% for NC. There was a decrease in weekly tests given in Cleveland County.

Ms. Oliver gave new updated information from the CDC regarding individuals that are fully vaccinated. Fully vaccinated means individuals who have received both doses of a two-dose vaccine such as the Pfizer or Moderna or one dose from a one dose vaccine such as Johnson and Johnson and as long as it has been two weeks after their second dose from two dose vaccine or one dose from a one dose vaccine. Individuals who are identified as a direct contact to a case and are fully vaccinated are not required to quarantine as long as they remain asymptomatic.

Ms. Oliver stated the CDC recommends that if a person is fully vaccinated that you can gather indoors with others that are fully vaccinated without wearing a mask or face covering. You can also gather indoors with unvaccinated individuals from one other household as long as those individuals are not considered high risk.

The CDC recommends fully vaccinated individuals still wear face coverings, practice social distancing, and hand washing when they are in public places or gathering with unvaccinated individuals from more than one other household or visiting with unvaccinated individuals with known high risk health issues. Avoid medium and large size gatherings and travel when possible.

COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN UPDATE:

Tiffany Hansen gave an update on the COVID-19 vaccination efforts via a PowerPoint that was shared on screen to all Board members.

Ms. Hansen stated that the first slide is the latest update to the DHHS dashboard. The slide is a screen shot of today's numbers of those that have been vaccinated. For Cleveland County, we have had 17,172 (17.5%) individuals that have received their first doses and 8,742 (8.9) individuals have received their second doses.

The next slide (2) shows the vaccine framework. We are currently in Groups 1, 2, and 3 and as of March 24 we will be moving into Group 4. Group 4 are those individuals with chronic conditions who may not have fallen into any of the other categories.

Slide (3) outlines who falls into Group 3. Group 3 is our work force. This category includes 8 sectors and shows the types of jobs that could potentially fall into each sector. The sectors are Critical Manufacturing, Education, Essential Goods, Food and Agriculture, Government and Community Services, Health care and Public Health, Public Safety, and Transportation.

Slide (4) indicates our COVID Vaccine Inventory. As of yesterday, 03-08-2021, we have received a total of 10,970 first doses and 10,671 (97%) of the first doses have been administered. For this week's allocation, we have received 1170 Pfizer and 300 Moderna vaccines. This will also remain the same next week. There should be no concerns for individuals who receive the first dose Moderna that we will not have the allocation for the second dose. We do receive matching allocations for the type of vaccine given.

Ms. Hansen shared that Kerri Melton has set up a site through Sign-up Genius that allows local churches to sign up to help with providing lunches to those that are working the COVID vaccine clinics. This has been a wonderful partnership.

The last side (6) is a scheduling update and how people can schedule vaccine appointments. A person can call 980-484-6019 and the line is open from 8am -5pm Monday-Friday. Also, last week we launched a registration form. We know that Group 3 is comprised predominantly by our work force and may not always be able to call. When someone completes our form online, someone from our staff will in turn reach out to them to schedule an appointment.

Ms. Hansen stated that Atrium Health had an event at Shelby High School and approximately 1500 Cleveland County residents were vaccinated through that site. We have three Walgreens locations that are now administering the vaccine. We have two Ingles pharmacies that are approved to administer the vaccine but they not yet been allocated any vaccine at this time. We have partnered Mountain Street Pharmacy and Shelby Drug to help administer 300 Moderna vaccines.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SCORECARD AND 2020 SOTCH REPORT:

Anne stated that the SOTCH report is the State of the County Health Report. This report is done on the years we do not do a full Community Health Assessment. The Community Health Assessment (CHA) was completed in 2020 and the State of the County Health Report is due in 2021. Zakoya Spikes was asked to come because she is the lead on this project. Teen Births and Tobacco were the two health indicators that were selected in the county for our Scorecard. We

are able to pull state for our scorecard and moving forward, it will automatically update and load into the scorecard so we can track ongoing performance based measures. We have the ability to update local data as well. We looking at adult tobacco use, percentage increase in governmental entities instituting comprehensive tobacco free policies, and youth tobacco use as indicators for tobacco. For each one of these is a story behind the curve, a statement of what works, and a listing of strategies we are going to be working toward. There are two programs listed for tobacco: Too Good for Drugs and Catch My Breath. It also explains our partnership with Atrium Health on tobacco cessation that we started in February 2020. The same format is used Teen Births. Some of the things we have tracked for a long time in Cleveland County are the number of low birth weight babies born in the county, the number of preterm babies we have in the county, the infant mortality rates in the county, as well as teen pregnancy and teen births in the county. We have been working on teen pregnancy since 2008. Our teen pregnancy and teen birth rates are down. It will show data for the most recent period and what is improving. We had to account for current mortality data, COVID data, emerging issues since our last CHA and our biggest one is COVID. Right now, there is a lag in data, depending on when data for 2020 is completed by. COVID is causing many delays with State providing the data.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

Ms. Oliver stated over the course of the last two meetings we have been discussing revisions to our operating procedures that serve as our by-laws regarding to address attendance requirements for Board members. We are statutorily required to have representatives on our Board from specific sectors and we rely very heavily on your expertise and experience. As you may recall, we reached out to other counties and requested some sample language from their by-laws and we reviewed these during our February meeting. Based on our discussion and the sample language provide, Martha Thompson drafted a proposed resolution to amend our current operating procedures to address meeting attendance for Board members. Ms. Oliver stated she emailed everyone a copy of the draft to review prior to tonight's Board meeting.

The proposed language states if you are absent from 3 consecutive board meetings or have less than 60% annual attendance at the board meetings, unless it is excused absences such as for a medical reason, you can be removed by the board. A board member would be given written notice and then you have 10 days to respond. Then a recommendation from this Advisory Board to the Board of Commissioners would be made for removal of the board member.

A motion to adopt the resolution to amend the operating procedures regarding attendance requirements was made by Sara Karner with a second by Ronnie Whetstine. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Leslie McSwain presented several budget amendments.

ITEM NUMBER ONE

NCDHHS has allocated \$274,252 to support our COVID Vaccination Planning and implementation of our mass COVID vaccination clinics both on and off site. This will support salary/fringe and purchase laptops and fans during the warmer weather.

ITEM NUMBER TWO

Gardner Webb University gave \$400.00 for nursing student clinical rotation in our Maternity Clinic. This will be used in the Maternity Clinic for supplies.

ITEM NUMBER THREE

NCDHHS has allocated \$8,125 for our Breast and Cervical Screening Program. This will be used to screen an additional 25 women who will be eligible for that service. This will be budgeted in our professional services in our Adult Health department.

A motion to recommend the budget amendments to the Board of Commissioners was made by Robert Miller with a second by Deanna Moseley Lawrence. The motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Ronnie Whetstine stated when we make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, we should send it to them in time to review it prior to their next scheduled meeting.

ADJOURN: 7:02pm

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

Motion: Sara Karner moved, with a second by Deanna Moseley Lawrence that the Cleveland County Public Health Board meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Tiffany Hansen, Secretary
Cleveland County Public Health Board
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