The Cleveland County Public Health Board met on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Chair Sara Karner, Ronnie Whetstine, Street Hamrick, Robert Miller, Marty Hamrick, Kale Meade, Heather Bridges Moore

Board members present remotely: Deanna Moseley Lawrence

Health Department staff present: Tiffany Hansen, Deshay Oliver, Leslie McSwain, Alisa Leonard, Anne Short, Nathan McNeilly, Jamie Todd, Andrea Power

Visitors Present: Dick Baker

County Attorney present: Tim Moore, Elliott Engstrom

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:**

Deshay Oliver opened the meeting by explaining that we would be doing things a little different as we will be recognizing the “When the Smoke Clears” contest winners. Deshay then turned the meeting over to Chair, Sara Karner who then called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and welcomed everyone.

Mr. Miller gave the invocation.

**CITIZEN RECOGNITION:**

No citizens requested to appear before the Board.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR August 9, 2022, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING:**

Chair Karner presented the proposed agenda for the August 9, 2022, Public Health Board meeting for consideration of adoption.

**Motion: A motion was made by Ronnie Whetstine with a second by Marty Hamrick to adopt the agenda for the August 9, 2022, Public Health Board meeting as prepared. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF JUNE 14, 2022, PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

Chair Karner presented the June 14, 2022, Public Health Board meeting minutes for consideration of approval.

**Motion: Marty Hamrick moved that the minutes of the June 14, 2022, Public Health Board Meeting be approved, and Kale Meade made the second. The motion carried unanimously.**

**CONTEST WINNER RECOGNITION:**

Chair Karner introduced Deshay Oliver presenting the winners of the “When the Smoke Clears Video Contest”. When the Smoke Clears video contest was a contest that was developed by the Cleveland County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition to engage young people and be the messengers about why other young people should not use marijuana. Young people were asked to develop a 30 second video using the platform of their choice about the dangers of associated with youth marijuana use. The young adults that submitted a video were judged by Cleveland County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and about 20 members were present for the judging. This event was sponsored by the Cleveland County Health Department, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, and Dick Baker with The Healthcare Foundation of Cleveland County. The prizes being presented are for: 3rd place is $60 in gift cards for Chick-fil-a and AMC Movie Theatres, 2nd place is $110 in gift cards for Chick-fil-a, AMC Theatre, Papa Johns, and The Dollar Tree, and 1st place is $110 in gift cards for Chick-fil-a, AMC Theatre, Papa Johns, and The Dollar Tree, plus an Apple Watch. Deshay did announce the winners for 7th through 9th grades, and 10th through 12th grades. The winners for the 3rd place in the 7th to 9th grade category are Zach and Zoie Bolin, the 2nd place winner for the 7th to 9th grade category is Janeyah Coleman, and the 1st place winner for the 7th to 9th grade category is Sadie Oliver. The winner for 2nd place in the 10th to 12th grade category is Maliyah Allen, and the 1st place winner in the 10th to 12th grade category is Adrian Cook. The courage demonstrated in completing these videos and to stand up for what you believe is greatly appreciated. Congratulations to all the winners!

**SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION:**

Chair Karner introduced Jamie Todd with his presentation on substance use prevention. Jamie Todd is the drug free community’s coordinator at The Cleveland County Health Department. Jamie spoke about the three different approaches for substance use prevention with the first approach being the community-based approach. The community-based approach is funded by several different funding streams, which include the Block Grant and the Drug-Free Communities Grant. The Drug-Free Communities Grant is a 10-year grant that we receive $125,000 annually and requires 150% match for every dollar spent. The main purpose of this grant is to address youth substance abuse. The grant does help fund the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition for Cleveland County and requires funded coalitions to include active participation from 12 sectors of the community. The 12 sectors are state and local substance abuse, parents, media, faith based, healthcare, other agencies, law enforcement, youth, business, youth serving organizations, schools, and civic & volunteer groups. The mission of SAPC is by bringing Cleveland County together for the common goal of reducing youth substance abuse by providing education and improving community conditions. The vision is to eliminate youth substance abuse in Cleveland County. SAPC currently has around 75 members that represent approximately 30 agencies across the County. One of our biggest community projects is Medicine Drop Boxes, we currently have 20 drop boxes across the County and law enforcement does help maintain those for CCHD to ensure proper disposal of the medicines. Since 2016 we have collected over 20 million dosage units. CCHD also provides at no cost to the community include medicine lock boxes, medication disposal kits, nicotine replacement therapy, and Narcan distribution to our law enforcement and Ems workers. The second approach is the School Based approach. A requirement of the DFC grant is that a pride survey is completed every other year by students in grades 6, 9 and 12. The data collected in that survey is used to direct our prevention work. We do facilitate an evidenced based curriculum called “Too Good for Drugs” in 4th grade at Graham and East Elementary schools and taught to all 7th graders in the Cleveland County School system. Our S.O.A.R. program is our alternative to suspension program. S.O.A.R. stands for Student Option and Redirection and helps a student who violates a no drug policy by reducing their school suspension from 10 to 5 days if they complete the program. The S.O.A.R. program is facilitated by health educators and does require completion of 4 education sessions. CCHD has also implemented a new adolescent tobacco cessation program called H.A.L.T. that stands for Helping Adolescents Leave Tobacco. A student is assessed during a visit to their school-based health center and offered resources based on level of nicotine dependence. The student is referred by school administration, staff, or school nurse through school-based health center services. The student can complete the program as an individual or in a group setting of 4-6 sessions. Also, based on dependency, the student can prescribe nicotine replacement therapy with parental consent. We do a lot of educational campaigns through a lot of different methods such as billboards, social media, and a PSA at AMC Theatre in Shelby. Some of the current campaigns that we do are When the Smoke Clears, Don’t Buy Don’t Supply (Prevent Underage Drinking), Escape the Vapes, Pills Can Kill Never Share, and Lock Your Meds. We currently have billboards across the County for Drinking and Driving, Lock Your Meds, and When the Smoke Clears (Teen Marijuana Use Prevention). We have social media ads for Pills Can Kill and Underage Drinking, and PSAs for Pills Can Kill across 26 Redbox Kiosks in the County. Mr. Miller asked if Narcan distribution was at no cost to the community, and Jamie did say that it is at no cost but is only distributed to agencies but not to individuals.

**MONKEYPOX UPDATE:**

Chair Karner introduced Alisa Leonard with a Monkeypox update. Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. It was first discovered in 1958 in colonies of monkeys. The monkeypox virus is part of the same family of viruses that causes smallpox, and the symptoms are like smallpox but milder, and monkeypox is rarely fatal. The first human case of monkeypox was recorded in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1970. Prior to the 2022 outbreak, monkeypox had been reported in people in several central and western African countries. Almost all monkeypox cases in people outside of Africa were linked to international travel to countries where the disease commonly occurs or through imported animals. The first case of Monkeypox was identified in the U.S. on May 12, 2022, in Massachusetts. North Carolina’s first case was identified on June 23, 2022. As of August 8, 2022, the U.S. has 8934 cases, and North Carolina has 111 cases. Money is spread through person-to-person direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or bodily fluids, respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact, such as kissing, cuddling or sex. Pregnant people can spread the virus to their fetus through the placenta. Touching items, such as clothing, that was previously touched by someone with the infectious rash can spread the virus. You can get the virus from infected animals, either by being scratched or bitten by the animal or by eating meat or using products from an infected animal. People who do not have monkeypox symptoms cannot spread the virus to others. The symptoms of Monkeypox are somewhat like the flu with fever, headache, muscle aches and backache, swollen lymph nodes, chills, exhaustion, sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough, and a rash that look like pimples or blisters that appear on the face, inside the mouth, and on other parts of the body, like the hands, feet, chest, genitals, or anus. The rash goes through different stages before healing completely. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks. Testing for the virus is widely available across the State at local health departments, including the Cleveland County Health Department, and commercial labs. Testing is encouraged if you have had close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with monkeypox or have symptoms of monkeypox. There are not specific treatments for the Monkeypox virus, however antiviral medications used to treat smallpox may be used for those with weakened immune systems. There are currently two stockpiled vaccines for Monkeypox that can prevent Monkeypox in people who are exposed to the virus. Vaccines are currently available to people meeting any of the following criteria: People who have been in close physical contact with someone diagnosed with monkeypox in the prior 14 days, men who have sex with men, or transgender individuals who report any of the following in the last 90 days: multiple or anonymous sex partners, being diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection, receiving HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis, and last certain health care workers and public health response team members designated by public health authorities would be eligible for the vaccine. The question was asked if there was still only one case identified in Cleveland County, and Alisa answered with yes. Also, the question was asked how it was determined what Counties received the vaccines, and Alisa answered that the larger Counties received the vaccine and then those Counties distributed a requested amount to smaller Counties. Alisa expressed that she has been very proud of the response both Nationally and Statewide as it has been quick and very thorough.

**HEALTH DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION REVIEW:**

Chair Karner introduced Tiffany Hansen with a review of the health director job description. Tiffany informed everyone that an email was sent out by Deshay Oliver before the Board meeting with the job description for the health director for Cleveland County. Tiffany explained that the County has simplified job descriptions for easier understanding, so the document that describes Tiffany’s position has been condensed into a 2-page document versus a 12-page document. Tiffany asked that everyone review the job description and provide any suggestions for change. She also explained that everyone should have received an email with the health directors annual job performance survey attached, she asked that everyone complete that review at their earliest convenience and offer any suggestions for improvement. Chair Karner presented the proposed health director job description for consideration.

**Motion: Kale Meade moved that the proposed health director job description be approved, and Marty Hamrick made the second. The motion carried unanimously.**

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:**

Chair Karner introduced Leslie McSwain with budget amendments for CCHD.

**ITEM NUMBER ONE:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been allocated $175,395 from NC DHHS for Communicable Disease Pandemic Recovery. Funds will be used towards existing salaries/fringes as well as medical supplies, billboard advertisement, departmental supplies, and training. These funds will be used towards the expansion of essential public health services to control communicable disease in the community. We request that these funds be budgeted in our TB/CD/STD (532) department.

**ITEM NUMBER TWO:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been awarded $14,000 in partnership with UNC Chapel Hill to participate in the Med-South Lifestyle Study Program. These funds will be used towards salaries/fringe for staff time utilized in training requirements set out by CDC/UNC Center for Health Promotions and Disease Prevention. We request these funds be budgeted in our Health Promotion (535) department.

**ITEM NUMBER THREE:**

The Cleveland County Health Department has been allocated an additional $10,280 from Partners Behavioral Health Management. These funds will be used to provide leadership development training for the SAPC Coordinator, as well as training to coalition member and/or community partners. We request funds to be budgeted in our CODAP (548) department.

**Motion: A motion to recommend the proposed budget amendments to the Board of Commissioners was made by Robert Miller and a second was made by Marty Hamrick. The motion carried unanimously.**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Chair Karner did introduce our Deputy County Attorney, Elliott Engstrom with a review on the declaration for the State of Emergency remote attendance policy. The State of Emergency will expire in 5 days and when that declaration is lifted the remote attendance policy will end. All meetings must meet in person once the State of Emergency is lifted. Quorums should be met by meeting in person, however if someone needs to attend remotely for informational purposes under an emergency circumstance then a link should still be provided.

**ADJOURN: 6:56 PM**

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

**Motion: Robert Miller moved, with a second by Marty Hamrick that the Cleveland County Public Health Board meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Tiffany Hansen, Secretary

Cleveland County Public Health Board