

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors Meeting
March 12, 2025
2:00 p.m. (Following NCALHD Awards Luncheon)
Reynolds Room
Embassy Suites, Harrison Oaks Blvd., Cary, NC

Call to Order	Rod Jenkins
Approval of Minutes from February Meeting	Josh Swift
Treasurer’s/Financial Report	Josh Swift
President’s Report.....	Rod Jenkins
Executive Director’s Report	Patrick Brown
Interim NC DHHS Chief Medical Officer/State Health Director Report.....	Dr. Kelly Kimple
Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local and Community Support, DPH.....	Stacie Saunders
DCFW Updates.....	Sharon Bell

ACTION ITEMS AND UPDATES - from Work Groups

Partner Update	Patrick Brown
PH Funding and Investments.....	Jen Greene
Workforce Recruitment and Retention	Janet Clayton
PH Data and Performance Measures	Wes Gray
Communications	Lisa Harrison
Nominations and Bylaws.....	Quintana Stewart
Education and Awards.....	Helene Edwards

Region Reports & District Health Department Reports

Region I	Elaine Russell
Region II	David Jenkins
Region III.....	Rachel Willard
Region IV.....	Alyssa Harris
Region V.....	Tony LoGiudice
Region VI.....	Helene Edwards
Region VII	Cinnamon Narron
Region VIII.....	Krissy Hoover
Region IX.....	Ashley Stoop
Region X.....	Joy Brock
District Workgroup.....	Lisa Harrison

Partner Reports

NCAPHA	Janet Clayton
NCPHA.....	Amy Belflower Thomas
NACCHO	Lisa Harrison
NCIPH	Amy Joy Lanou
ANCBH	Merle Green
NC-SOG	Kirsten Leloudis
NC SOPHE	Michelle Partridge-Doerr

Adjourn

Next Meeting: NCALHD Meeting
April 17, 2025 – 1:00 p.m. (At Conclusion of Health Directors’ Legal Conference)
UNC School of Government, Chapel Hill, NC

**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
Association Business Meeting
February 20, 2025 – 9:30 am
Virtual**

Meeting Called to Order – Dr. Rod Jenkins

President Dr. Rod Jenkins (Durham Co.) opened the meeting at 9:30am and thanked everyone for attending online. The meeting was virtual due to winter weather across most of the state.

Approval of Minutes – Joshua Swift

Minutes were distributed with the packet via email. President Jenkins asked for a motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion: Motion to approve was made by Lillian Koontz (Davidson Co.) and seconded by Janet Clayton (Person Co.). No objections – minutes were approved by consensus.

Treasurer’s Report – Joshua Swift

The Treasurer’s Report was distributed with the packet via email. President Jenkins asked for a motion for approval of the Treasurer’s Report.

Motion: Motion to approve was made by Janet Clayton (Person Co.) and seconded by Kim Smith (Columbus Co.). No objections – Treasurer’s Report was approved by consensus.

President’s Report – Dr. Rod Jenkins

Thanks to everyone for the pivot to virtual due to the weather. Public Health Day at the General Assembly will be on Tuesday, April 15th the day before the Health Directors Legal Conference. Dr. Jenkins asked that we attend and show strong support for Public Health. He thanked Region 8 for allowing him to attend their regional meeting. Dr. Jenkins thanked Elaine Russell (Transylvania Co.) former NCALHD Past President and Anna Lippard (Jackson Co.) for allowing him to visit their respective counties. He reminded the Association that the only constant is change. He thanked Ryan Jury’s input in yesterday’s meeting. Dr. Jenkins encouraged everyone to take care of themselves.

Executive Director Report – Patrick Brown

- There will be an Innovations meeting at the end of today’s NCALHD meeting.
- Registration for Public Health Legislation Day on April 15th will be going out today. Pass this along to staff that are interested.
- Matt Morgan has started data collection efforts regarding MedNow. We are looking for a 3-year rolling average versus year over year, so please send that information to Matt.

NCPHA Disaster Relief fund raised over \$40,000 to provide support to Public Health professionals in Western North Carolina. Submission of funds will be closed on Friday, February 27.

Care Management proposal has been reviewed for funding. Awaiting other two potential bidders to submit proposals by end of next week. Proposals may be reviewed by Officers before the Public Health Leaders Meeting.

Legislative Update

No movement this week due to inclement weather. Tracking the following:

- Senate Bill - Body Piercing that would create regulation of operators and individuals similar to Tattoo regulations. Legislation would have to allow Board of Health to set fee, which it currently doesn't.
- Patrick encouraged Health Directors to spend AA 546 and may be asking for stories about the ways those funds have been used. Stacie Saunders (NCDPH) stated that her team would be reaching out to those Local Health Directors who have not used funds. Patrick encouraged discussing at regional meetings to determine how to best use funds.
- House Bill 89 would change college vaccination requirements.
- House Bill 60 would change Medicaid rates for dental.
- Continuing to monitor septic tank legislation.

Yvonne Copeland mentioned specific briefings that will be occurring. Please pay attention to emails.

Collaboration Strategic Plan

Patrick asked if the Association is ready to vote on the plan or if there is more discussion. Patrick mentioned the need for a standing planning retreat for the NCAHLD.

Dr. Rod Jenkins asked the Association for next steps. Jen Greene (App. District) made a motion to approve the Collaboration Strategic Plan, and Krissy Hoover (Onslow Co.) seconded. The Health Directors voted unanimously to approve the plan.

Yvonne Copeland – Division of Child and Family Well-Being

Ms. Copeland gave an update (slides to be sent to listserv). All expected federal payments have been received. Operating under a continuing resolution through March 14 and expect federal budget approval that would avoid a federal shutdown. DCFW continues to monitor this situation as well as federal funding and staffing cuts and is focused on mitigating if cuts occur.

Leadership transitions at DCFW with recruitment for Deputy Director, Assistant Director of Finance and Assistant Director of Community Nutrition Services.

WIC agencies have continued to see strong participation numbers with over 250,000 participants across North Carolina. Seventy-five agencies in NC will receive caseload increases with the others not receiving a decrease. Alyssa Harris (Rowan Co.) asked if federal funding cuts would affect WIC. Ms. Copeland stated that if funding cuts occurred it would affect next year.

NC DHHS Assistant Secretary for Public Health – Stacie Saunders

Ms. Saunders stated that DPH continues to take a thoughtful approach and monitor federal funding and policy changes. She mentioned that Dr. Kimple looks forward to meeting everyone at the Public Health Leaders Conference.

Public Health continues to do great work across North Carolina. DPH and NCALHD Officers have been meeting regularly to discuss federal situation and noted the dialogue session yesterday afternoon. Stacie mentioned that she is available and accessible, and encouraged persons to reach out to her and the NCALHD Officers.

Fiscal Year 25/26 Agreement Addendum have gone out. She mentioned questions about the Consolidated Agreement and will coordinate future Officer Hours for questions. Candice DuVernois (DPH) will be developing and distributing a QI survey to improve the Consolidated Agreement. In addition, studying septic tank and private well impacts from Hurricane Helene.

Agreement Addendum progress report to be sent out at the end of each fiscal year and mid-year. AA 546 extended until June 2025, reminder this is Communicable Disease funding from the NC General Assembly. Also discussed AA 121 and the overall need to spend funds. Members in the chat expressed need to hold office hours for AA 716 and 719.

Action Items and Updates – from Work Groups

Partner Updates:

PH Funding and Investments – Jen Greene

Workgroup met and Jen Greene thanked Stacie Saunders and the DPH team for providing the AA update. There was discussion about the Community Health Grant and changing how funds are distributed.

The group determined that it would be best to reach out to the NC Office of Rural Health. The workgroup agreed that more consistent funding is needed and asked that Patrick Brown reach out to Rural Health. Discussion about whether grants funds are awarded as a set amount (Ex. \$150,000/year) or health departments receive funds per visit (Ex. \$50/visit).

Workforce Recruitment and Retention – Janet Clayton

Did not meet.

PH Data and Performance Measures – Lillian Koontz

The group met and Dr. Ericka Samoff asked for feedback from Health Directors about the CD Dashboard. Lillian mentioned that she had several volunteers from across the state.

In addition, the group focused on recalibrating the finance snapshot of how each local health department is funded. This process caused confusion last year and has been simplified. A survey will be sent out and use last year's budget to complete the 10-minute survey. We need 100 percent participation for this to be effective.

Discussed the Data Summit in May and encouraged persons to attend.

Communications – Sheila Davies

Bethany Milford noted presentations from local Public Information Officers at the local level. Presentations shared with the group.

Nominations and Bylaws – Quintana Stewart

Did not meet.

Education and Awards – Helene Edwards

Helene Edwards (Hoke Co.) stated that the nominations committee would like to thank everyone who submitted applications for awards.

New Health Directors orientation will be May 13th.

Region Reports

From **Region 3** Rachel Willard (Wilkes Co.) raised up the concern of the lack of information with the After-Action Report regarding Hurricane Helene. Earlier this week was informed the initial summary would not be shared due to DPH working with an external partner to complete a larger assessment. Understand the why, however with the emphasis placed on this incident by the Governor's Office as well as our Federal Administration would still ask for someone from PHP&R to just provided some initial highlights at this meeting or at a regional meeting. Region 3 just wants to ensure transparency and consistency given GovOps is reaching out to impacted counties regarding the incident.

Note: Alyssa Harris, Region 4 shared their region had the same concerns and would also like to be informed.

From **Region 4**, Alyssa Harris (Rowan Co.) brought up the consultant audit tool and Patick Brown stated that this would be resent to the Association.

From the Consolidate Directors Alliance (CDA), Jess Wall (Yadkin Co.) brought up NC GS 153A-77 The CDA is an informal group of professionals who serve as their county's HSA Director. This group meets quarterly, sharing best practice, innovative programing, and keeping one another up to date on current events and other problem solving unique to being a consolidated agency. Part of our recent work together included creating a subgroup to review the language in 153A-77 or "The authority of boards of commissioners over commissions, boards, agencies, etc." With guidance from Kristi Nickodem with the UNC School of Government, the Alliance is recommending some cleanup of this legislation. The suggestion edits are merely "clean up" or removing and/or amending items that are not relevant or

would provide clarification at times when the local public health agency is NOT included in consolidation.

Suggested changes to the language include:

- In FIVE locations, removing “area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse area board/authority” as this is no longer relevant
- Under c), removing 1) and 1a) (while leaving “four persons who are human services consumers and adding two items to include “Eight persons who are professional, each with qualifications in one of these categories: one psychologist, one pharmacist, one engineer, one dentist, one optometrist, one veterinarian, one social worker, and one registered nurse AND two physicians licensed to practice medicine in this State, once of whom shall be a psychiatrist.”
- Included “If there is not a qualified psychologist, pharmacist, engineer, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, social worker, registered nurse, physician, or psychiatrist available for appointment, and additional representative of the general public MAY BE (versus shall) appointed, until such time as a qualified individual is available.
- Remove item 12) speaking to mental health service planning as not relevant
- Under d) AND e) added language that clears up that CHSA board do not have BOH or Board of DSS board if they DO NOT include these departments in their consolidation AND CHSA director for same reasoning.
- The addition of “if the board of county commissioners has consolidated the functions of the county health department into the consolidated county human services agency” FIVE times to be clearer that these board authority/director action would only be including if LHD is part of the CHSA.

The association agreed to review and respond with questions.

Health Director Open Discussion

Nina Oliver (Carteret Co.) brought up discussion from yesterday regarding immigration agents coming into local health departments and asked if Virginia Niehaus (DPH) could provide guidance. Jen Greene mentioned discussions at Region 3 and efforts to address with staff. Jill Moore from the UNC School of Government mentioned that she would study this.

Partner Reports

Dr. Rod Jenkins has asked that a new partner report be added – CTAC.

NCAPHA – Janet Clayton

Janet Clayton noted that 5 applications have been received with review forthcoming.

NCPHA – Dr. Rod Jenkins

Dr. Jenkins noted the disaster relief applications already mentioned.

NACCHO – Lisa Macon Harrison

No report

NCIPH – Margaret Benson Nemitz gave the following report:

- **Community Assessment & Strategy**
 - The annual Foundational Capabilities Assessment has begun! Focus groups are scheduled in each region (Regions 1-4 are complete) and the FC survey will open on Monday 2/24! Keep an eye out for promotional materials from your Regional Lead that you can use to engage your staff. Note that anyone who participates in the survey or focus groups has the chance to enter a raffle for a \$100 gift card. Thank you for making sure your health department’s voice informs future investments in the workforce and Foundational Capabilities in North Carolina!
- **Workforce Development and Training**
 - Applications are now open for the 2025-2026 NC Division of Public Health Fellowship. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in sharing the program information with your networks. Read more about the program on our new website and follow the North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH) on LinkedIn for general program updates. Thank you so much for your time, consideration, and assistance in helping us connect with potential candidates and grow the next generation of public health leaders!
 - We are especially seeking candidates for the Agency Legal Consultant I and Nurse Consultant I roles. Recent graduates within 3 years of graduating from a related degree program are welcome to apply. Agency Legal Consultant I – \$34/hour | Division Office’s Legal Team Nurse Consultant I – \$25/hour | Epidemiology, Communicable Disease Branch Statistician I – \$25/hour | State Center for Health Statistics, Central Cancer Registry Program Analyst I – \$24/hour | State Center for Health Statistics, Central Cancer Registry Public Health Epidemiologist – Oral Health – \$28/hour | Epidemiology, Oral Health, Public Health Epidemiologist – Foodborne Program – \$28/hour | Medical Consultation Unit Public Health Informatician – \$31/hour | Epidemiology, Communicable Disease Branch, Surveillance Systems Unit
Learn more and apply at: www.ncphpathways.org
- **Accreditation**
 - We presented our plans to update NCLHDA rules to the Commission for Public Health meeting on February 5 and are currently working on some final edits to the rulemaking language and fiscal note based on feedback from attorneys, health directors, and standards workgroup members. To move forward with periodic review requirements, we recommended and CPH approved an initial determination of all rules in 10A NCAC 48 as “necessary” while we finalize replacement language.

ANCBH

Merle Green stated Annual Public Health Nurses celebration Friday, May 2nd at Great Wolf Lodge in Concord. The theme will be the Power of Public Health Nurses. CEUs will be available plus Accreditation training. Dr. Antonia Monk Richburg from the Forsyth County United Way will be the keynote speaker. Encourage nurses to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Green at mgreen4@triad.rr.com.

NC-SOG

Jill Moore mentioned that she will be filling in for Kristen Leloudis who is out on maternity leave. The April 16-17 Health Directors Legal Conference registration link will be sent out soon.

NC SOPHE

Dr. Antonia Mead stated that several members will be attending the National SOPHE conference in April. With a liaison being announced next week.

Adjourn

Motion: Lillian Koontz made a motion to adjourn, second by Jess Wall. No opposition. Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
As of February 28, 2025

ASSETS

Bank Accounts

CD-SECU *4185	40,000.00
Checking-SECU *6586	480.02
Checking-TB *1894	56,412.91
Insured Cash Sweep	315,839.55
Money Market-SECU *0321	7,257.00
Money Market-TB *7815	251,159.45
Savings-SECU *1387	44.15

Total Bank Accounts	\$ 671,193.08
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Accounts Receivable	0.00
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Investment in NCPHI	10,000.00
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 681,193.08
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	7,710.94
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Deferred Revenue	81,795.00
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Total Liabilities	\$ 89,505.94
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Equity

Temporarily Restricted Funds

Accreditation Fund	132,568.36
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Legal Fund	59,886.40
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Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 192,454.76
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Unrestricted Net Assets	225,517.21
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Change in Net Assets	173,715.17
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Total Equity	\$ 591,687.14
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 681,193.08
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North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Activities - Budget vs Actual
July 2024 - February 2025

	Actual	Budget	Amt over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue				
Accreditation Revenue	279,500.00	279,500.00	0.00	100.00%
Grant Revenue	40,030.00	0.00	40,030.00	
Interest/Dividend Income	10,066.12	9,000.00	1,066.12	111.85%
Membership Revenue				
NACCHO Rebate	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00%
NCALHD Dues	136,656.90	136,657.00	(0.10)	100.00%
Total Membership Revenue	\$ 136,656.90	\$ 139,657.00	\$ (3,000.10)	97.85%
Total Revenue	\$ 466,253.02	\$ 428,157.00	\$ 38,096.02	108.90%
Expenses				
Accreditation Expense	184,630.78	279,500.00	(94,869.22)	66.06%
Admin Services	50,000.00	75,000.00	(25,000.00)	66.67%
Awards	633.99	700.00	(66.01)	90.57%
Bank Charges	8.00	12.00	(4.00)	66.67%
Donations	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	
Licenses	1,459.00	1,700.00	(241.00)	85.82%
Marketing/Sponsorships	0.00	500.00	(500.00)	0.00%
Meetings/Travel	2,931.39	7,500.00	(4,568.61)	39.09%
Miscellaneous	0.00	300.00	(300.00)	0.00%
Professional Services				
Accounting Fees	1,800.00	1,750.00	50.00	102.86%
Consulting Fees	25,000.00	36,000.00	(11,000.00)	69.44%
Legal Fees	0.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	0.00%
Technology Fees	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	
Services	\$ 46,800.00	\$ 47,750.00	\$ (950.00)	98.01%
Website & Technology	1,074.69	700.00	374.69	153.53%
Total Expenses	\$ 292,537.85	\$ 413,662.00	\$ (31,254.93)	70.72%
Change in Net Assets	\$ 173,715.17	\$ 14,495.00	\$ 159,220.17	1198.45%