

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors Meeting
February 20, 2025
9:30 a.m.
VIRTUAL ONLY - ZOOM

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

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

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.....	Ashley Rawlinson

Adjourn

Special business meeting for North Carolina Public Health Innovations to vote on the board slate.

Next Meeting: NCALHD Awards Luncheon & Business Meeting
March 12, 2025 – 12:00 noon
Embassy Suites, Harrison Oaks Blvd., Cary, NC

**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
Association Business Meeting
January 16, 2025 – 9:30 am
Hilton North Hills**

Meeting Called to Order – Dr. Rod Jenkins

President Dr. Rod Jenkins (Durham Co.) opened the meeting at 9:46am and thanked everyone for attending in person and online.

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 Janet Clayton (Person Co.) and seconded by Nina Oliver (Carteret 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 Dr. Marilyn Pearson (Johnston Co.) and seconded by Quintana Stewart (Orange Co.). No objections – Treasurer's Report was approved by consensus.

NC DHHS Chief Medical Officer/State Health Director Report – Dr. Betsey Tilson

Dr. Betsey Tilson gave her farewell remarks and discussed the transition between Governor Cooper and Governor Stein's administrations and how smooth it has been. Stein wants to focus on Western North Carolina recovery as well as an emphasis on child and family well-being. Madhu will move into the Governor's Office. No major changes expected. New Secretary focused on access to services, public workforce and efficiency due to the budget being tight.

Briefing with Governor Stein on H5N1 earlier this week. Public Health and Department of Agriculture briefed Stein based on cases in Hyde County in flocks. Dr. Kelly Kimple in the interim will be acting State Health Director along with her duties as Division Director and sit in the Secretary's Office.

January 17th will be Dr. Tilson's last day in the office and will be accessible until her last official day. Dr. Tilson reflected on the past 8 years and the focus on stability and then be able to walk away. She mentioned that her goals had been breaking down silos between organizations, expanding access to contraception through pharmacies, and the Health Directors and Health Departments feeling supported.

President's Report – Dr. Rod Jenkins

Rod Jenkins asked if there were any new or retiring Health Directors in person or online. None, but several secretly wished they could retire. Rod thanked the team with the Collaboration and thanked the Officers of NCALHD, Regional Reps, and the members of NCALHD. Rod mentioned that we are stronger together and we help each other. In the words of Al Green, "let's stay together." Even with all the changes at the federal and state level, one thing stays the same and that is local public health.

Executive Director Report – Patrick Brown

Legislative Updates

Patrick Brown updated the Association. Legislators begin January 29th. Patrick and Ashley Parkinson met with Rep. White regarding our funding ask, and Rep. White is supportive. Brown mentioned the new speaker Destin Hall, and White is unsure of how the House will run with new Leadership. The House has not named committee leadership at this time. The Senate has named its leaders for the session. Patrick will be reaching out to chairs and asked the Health Directors reach out to legislators and form those relationships at the local level. Legislative priorities have been approved, but seeking input from other associations (Rural Health, etc) to get work done outside of legislature. Patrick and others met with Gov Ops (oversight committee) last week to discuss Western NC needs and connected with Region 1 and 2 representatives.

NCPHA adopted efforts focused on Tobacco 21. Sally Herndon mentioned 102 resolutions and counting focused on Tobacco 21. Discussion about down-zoning meant to address vape shops and cigar bars but has unintended consequences and should be addressed by legislature this session. Patrick encouraged Local Health Directors, BOH Chairs and BOCC to reach out to your local legislators.

Tuesday April 15 Legislative Day, sign up soon.

Accreditation Board

Open seat on NC Public Health Accreditation Board due to Karen Powell moving to position with Vital Records at DPH. The NCALHD has the authority to recommend who fills this position. The term is through 12/2026 with multiple terms. Patrick mentioned that persons could self-nominate, or regions could send a name.

Care Management

Patrick has been in contact with each PHP and made a request that all extend the contract regardless of benchmarks while we continue the conversation. All have been responsive, and one plan stated they wish to continue contracting with LHDs. Three responses from RFI that was sent, sent to NCALHD and Patrick will resend. First group, HMA responded that they were interested. CHES Health Solutions (formerly Emtiro) responded with interest. NC Community Health Center Association also responded. Patrick made the distinction that HMA is external consultant and other two are not. NCALHD Care Management Committee reviewing all proposals.

Jen Greene mentioned that she is a member of NCCHCA as App District is an FQHC. She stated how supportive NCCHCA has been. Patrick mentioned that KBR has renewed general operating support of

\$250,000 for one more year. Thanks to Stacie Turpin Saunders and Heather Gates who applied for these funds years ago.

Draft Strategic Plan (attached)

Patrick presented draft plan for feedback from the Association. Slides were emailed to Health Directors earlier this week. Patrick shared the slides and stated that this has been presented and approved by the Alliance Board and the NCPHA Board. He noted the Health Directors Association was last only because of timing. Patrick explained that branding and members understanding how all three (Alliance, NCPHA and NCALHD) fit together is a challenge. Mission statements received a fresh look with each having an individual mission statement with the Collaboration being the central theme across all three. The mission statements haven't been adopted at this time.

Vision and value statements were reviewed. Patrick noted that this plan is by design not specific and overly prescriptive. It is meant to be overarching, and each association can work within the plan to develop its own specific goals and objectives.

The big three goals are advocacy, education and advancing collaboration. Patrick mentioned the Governance Committee (Executive Director and all three Presidents) would begin more formal meetings and communication. If adopted the goal is to have the NCALHD Officers come together for a planning retreat to adjust workgroups and plan goals and objectives.

Patrick briefly went over the draft strategic plan which is attached. Nina Oliver asked if the Association could have one month to review and then vote in February and expressed that it looks great but believes time to review is needed.

Past President Year in Review – Quintana Stewart

In keeping with the practice of sharing a Year In Review, Ms. Stewart took a few moments to highlight some of the great work the Association accomplished last year:

- Worked with several partners from across the State to draft proposed changes to Accreditation Standards, improve WIC participation numbers, revise Agreement Addenda's to more accurately reflect relevant deliverables and equitable fund distribution, and prepare for the upcoming transitions for NC Medicaid Care Management Programs.
- In addition to all this great work, continued to have representatives on several Boards and Associations across the State and Nation.
- We have been responsive to our partners at DPH in serving on a new Environmental Health QA Committee to fulfill requirements of Session Law 2024-49.
- Officers participated in Strategic Planning Sessions that resulted in a final draft of the first ever Strategic Plan for the NC Public Health Collaboration which includes NCPHA, Alliance and our Health Directors Association.
- Last year our planning efforts came to fruition as we officially launched NC Public Health Innovations (Medical Malpractice and Ancillary Benefits) in partnership with Worksite Resources.

- We worked together to respond to natural weather disaster in the east and the western part of the State; sharing our local resources with our neighbors and colleagues to aid with recovery and response efforts.

2024 hit several of us with some personal losses and setbacks. Despite the challenges, we consistently showed up to support and encourage each other. Thank You for the steady leadership and collaborative spirit. Big Thank You to our Executive Director Patrick Brown and the full Alliance Team for all the support. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and I look forward to continuing our great work in 2025.

Medicaid Update – Kristen Dubay

Ms. Dubay from NC Medicaid thanked the Association and noted the difficulty of this transition. In December all LHDs received performance benchmarks. Medicaid communicated with all four PHPs and noted that all that met benchmarks are required to continue partnering with LHDs through June 2026. The plans have the discretion to not partner with those not meeting the benchmark and will make that decision by March 7, 2025. PHPs will be reaching out to LHDs.

Patrick noted that he reached out to all plans requesting they continue partnering with the Local Health Departments and encouraged Health Directors to reach out to individual PHPs. Dr. Jen Green (Cumberland) mentioned concerns about PHPs communicating with Local Health Departments regarding their plans to continue contracting and noted that the benchmark is not by specific plan but as an aggregate. Kristen mentioned the PHPs have individual data. Jess Wall (Yadkin) asked about the vision of managed care for North Carolina and noted that Local Health Departments are trying to understand what PHPs and DHB wanted. Wall noted that PHPs have not reached out to Yadkin regarding continuation at this time and is concerned about the degradation of Care Management across North Carolina as a whole.

Ms. Dubay mentioned that challenges providers face and stated that care management is meant to be provided at the local level. DHB wants Care Management provided as close to the client and community as possible. Patrick noted that one PHP said that Local Health Departments can do this best, and they cannot stand this up on their own.

Jess Wall asked about how we transition into new PHPs. Dubay mentioned that new bids will occur shortly. Nina Oliver (Carteret Co.) had concerns about staff retention with an uncertain future of care management. Angel Calicutt (Moore Co.) mentioned that this program is not cost effective for Local Health Departments to manage and requires local funds to sustain. Paige Bennett (Mecklenburg – Deputy Director) asked if DHB would shift to value-based reimbursement versus per member per month. Dubay stated that she could not comment.

Jen Greene (Appalachian District) brought up Virtual Health and concerns with the data. Dubay mentioned that DHB is looking into this and will not support Virtual Health or an equivalent.

NC DHHS Assistant Secretary for Public Health – Stacie Saunders

Dr. Kelly Kimple unable to attend today due to conflicting meetings. Stacie mentioned the Division is very stable and look forward to the upcoming year.

Agreement Addendums

AA701 – Child Fatality revision #2 is in your inbox because of a typo. Please process and get back to DPH. AA123 – Performance Management – Doug Urland to comment later. All Agreement Addenda and Consolidated Agreement are sent out on February 15, 2025. Reminder to read each one before signing and must be sent back to DPH by April 15, 2025. Also, noted the need to process Smartsheets on time.

Helene Supplies

Warehouse full of donated items that can be ordered by those in need. Stacie will send email to make requests. Items include infant formula, disposable gloves, blankets, hygiene products, etc.

Public Health Leaders Conference

Date set in March and registration open. Keynote speaker Dr. Johnson from UNC, plus national speaker focused on loneliness.

Legislative

Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local and Community Support, DPH

Action Items and Updates – from Work Groups

AA 123 approved.

Partner Updates:

PH Funding and Investments – Jen Greene

Workgroup met and Jen Greene thanked Chelsea Shannon. The group will focus on the following Agreement Addenda: TB, Healthy Communities and Preparedness. In addition, the group will wrap up work on the Family Planning AA. Motion from committee passed by consensus. Local staff are encouraged to participate and Dr. Gerri Matson asked to include DCFW. Doug Urland reported out on ARPA dollars. Jen asked that DPH make Local Health Directors aware if they are not meeting smart sheet deadlines.

Workforce Recruitment and Retention – Janet Clayton

Did not meet.

PH Data and Performance Measures – Wes Gray

No action items. Rose Byrne gave update on data and PH data summit May 20 in Asheville.

Communications – Sheila Davies

Bethany Milford presented. No action items.

Nominations and Bylaws – Quintana Stewart

No meeting

Education and Awards – Helene Edwards

Nomination are out.

Lilian Koontz (Davidson Co.) asked if Preparedness Coordinator job description could be studied.

Region Reports

From Region 3 (best region in NC) Rachel Willard (Wilkes Co.) asked that given Governor Stein's focus on Hurricane Helene Recovery, Region 3 is requesting a follow-up from Brian Combs focusing on the strengths, gaps, opportunities, and action items from the AAR. Additionally, how will this help mold the state and local response for when the next event hits.

Partner Reports

NCAPHA – Janet Clayton

No report

NCPHA – Dr. Rod Jenkins

NACCHO – Lisa Macon Harrison

No report

NCIPH – Amy Joy Lanou, Director gave the following report:

- The annual Foundational Capabilities assessment is starting up in February! Be on the lookout for information from your regional workforce development director inviting you and your staff to participate in a brief survey and to sign up for regional focus groups. This year, focus groups will center on professional development needs and will inform future training opportunities. Focus group dates for each region are below. If you have staff you'd like to attend, feel free to contact Destiny James directly by January 30th: destiny.james@unc.edu
 - ☐ Region 1: 2/17 1pm-2:30pm
 - ☐ Region 2: 2/18 10am-11:30am
 - ☐ Region 3: 2/19 1pm-2:30pm
 - ☐ Region 4: 2/20 10am-11:30am
 - ☐ Region 5: 2/20 1pm-2:30pm
 - ☐ Region 6: 2/21 10am-11:30am
 - ☐ Region 7: 2/21 1pm-2:30pm
 - ☐ Region 8: 2/24 10am-11:30am
 - ☐ Region 9: 2/25 10am-11:30am
 - ☐ Region 10: 2/25 2pm-3:30pm

Accreditation

- We have already jumped into our winter 2025 site visit season. We are conducting 14 site visits between now and March!
- If you haven't already, have a representative from your health department register for the Accreditation Annual Update Webinar on January 28! Visit the accreditation website for more details: <https://nclhdaccreditation.unc.edu/event/2025-nclhda-annual-update-webinar/>

ANCBH

Merle Green stated that Board of Health training on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7pm focused on the state of dental affairs in North Carolina with Dr. Stevens presenting. Registration will be sent soon. Annula Public Health Nurses celebration Friday, May 2nd at Great Wolf Lodge in Concord. The theme will be the Power of Public Health Nurses.

NC-SOG

Kristen Leloudis mentioned new regulations regarding HIPAA protection for reproductive care. A link to articles regarding compliance will be sent. April 16-17 Health Directors Legal Conference with link being sent. Kristen will be out on maternity leave beginning February 14th.

NC SOPHE

No report

Adjourn

Motion: Megan Vick (Northampton Co.) made a motion to adjourn, second by Cinnamon Narron (Wilson Co.). No opposition. Meeting was adjourned at 11:49 am.

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
As of January 31, 2025

ASSETS

Bank Accounts

CD-SECU *4185	40,000.00
Checking-SECU *6586	481.00
Checking-TB *1894	
Accreditation Fund	20,480.77
General Operating	43,147.16
Total Checking-TB *1894	<u>\$ 63,627.93</u>
Money Market-SECU *0321	7,072.94
Money Market-TB *7815	
Accreditation Fund	200,000.00
General Operating	230,901.42
Legal Fund	59,886.40
Total Money Market-TB *7815	<u>\$ 490,787.82</u>
Savings-SECU *1387	44.14
Total Bank Accounts	<u>\$ 602,013.83</u>
Accounts Receivable	101,825.00
Investment in NCPHI	10,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 713,838.83</u>

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	7,848.25
Deferred Revenue	81,795.00
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 89,643.25</u>

Equity

Temporarily Restricted Funds

Accreditation Fund	132,568.36
Legal Fund	59,886.40
Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	<u>\$ 192,454.76</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets	225,517.21
Change in Net Assets	206,223.61

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
As of January 31, 2025

Total Equity	\$ 624,195.58
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 713,838.83

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Activities - Budget vs Actual
July 2024 - January 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	8,664.62	9,000.00	(335.38)	96.27%
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	\$ 464,851.52	\$ 428,157.00	\$ 36,694.52	108.57%
Expenses				
Accreditation Expense	163,732.78	279,500.00	(115,767.22)	58.58%
Admin Services	43,750.00	75,000.00	(31,250.00)	58.33%
Awards	0.00	700.00	(700.00)	0.00%
Bank Charges	7.00	12.00	(5.00)	58.33%
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	2,129.13	7,500.00	(5,370.87)	28.39%
Miscellaneous	0.00	300.00	(300.00)	0.00%
Professional Services				
Accounting Fees	0.00	1,750.00	(1,750.00)	0.00%
Consulting Fees	21,500.00	36,000.00	(14,500.00)	59.72%
Legal Fees	0.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	0.00%
Technology Fees	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	
Services	\$ 41,500.00	\$ 47,750.00	\$ (6,250.00)	86.91%
Website & Technology	1,050.00	700.00	350.00	150.00%
Total Expenses	\$ 258,627.91	\$ 413,662.00	\$ (44,266.87)	62.52%
Change in Net Assets	\$ 206,223.61	\$ 14,495.00	\$ 191,728.61	1422.72%