

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors Meeting
September 16, 2025 – 2:00 p.m.
Salons I & II, Embassy Suites by Hilton Wilmington Riverfront

Call to Order	Rod Jenkins
Approval of Minutes from August Meeting	Josh Swift
Treasurer's/Financial Report	Josh Swift
President's Report.....	Rod Jenkins
Executive Director's Report	Patrick Brown
Carolina Complete Health Partnership Discussion.....	Pam Perry
Division of Public Health Director	Dr. Kelly Kimple
Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local and Community Support, DPH.....	Stacie Saunders
Update on NCCPHN.....	Susan Little

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
CETAC	Tonya Baldwin
NCIPH	Amy Joy Lanou
ANCBH	Merle Green
NC-SOG	Kirsten Leloudis
NC SOPHE	Michelle Partridge-Doerr

Adjourn

Next Meeting:
October 16, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.
DPH, Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh

Directors
Association Business Meeting
August 21, 2025 – 9:30 am
Cardinal Room, Six Forks Road

Meeting Called to Order – Dr. Rod Jenkins

President Dr. Rod Jenkins (Durham Co.) opened the meeting at 9:30 am and thanked everyone for attending. Stacie Saunders mentioned that the October Meeting will most likely be in the Cardinal Room with Patrick Brown and Karen Davis determining the next location for Association meetings.

Approval of June and July 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 Marilyn Pearson (Johnston 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 Marilyn Pearson (Johnston Co.) and seconded by Melanie Campen (Pamlico Co.). No objections – Treasurer's Report was approved by consensus.

Budget Report - Joshua Swift

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

Motion to approve was made by Nina Oliver (Carteret Co.) and seconded by Melanie Campen (Pamlico Co.). No objections – Budget was approved by consensus.

President's Report – Dr. Rod Jenkins

Dr. Jenkins thanked everyone for the Wednesday meetings at Six Forks and asked us to remember those on the coast affected by Hurricane Erin. Rod thanked those who participated in the Retreat earlier this month and stated that input from the Association was reviewed and taken into account to make positive changes to our meeting format.

Dr. Jenkins encouraged everyone and appreciated all the lively conversation that occur during the committee meetings and stated that everyone in the room no matter their experience has a voice.

State Health Director – Dr. Larry Greenblatt

Dr. Greenblatt virtually introduced himself to the Association and stated that he looked forward to attending future meetings and working with the Association. He mentioned his focus on rural health.

Medicaid Update – Jay Ludlam, Deputy Secretary Medicaid

Jay virtually shared with the association that Federal changes will be significant. North Carolina was well represented, and it was communicated the many innovations done across the state. Immediate concerns are the cuts to Medicaid with an ask to the Governors Office for \$819 million to continue Medicaid across North Carolina. The Medicaid team prepared for a potential \$500 million cut. In Managed Care an actuarially sound rate must be paid which is influenced by rising costs due to inflation. The \$500 million rebase leaves a gap of \$319 million. There are not enough funds to continue the programs as they are, and contracts have been terminated.

Principles were identified to guide their work, which include reducing harm to those on Medicaid. Providers have not received a rate increase in over 10 years. Focused on keeping people in their home and community.

Other Updates:

- Medicaid focused on reversibility so the program can be restarted if funding becomes available.
- Rates will be reduced by 3, 8 or 10 percent. Family Planning rates will be cut by 8%.
- GLP-1s will be phased out.
- Delay tailored plan re-procurement with consultants terminated.

Jay mentioned that they still anticipate the need for \$119 million. The cuts to Medicaid are too deep for us to “manage away.” He noted that a question for the Legislature is what direction they want Medicaid to go. Jay mentioned that a detailed memo with specifics has been sent out and Patrick noted that he would send it to the Association.

President Jenkins mentioned that Steven Garner’s email that was circulated to the Association that explains this further.

There was discussion about whether there would be a reduction to the Per Member Per Month reimbursement for Care Management.

Patrick noted that a clarifying email will be sent out to the listserve.

Executive Director Report – Patrick Brown

Patrick noted that his supposed Appointment to the Governor’s Cannabis Advisory Council he mentioned in July was a mistake and for another Patrick Brown.

1. Rural Transformation Program – NCDHHS will be pursuing these funds. Patrick mentioned that a comment period is open at this time, and the Association would submit formal comments and encouraged Health Directors to submit individual comments.

2. Community Health Grant – In earlier 2026, several organizations (free clinics, PH, etc.) will discuss how to partner and will be on the Legislative Agenda.
3. HMA-CMARC/CMHRP Study – HMA has vetted vendors that could assist Local Health Departments in going forward. The HIE vendor has the capacity to assist and hopefully in the next month there will be more details.
4. CMARC/Foster Care Plan – A conversation will occur next week with LHDs, DPH, and BCBS and prepare a broader communication to the Association.
5. Medical Malpractice – Summary email sent to the Association. More options to be sent to the Association with a vote in October.
6. Executive Committee Retreat -
 - a. Review of collaboration Strategic Plan
 - b. Survey Results – 68 responses
 - i. Patrick noted that some persons stated that their voices were not heard and asked that anyone reach out to him in anyway if they felt their voice was not being heard.
 - c. Schedule for Work Groups and Wednesday meeting
 - i. Goal is to keep virtual options and make meetings worthwhile
 - d. Medical Malpractice discussion
 - e. Environmental Health – better flow of information especially around Legislative updates.
 - f. Schedule for Wednesday and Thursday
 - i. Thursday format is good
 - ii. Wednesday
 - iii. People don't like splitting up
 - iv. 2-3pm is not very useful
 - v. Proposed Structure – Patrick shared a slide with the Association.
 1. Start at 10am with Partners Reports from 10-12 and consistent updates from DPH.
 2. 12-1:30 Lunch break
 3. 1:30-3:30 Workgroups all together in rotating sequence with focus on major updates and input needed. Virtual meetings in between months to prepare.
 4. 3:30-4:30 Hot topics that is primarily facilitated by regional reps.
 - vi. Several Health Directors expressed support. Nina Oliver motion, Marilyn Pearson second. Vote passed.
 - vii. Patrick noted that in 2026 meetings may be moved as those in Western NC have such a long commute to Raleigh.

Division of Public Health – Dr. Kelly Kimple

Dr. Kimple thanked everyone for their support and noted that the Medicaid cuts will be very tough and will impact Local Health Departments and communities across North Carolina. She stated that DPH is supporting our coastal communities with Hurricane Erin response.

Dr. Kimple mentioned the shooting at CDC and the loss of the security officer. The attack was on Public Health as a whole and asked that we support those affected.

Federal funds that had been blocked for Preparedness, Injury and Violence and Tobacco in July. DPH received notification yesterday that footnotes that restricted federal funding have been removed. Awaiting more information for upcoming funding. Preparedness and Injury and Violence funds have been received but Tobacco funds have not been received.

An executive order was issued regarding grantmaking and outlined that grants must meet certain standards and could potentially impact our funding. Grants cannot relate to DEI, gender, etc. HR-1 bill was passed and North Carolina is pursuing Rural Health funding. Dr. Kimple wanted to ensure that the voice of rural health in NC is heard.

Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local and Community Support, DPH – Stacie Saunders

Stacie Saunders gave the following updates:

- Federal Grant Tracker – update to be sent to the Association later today.
- Periodic Rules Review – Stacie thanked those Health Directors and staff in LHDs who are participating.
- Medical Director Orientation – Asynchronous module launched for local medical directors.
- Agreement Addendum Review – DPH team members are reviewing all AAs and those with proposed changes will come to the Association in October. This includes the Consolidated Agreement which will be sent to the Association in late September with a presentation in October.

DCFW Updates – Sharon Bell

Jennifer Corso from School Health mentioned Senate Bill 600 which addresses Epi-pens. Revised language regarding revised qualifications for School Health nurses and a four-year degree is not required. The State Board of Education is considering adopting new rules pertaining to these rule changes.

Sharon Bell gave the following updates:

1. CMARC AA 318 – discussion around funding options to come in the fall.
2. Jennifer Bailey – Assistant Director who oversees WIC will begin attending Association meetings.

President Jenkins noted that Elaine Russell (Transylvania Co.) mentioned in the chat the need for a DCFW Funding Tracker. Sharon mentioned that those conversations have already started, and she would be communicating with Stacie.

Action Items and Updates – from Work Groups

PH Funding and Investments – Jen Greene

Jen did a poll among committee participants with results shared across the Association. The top issue raised was Emerging Issues. Also noted was how Finance professionals at LHDs often feel isolated.

Workforce Recruitment and Retention – Jennifer McCracken

Dr. Susan Little's team came to the meeting to discuss the plan for all Public Health nurses to be credentialed by December 31, 2027. She noted that there are enough opportunities for all nurses to be credentialed in North Carolina by the deadline. Preference will be given to new nurses and new enhanced role nurses. Each Health Department will be allocated training slots and encouraged Health Directors to work with DONs to ensure staff are trained. Jennifer mentioned the Office of the Chief Public Health Nurse website that will be shared along with training that is available.

PH Data and Performance Measures – Wes Gray

Amanda Blackwelder shared the Finance/Budget Overview survey which had 90% response rate. Each county will receive their data which can be used.

Communications – Lisa Harrison

Lisa thanked Bethany Milford for her work in leading yesterday's meeting. The group has PIOs and others from local health departments and will keep that focus going forward which will be obtained by in internal group with Health Directors and then an external group with other Public Health staff.

Lisa mentioned the challenges in a decentralized system and the how AI will influence communications. There are also discussions about adding a Communications section to NCPHA.

Nominations and Bylaws – Quintana Stewart

Quintana will be reaching out to Regional leads to start the bylaws review. Patrick mentioned an Ethics Statement that had been voted on but never distributed and would follow up and get this sent out.

Education and Awards – Helene Edwards

Helene stated that next week her and Rachel Willard would be participating in a Health Director Orientation planning meeting with Amy from UNC.

Region Reports

Region 10 – Wes Gray mentioned that the statewide contract for Mosquito Abatement has expired. Rod Jenkins mentioned how this creates a hurdle and asked Patrick Brown to advocate that this contract be renewed and reach out to Emergency Management.

District Health Department Update:

Lisa Harrison noted that the districts continue to meet. She noted that all are interested in the Rural Health Transformation efforts.

REHS Board Update – Lillian Koontz

- Interns have two years to reapply for a REHS number if they have not completed all exams. They can maintain employment but must re-apply for a new number. The timeframe was reduced from 3 years to 2 years.

Statewide Reporting – Scott Harrelson

Mr. Harrelson mentioned that after consulting with Kathy Dail at DPH that local health departments could improve data collection related to clinic productivity, customer satisfaction, billing and Environmental Health. This involves developing Performance Standards, communicating to staff and then reports that track performance.

He noted the Community Health Centers Association and their reporting. The small group is convening in New Bern on September 2nd. Wes Gray (Pitt Co.) noted improvements they have made with cost savings and seeing more patients.

Health Director Open Discussion

No discussion.

Partner Reports

Alliance Board met to review Strategic Funding applications.

NCPHA – Patrick Brown

Fall conference in Wilmington. Need for door prizes and Health Department promo slides for Thursday. An advocacy panel has been added to the opening session. NCPHA will assume the role as the fiscal sponsor for Tobacco 21.

NACCHO – Lisa Macon Harrison

NACCHO has monthly Health Directors calls and an advocacy toolkit. These calls occur the 4th Thursday of the month.

CETAC (Continuing Education and Training Advisory Committee) - Brandy Chrismon

No report.

NCIPH – Amy Joy Lanou

Foundational Capabilities Task Force Initiatives

- The next monthly Public Health Policy Forum will be held virtually on September 12th from 10:30 to 12:00. We continue our discussion of strategies for building and maintaining relationships with elected officials. Reach out to Amy Lanou for more information (alanou@unc.edu).
- New webinar! From Framework to Function: Making your Public Health Impact Visible. Help your staff connect their daily work to the broader mission of public health through attending one of two live virtual sessions August 27 or September 9. Each session is free and open to all public health staff.
- Keep up with programs and resources here: [Public Health Infrastructure Grant \(PHIG\) - UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health](#) Programs are free for LHD staff courtesy of DPH via the PHIG grant.

Community Assessment & Strategy

- ICYMI: the NCFC Data Dashboard is live! As a reminder, each LHD can designate an authorized user for the dashboard. Initial users were granted access at the end of June. If your LHD missed the memo, you can use this form to designate your user for access on a rolling basis. Questions? Please reach out to ncfcdashboard@office.unc.edu

Workforce Development and Training.

- The North Carolina Public Health Pathways Program (NCPHP) has the following upcoming opportunities for local health departments:
- From September 1-26, health departments are invited to submit their 12-week internship positions for inclusion in the Spring 2026 NCPHP Internship Program.
- From November 10-December 8, health departments are invited to submit their 6-week practica opportunities for inclusion in the Summer 2026 NCPHP Practicum Program.
- NCPHP manages position promotion, application collection and screening, and equips selected candidates with supplemental training and professional development to excel in their new roles. Please contact Program Manager Alexa Katon (akaton@unc.edu) with any questions

ANCBH – Merle Green

Merle Green provided two updates:

1. ANCBH – Thursday, September 11th in Hillsborough.
 - a. Outstanding Board of Health – Madison County Board of Health
 - b. Carl Durham Award – Dr. Rachel Royce, Orange County Board of Health
2. Ashley Curtice was hired to work part-time for ANCBH.

NC-SOG – Kristen Leloudis

Kristen mentioned a legal guide for Boards of Health from the School of Government. A second book geared toward Consolidated Boards is also available.

Trainings:

1. Legal Basics for Human Services Professionals

NC SOPHE – Antonia Mead

Abstracts are open for the NC SOPHE conference in Durham.

Adjourn

Motion: Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 am.

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

ASSETS

Bank Accounts

CD-SECU *4185	40,000.00
Checking-SECU *6586	474.26
Checking-TB *1894	77,961.58
Insured Cash Sweep	498,890.61
Money Market-SECU *0321	8,205.72
Money Market-TB *7815	250,599.46
Savings-SECU *1387	44.20

Total Bank Accounts	\$ 876,175.83
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Accounts Receivable	84,819.09
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Prepaid Expenses	2,526.30
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Investment in NCPHI	10,000.00
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 973,521.22
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	63,962.60
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Deferred Revenue	77,026.48
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Dues Invoiced for Other Orgs	6,940.00
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Total Liabilities	\$ 147,929.08
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Equity

Temporarily Restricted Funds

Accreditation Fund	88,637.28
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Legal Fund	59,886.40
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Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 148,523.68
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Unrestricted Net Assets	295,443.71
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Change in Net Assets	381,624.75
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Total Equity	\$ 825,592.14
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 973,521.22
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North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Activities - Budget vs Actual
July - August, 2025

	Actual	Budget	Amt over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue				
Accreditation Revenue	279,500.00	279,500.00	0.00	100.00%
Grant Revenue	13,632.50	50,000.00	(36,367.50)	27.27%
Interest/Dividend Income	3,190.28	30,000.00	(26,809.72)	10.63%
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%
Supplemental Dues	50,495.36	100,000.00	(49,504.64)	50.50%
Total Membership Revenue	\$ 187,152.26	\$ 239,657.00	\$ (52,504.74)	78.09%
Total Revenue	\$ 483,475.04	\$ 599,157.00	\$ (115,681.96)	80.69%
Expenses				
Accreditation Expense	7,624.27	279,500.00	(271,875.73)	2.73%
Administrative Services	12,500.00	75,000.00	(62,500.00)	16.67%
Awards	0.00	700.00	(700.00)	0.00%
Bank Charges	2.00	12.00	(10.00)	16.67%
Licenses	0.00	1,509.00	(1,509.00)	0.00%
Marketing/Sponsorships	272.73	500.00	(227.27)	54.55%
Meetings/Travel	7,699.85	12,000.00	(4,300.15)	64.17%
Postage	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	0.00%
Professional Services				
Accounting Fees	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00%
Consulting Fees	58,945.20	142,000.00	(83,054.80)	41.51%
Total Professional Services	\$ 58,945.20	\$ 144,000.00	\$ (85,054.80)	40.93%
Technology/Website	14,806.24	84,345.00	(69,538.76)	17.55%
Total Expenses	\$ 101,850.29	\$ 597,666.00	\$ (495,815.71)	17.04%
Change in Net Assets	\$ 381,624.75	\$ 1,491.00	\$ 380,133.75	25595.22%