



**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors Meeting**  
**November 16, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.**  
**Cardinal Room, DPH, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Call to Order .....   | Lillian Koontz     |
| Approval of Minutes from October Meeting .....                        | Jen Greene         |
| Treasurer's/Financial Report .....                                    | Jen Greene         |
| Medicaid Update .....   | Jay Ludlam         |
| NC DCFW .....   | Madhu Vulimiri     |
| President's Report .....  | Lillian Koontz     |
| Executive Director's Report .....                                     | Patrick Brown      |
| NC DHHS Chief Medical Officer/State Health Director Report .....      | Betsey Tilson, MD  |
| NC DHHS Assistant Secretary for Public Health .....                   | Dr. Susan Kansagra |
| Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local and Community Support, DPH ..... | Stacie Saunders    |

**ACTION ITEMS AND UPDATES** - from Work Groups

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Partner Update .....                   | Quintana Stewart/Patrick Brown |
| Communications .....                   | Sheila Davies                  |
| Emerging Issues .....                  | Iulia Vann                     |
| PH Funding and Investments .....       | Jen Greene                     |
| PH Data and Performance Measures ..... | Wes Gray                       |
| PH Workforce .....                     | Janet Clayton                  |
| Nominations and Bylaws .....           | Scott Harrelson                |
| Education and Awards .....             | Tracey Kornegay                |

**Region Reports**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Region I .....    | Elaine Russell     |
| Region II .....   | Karen Powell       |
| Region III .....  | Jessica Wall       |
| Region IV .....   | Jennifer McCracken |
| Region V .....    | Tony LoGiudice     |
| Region VI .....   | Helene Edwards     |
| Region VII .....  | Lisa Harrison      |
| Region VIII ..... | David Howard       |
| Region IX .....   | Ashley Stoop       |
| Region X .....    | Joy Brock          |

**Partner Reports**

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| NCAPHA .....   | Janet Clayton    |
| NCPHA .....    | Iulia Vann       |
| NACCHO .....   | Lisa Harrison    |
| NCIPH .....    | Margaret Nemitz  |
| ANCBH .....    | Merle Green      |
| NC-SOG .....   | Kirsten Leloudis |
| NC SOPHE ..... | Ashley Rawlinson |

Adjourn

**Next Meeting:**  
**December 21, 2023 – 9:30 am**  
**Cardinal Room, DPH, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh**

**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors**  
**Association Business Meeting**  
**October 19, 2023 -9:30am**  
**Cardinal Room, DPH, Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC**

**Minutes**

**Meeting Called To Order – Lillian Koontz**

President Koontz called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and welcomed all.

**Approval of Minutes – Jen Greene**

Minutes were distributed with the packet via email. President Koontz entertained a motion for approval of the Minutes.

**Motion:** Motion was made by John Rouse (Harnett County) and seconded by Bruce Robistow (Halifax County). No objections were made; Minutes were approved by consensus.

**Treasurer's/Financial Report – Jennifer Greene**

The Treasurer's/Financial Report was also included in the emailed packet. President Koontz entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's/Financial Report.

**Motion:** Motion was made by Bruce Robistow (Halifax County) and seconded by Rod Jenkins (Durham County). No objections were made; Treasurer's/Financial Report was approved by consensus.

**NC Assistant Secretary for Medicaid -Jay Ludlam**

Jay commented that the Budget is now adopted and the Medicaid rebase was not fully funded. He noted they would be tracking expenditures and will be going to the NCGA to request for some of the funds to be released that are in reserve for the Medicaid program.

He thanked the group for the continued support for advocacy for Medicaid Expansion! He noted at the signing ceremony, Governor Cooper noted that this is not just a good health bill, but a great jobs bill. Jay noted that this is opening opportunities in many ways. He commented that there is a big effort to tailor messaging to meet community needs. He noted that COVID reinforced the need for engaging with community in developing messaging. He shared the major efforts in getting ready for launching. He said there is a lot of enthusiasm and some of the preparedness efforts began some time ago. In about two weeks, they will be running patient algorithms -he noted there is a subset of enrollees who have Family Planning Medicaid 300,000 will immediately qualify with this group and many others.

He said he knew there would be some bumps, but expected that much of the focus will be on supporting county partners. It's very exciting.

Nina Oliver (Carteret) asked about whether there would be outreach to individuals' post-algorithm activities. Information will be sent out via letters to individuals, enrollment brokers, and others to try and make sure the individuals get connected. He noted there is a lot of regulatory required language and they are working hard to simplify the language and make it concise and clear.

Jennifer Greene (Appalachian) asked about the assignment of FP and information 90 days to choose provider; will have to check on relationship of care with FP



Jay continued describing the amount of work being done to prepare for a successful launch.

He noted that tailored plan consolidation was authorized for the Secretary to move forward. At least one and up to two could be consolidated under this direction. He noted that by consolidating, there should be more opportunity to for contracting and more focused capabilities to serve people. He noted the focus is on members and the providers that support them. More information will be coming out in the next couple of weeks about tailored plan consolidation. He said they would do their best to protect people.

Paige Bennett (Mecklenburg) inquired if there would be analysis on network adequacy. He said they are always analyzing access and in 2020, prior to the public health emergency, they had far fewer people and had not planned for the expansion by and large through the emergency. The Medicaid expansion population is fewer than those served during the pandemic and therefore he believes the system can continue to serve based on what we saw occur during that timeframe. He noted that we may have adequacy in many ways, but certain communities do have gaps. He commented that the tension is about the having enough providers in all areas.

Tracey Kornegay (Duplin County) asked about a notice received from WellCare. Jay noted that the key thing is to preserve your rights and there are components within the letter that need to be following. He said this issue had been raised up in the Medicaid leadership and with WellCare leadership to better understand the issues surrounding it.

**NC DHHS Chief Medical Officer/State Health Director -Betsey Tilson, MD**

Betsey noted that by statute there is a requirement for the Annual Report for Public Health presented by State Health Director to the Commission for Public Health and the NC Medical Board.

She commented about the work being done by DPS on violence prevention. She thanked the health departments who requested gun locks. She asked for feedback about how the gun locks are being used so we can grow the work. She noted there is a large supply of 988 posters available. She said there is a new suicide prevention coordination [-heharms@email.unc.edu](mailto:heharms@email.unc.edu) -you can email Hannah Harms. Stacie will be emailing information to make this request.

She noted that the Governors Crime Prevention received funding for community violence intervention program and there is some support currently going to some larger health systems in the state. She also noted the Healthy Opportunities Pilots provides some support for violence prevention programs. The next proposal for the Medicaid Waiver 1115 to do Healthy Opportunities Pilots statewide. Public comment period is open and the plan to submit will occur in the next month.

She noted that in S20 came out to help fund additional contraception for LHDs and FQHCs. She noted that the Medical and Pharmacy Board has now taken over the support for contraception via Pharmacists. There are about 100 pharmacies across the state.

Respiratory season is here and there are decreasing trends currently, but she is encouraging the big 3 –updated COVID vaccine (she acknowledged the bumps in the commercialized vaccine process), Flu, and RSV. She noted that outpatient coverage is provided through VFC at birthing hospitals.

There was a pause on VFC ordering this past week. She noted there was a big focus on identifying supply. More information is coming out from the Immunization Branch around some flexibilities in VFC. Please make sure your Immunization lead is staying contact to remain up-to-date.



**Deputy Director, Division of Child & Family Wellbeing -Madhu Vulimiri**

Please see the slide deck shared.

**WIC Program –**

- She noted that this is one of the programs with potential impact without a federal budget.
- She commented that USDA will be providing another allocation that they anticipate could continue through December 31. She noted there would be continued efforts to make contingency plans.
- Other factors to consider –the rising cost of food is impacting; they are expecting participation declines and they are starting to see early declines and how that will impact funding
- A new infant formula provider started October 1. Previously, Gerber was the provider and the new provider is Abbott with a much lower rebate which will contribute to funding picture.
- There is continued discussion around whether Congress will fully fund the program. There are some major implications. The participation rates that are preliminary do show some declines and largely believe that is due to ending state assisted issuance (due to a flexibility that has ended).
- She commented about the ongoing partnership with the Association around workforce that is also impacted by these funding challenges

**DCFW AAs**

- WIC Program Staffing -the additions in the AA for positions
- SNFI -AA 803 -This is an anticipated change without full information change. In the current legislation, the SNFI is tied to language about certification for school nurses noted as a requirement. There is new language in the budget bill that there reestablishes the qualifications and training required for those that are a school nurse. There could be a moving away for requiring the national certification. The parts of AA 803 have been identified with the current language -they must work toward it within 3 years of hire if they do not have it, but this is an example of where this could change based on the legislative changes. More information will follow after the NC State Board of Education shares more about these changes.
- Triple P Program -discussion noted that an annual meeting to include health director and other stakeholder engagement.

All AAs will be distributed -and one email with all of the agreements and same email to send them back. By November, they will share any additional changes.

Bruce Robistow (Halifax) he asked if they do away with the National School Nurse Certification if there will be a new BSN requirement vs. RN requirement. Madhu noted she would raise this up but there is some lack of clarity about whether this would be the direction.

Lillian thanked Madhu for making this a priority to bring changes to the Association per our request.

**President's Report – Lillian Koontz**

Lillian noted Bruce Robistow (Halifax) is retiring the end of October.

Wes Gray noted he began his role in Pitt County!

Anna Lippard, former Deputy Director in Jackson County is now the new Health Director (Shelley Carraway has retired).

EDITORIAL ADDITION: Congrats to Bruce! Congrats to Wes! And, welcome, Anna!

Lillian asked for everyone to please respond to the survey about what Electronic Health Record you are using. This was provided by Stacie for in person attendees and will be shared via email for others.

Lillian thanked folks who participated in the preparedness program survey about in-person meeting requirements. She noted that Brian Combs surveyed PCs and has shared this with health directors, too. She also thanked Regional Chairs for their effort to encourage members. She asked folks to please respond.

She thanked Patrick for the work to follow up on the letter from DPH and DCFW to submit AAs in a timely manner.

Lillian noted that she represents the group on the Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS) Board. She noted that health departments did a great job hiring new specialists as she has met them at new centralized training.

Lillian asked about health director input about contracting. She noted that if you want to contract with an individual, they must work through the NC Alliance or through another health department. You must get an agreement by the fellow health director. Stacie asked if a future overview would be helpful.

Jen Greene (Appalachian) asked if we could add the Lead and Asbestos program processes. Several other health directors concurred this was of interest. Patrick noted he would find time on the agenda and Stacie will connect to the Environmental Health team.

#### **Executive Director's Report – Patrick Brown**

Patrick asked if you have received a letter of overpayment from Wellcare to please send it to Patrick. He said he would be working hard to

There is a contract in review for a consultant to support the care management workgroup.

Patrick sent instructions via email about charge master changes. The only thing you need to send to Medicaid is the Charge Master Template –they must have it by 11/1 and there will be no change made to current structure.

There is an RFA for Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction.

The NCMJ is doing an issue on Medicaid –unwinding of continuous coverage and plans for expansion. He noted if you are willing or interested to please let Patrick know and he will share it.

#### **NC Assistant Secretary for Public Health -Susan Kansagra, MD, MBA**

#### **Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local & Community Support -Stacie Turpin Saunders**

Stacie started by celebrating Bruce Robistow.

Mpox -there have been a couple of cases in the past couple of weeks. Just a reminder that we need to continue messaging to be on the lookout about this

The NCGA Budget appropriation of \$50,000 for each LHD for non-recurring additional public health funding will be sent to LHDs once the appropriation process is complete. DPH will be amending –AA 110 to reflect a budget change but there will be no change in the requirements. Lisa asked about timeline. Stacie said likely a month. She noted the importance of the AA 110 surveys.

S512 -Establishes who sits on commissions and boards in state government. Legal counsels are reviewing it, but it could have impact on the Commission for Public Health.



Stacie commented that they received the AA requested dates for changes and have shared it widely in DPH and also with DCFW.

Consolidated Agreement slides presented by Stacie –she noted to please give feedback as soon as possible prior to the November 15 deadline.

There are more changes in the CA:

- Distinctions between DPH and DCFW sections
- Modified language around CMARC and CMHRP around right of refusal through FY25
- Scope of technical assistance for finance consultants
- Page 8 -Food and Lodging -shifting from accounting system for receipts based –it is changing and there is going to be some changes to align with the new fiscal system -it is in progress
- Clarify language around denying services –the intent was to make that about mandated services noted in Administrative Code.
- There are required disclosures (legal requirements)
- No travel reimbursement will be provided if you attend CIT virtually
- New monitoring requirement for subrecipient contracting as well as prior approval
- Language changes on Civil Rights services

The draft Consolidated Agreement will be emailed out and you have until November 15 to review. Feedback needs to be noted in “track changes” and send to [lhdhealthserviceta@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:lhdhealthserviceta@dhhs.nc.gov) –Candice and Stacie will review and will be able to send to contracts office for review. The final review will happen December Association meeting, but will be emailed in advance.

AAs will be formatted using your most current legal name. They will be sent by Adrienne Gilliatt.

Gun safety lock order has been submitted. Thanks for participating!

Stacie commented about the CD conference was great and a good opportunity to celebrate the great public health staff working in communicable disease.

### **Action Items & Updates from Workgroups**

#### **Partner Update -Quintana Stewart/Patrick Brown**

#### **Communications – Sheila Davies/Lisa Harrison**

Lisa Harrison shared that Adrienne Ammerman shared about the new platform Arclet which is set up to support the strong efforts of the services to tailor messaging and have metrics for measuring impact.

She noted there was an official motion made to support Adrienne and Arclet.

The Communications workgroup voted unanimously on the following motion: The communications workgroup of the NCALHD agree to put our support and contributions behind Arclet as a NC-and-LHD-based tool that PIOs and communications teams need to improve the communications foundational capability of public health by using technology and collaboration.

Jessica Alexander shared about website updates and additional connections between members. There will be a new update in November. Lisa encouraged HDs to send staff to the comms group next month.

There was discussion around Medicaid Expansion and We Are NC Public Health Campaign which is happening now. Lisa encouraged sharing across the state.

Emerging Issues – Iulia Vann

No report.

PH Funding and Investments – Jen Greene

No report.

PH Data and Performance Measures – Wes Gray

Amanda Blackwelder gave a high-level overview of the finance template data. Region 3 had 100% participation!

PH Workforce – Quintana Stewart

Larry Michael gave an overview of the Specialty Wastewater In Field Waste Water Team (SWIFT TEAM)

Nominations and Bylaws – Scott Harrelson

Nomination for Secretary for the NC Association of Local Health Directors for next year. The nominations were sought and the slate of officers.

Lillian Koontz, Past President

Quintana Stewart, President

Rod Jenkins, President-Elect

Jen Greene, Vice President

Wes Gray, Secretary/Treasurer

Voting for this slate of officers will happen in November.

Education and Awards – Tracey Kornegay

Tracey reminded folks to submit nominations by December 8<sup>th</sup>. Please check your email from Karen Davis.

Region Reports

No reports.

Partner Reports

NCAPHA Report – Janet Clayton

NCPHA Report –Iulia Vann

It was a great conference in Concord.

Pre-conference and main conference –together over 90 sessions that were conducted with over 122 speakers and the fall conference there were 549 attendees, 10 sponsors. There were great reviews of the conference.

**Stay tuned for the NCPHA Newsletter -November 20 -National Public Health Thank You Day**

APHA is coming up in Atlanta November 12-15. There is still time to register. If you do want to participate you have to be fully vaccinated and have the updated COVID vaccine.

**NCPHA will be September 18-20, 2024 in Cherokee, NC and it will be a lot of fun! Save the Date!**



Outside of NCPHA, she wanted to thank NC Cancer Control and Coordination Committee to move forward the Cancer Control Action Plan. Iulia noted she will share information.

**NACCHO – Lisa Harrison**

Mark your calendars! NACCHO 360 -Next summer-July 23-26, 2024 -Detroit, Michigan. Abstract period opens in November, 2023. Find out more [here](#).

**NCIPH Update -John Wiesman**

-Management and Supervision Course registration will open in December  
-Wish you well in the post conversation later today and look forward to working with everyone on Accreditation

**ANCBH/NALBOH – Merle Green**

ANCBH can do specialized training. Please send requests to Merle.

**Two groups in Surry County won awards –Congrats to Samantha Ange, Health Director in Surry!**

Dr. Ben Tillett chairing the NALBOH Board (BOH member from Person County)

There are efforts underway to expand membership on the ANCBH Board. Please stay tuned and let Merle know if you have a Board of Health member interested.

**UNC-School of Government – Kirsten Leloudis**

Kirsten will be out of office in October. Watch for Coates Canon blog post about Parent's Bill of Rights that is pending.

**NC SOPHE – Ashley Rawlinson**

No report.

**President Koontz invited a motion to enter closed session.**

Rod Jenkins (Durham) made the motion and Sheila Davies (Dare) seconded; All ayes.

After discussion, Jessica Wall (Yadkin) made the motion to end the closed session; seconded by Rod Jenkins (Durham). Sheila Davies (Dare) made a motion to add at least 3 representatives to the accreditation discussion group, including those who have voiced concerns so that they can increase the dialogue focused on increasing value for public health accreditation. The motion was seconded by Rod Jenkins (Durham). All ayes. All present, including those who volunteered, were encouraged to reach out to Jen Greene, John Rouse, and/or Ashley Stoop to indicate interest in serving.

**Next Meeting** –Thursday, November 16 at 9:30 a.m., DPH, Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC

**Meeting Adjourned:**

President Koontz invited a motion to adjourn. Rod Jenkins made the motion to adjourn. Rachel Willard seconded. All ayes.



**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As of October 31, 2023**

**ASSETS**

**Bank Accounts**

CD-SECU \*4185 40,000.00

**Checking-SECU \*6586**

Accreditation Fund 6,516.90

General Operating 23,136.98

**Total Checking-SECU \*6586 \$ 29,653.88**

**Money Market-SECU \*0321**

Accreditation Fund 258,474.45

General Operating 274,879.30

Legal Fund 59,886.40

**Total Money Market-SECU \*0321 \$ 593,240.15**

**Savings-SECU \*1387 44.00**

**Total Bank Accounts \$ 662,938.03**

**Accounts Receivable 23,557.91**

**Deposits in Transit 3,250.00**

**TOTAL ASSETS \$ 689,745.94**

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

**Liabilities**

Accounts Payable 11,260.08

Dues Invoiced for Other Orgs 3,370.00

**Total Liabilities \$ 14,630.08**

**Net Assets**

**Temporarily Restricted Funds**

Accreditation Fund 128,514.16

Legal Fund 59,886.40

**Total Temporarily Restricted Funds \$ 188,400.56**

**Unrestricted Funds 211,103.02**

**Change in Net Assets 275,612.28**

**Total Net Assets \$ 675,115.86**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$ 689,745.94**

**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc**  
**Statement of Activities - Budget vs Actual**  
**July - October 2023**

|                                    | <b>Actual</b>        | <b>Budget</b>        | <b>Amt over Budget</b> | <b>% of Budget</b> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>                     |                      |                      |                        |                    |
| Interest/Dividend Income           | 2,081.22             | 2,700.00             | (618.78)               | 77.08%             |
| <b>Membership Revenue</b>          |                      |                      |                        |                    |
| NACCHO Rebate                      | 0.00                 | 3,300.00             | (3,300.00)             | 0.00%              |
| NCALHD Dues                        | 136,629.79           | 136,680.00           | (50.21)                | 99.96%             |
| <b>Total Membership Revenue</b>    | <b>\$ 136,629.79</b> | <b>\$ 139,980.00</b> | <b>\$ (3,350.21)</b>   | <b>97.61%</b>      |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>               | <b>\$ 138,711.01</b> | <b>\$ 142,680.00</b> | <b>\$ (3,968.99)</b>   | <b>97.22%</b>      |
| <b>Expenses</b>                    |                      |                      |                        |                    |
| Admin Services                     | 25,000.00            | 75,000.00            | (50,000.00)            | 33.33%             |
| Awards                             | 0.00                 | 700.00               | (700.00)               | 0.00%              |
| Bank Charges                       | 4.00                 | 12.00                | (8.00)                 | 33.33%             |
| Licenses                           | 0.00                 | 950.00               | (950.00)               | 0.00%              |
| Meetings/Travel                    | 1,220.30             | 7,000.00             | (5,779.70)             | 17.43%             |
| Miscellaneous                      | 128.00               | 0.00                 | 128.00                 |                    |
| <b>Professional Services</b>       |                      |                      |                        |                    |
| Accounting Fees                    | 0.00                 | 1,500.00             | (1,500.00)             | 0.00%              |
| Consulting Fees                    | 24,000.00            | 45,000.00            | (21,000.00)            | 53.33%             |
| Legal Fees                         | 5,455.50             | 10,000.00            | (4,544.50)             | 54.56%             |
| <b>Total Professional Services</b> | <b>\$ 29,455.50</b>  | <b>\$ 56,500.00</b>  | <b>\$ (27,044.50)</b>  | <b>52.13%</b>      |
| Sponsorships/Marketing             | 0.00                 | 1,000.00             | (1,000.00)             | 0.00%              |
| Website & Technology               | 90.00                | 970.00               | (880.00)               | 9.28%              |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>              | <b>\$ 55,897.80</b>  | <b>\$ 142,132.00</b> | <b>\$ (86,234.20)</b>  | <b>39.33%</b>      |
| <b>Change in Net Assets</b>        | <b>\$ 82,813.21</b>  | <b>\$ 548.00</b>     | <b>\$ 82,265.21</b>    | <b>15111.90%</b>   |