

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
JANUARY 16, 2018 – 6:04 p.m.
1235 RAMSEY STREET, THIRD FLOOR BOARD ROOM
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. William Philbrick, Optometrist, Chair
Dr. Connette McMahon, Vice Chair
Dr. Vikki Andrews, Public Representative
Dr. Heather Burkhardt, Veterinarian
Dr. Oliver Hodge, Dentist
Ms. Sonja Council, Nurse

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Jeannette Council (Excused for BOCC meeting)
Dr. Sam Fleishman, Physician

STAFF PRESENT: Duane Holder, Assistant County Manager
Sally Shutt, Assistant County Manager (Departed at 6:32pm)
Rod Jenkins, Interim Health Director
Candice York, Finance Officer
Krystle Vinson, Director of Nursing
Dr. Lan Tran Phu, Medical Director
Ashley Yun, Administrative Assistant to the Health Director
Annie Harris, Management Support Processing Assistant

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dr. William Philbrick welcomed all guests and called the meeting to order. Introductions were given. A moment of silence was taken.

Dr. Philbrick recognized outgoing member, Dr. Carl Creech, for his service on the Board of Health.

Dr. Philbrick opened the floor for the Board of Health/Cumberland County Delegation meeting. The meeting minutes are attached separately on pages 4-8.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Agendas

MOTION: Dr. Connette McMahon moved to approve the Board of Health regular meeting agenda
SECOND: Dr. Heather Burkhardt
VOTE: Unanimous (6-0)

B. Approval of December 19, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Dr. Connette McMahon moved to approve the minutes.
SECOND: Dr. Heather Burkhardt
VOTE: Unanimous (6-0)

C. Approval of Bad Debt Write Off

Mrs. Candi York presented the bad debt write-off in the amount of \$20,569.14 for the quarter ending December 31, 2017. This is for accounts 90 days or older with balances of \$50 dollars or higher. It will be submitted to the North Carolina Debt Setoff Program.

MOTION: Dr. Connette McMahon moved to approve the bad debt write-off in the amount of \$20,569.14.

SECOND: Dr. Oliver Hodge
VOTE: Unanimous (6-0)

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Financial Reports

Mrs. York presented the following financial reports:

- The accounts receivable by program are broken down by payer source.
- Reviewed aging report by program.
- The statement of Revenue and Expenditures (Profit and Loss) as of December 31, 2017. The excess of revenue over the expenditures is \$76,575.69.
- The statement of expenditures by program as of December 31, 2017. We should be at 50% by end of month but currently at 42.71%, nearly 7% under our budget.
- Revenue by Source reports by state and federal allocations, grants, Medicaid, fees, fund balance and county funds allocated, and total earned.

Dr. Andrews followed up on her concerns about flu shot fees from the December meeting. Mrs. York answered that she is still working on fee analysis for accreditation purposes and FY 19 budget. Currently, state is not allowing us to provide free flu shots. Based on our adopted fee policy, we must charge a \$32 administrative fee and \$15 for the flu shot. She will come back to have the Board of Health's and Commissioner's approval to waive the administrative fee.

Dr. Andrews asked why some counties offer free flu shots, but Cumberland County charges \$54, especially with what's been going on with the epidemic. She stated that it must be solved immediately.

Mr. Jenkins mentioned that it will be a pleasure to bring this subject back next month, and he would be happy to present it. We still need to prepare the document to have the Commissioners' approval, which can be added to the agenda.

Dr. Andrews recommended scheduling a special session soon to discuss reducing the fee.

Mrs. York suggested that we may possibly waive on a case by case basis under the Health Director's approval to get through this flu season as stated in our policies required by NCDPH.

Dr. Andrews asked where the funding comes from for recruiting School Health Nurses.

Mrs. York answered they receive allocation from the school board for temporary nurses. They gave us funding for last year and this year on a non-recurring basis (4) for 35 hours/week school nurses. However, they couldn't guarantee if there is recurring fund available for temp nurses. Currently we have 3.5 temp school health field nurses. It took us a while for Cumberland County School System (CCS) to give us the contract for the extra dollars for temp nurses. In December, we have 3.5 temps at 35-hour/wk. At this point, we have 14 who are funded from CCS (4 temps, 10 permanent positions). Also have 15.5 nurses funded with state and county dollars.

Dr. Andrews asked what the ratio is for the calendar school year. Mr. Jenkins answered that we need at least double amount of current nurses.

Mr. Jenkins answered that we did not request to add more school nurses done to the budget projected to be tight.

Dr. Andrews requested to discuss this subject with the school board and will request an invitation.

- B. National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) Annual Conference: August 8-10, 2018 at Marriot Raleigh Crabtree Valley:

Mr. Jenkins announced that the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) Annual Conference is scheduled for August 8-10, 2018 at Marriot Raleigh Crabtree Valley this year and strongly recommends the board members to attend.

- C. Employee New Hires:

Mr. Jenkins presented one of the new hires for the month of December 2017.

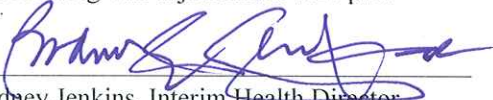
- D. Membership Roster/Attendance Roster:

Dr. Philbrick reviewed the membership roster for 2018 and the attendance report for 2017.

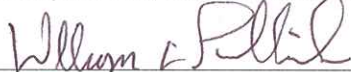
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Connette McMahon moved to adjourn.
SECOND: Dr. Heather Burkhardt
VOTE: Unanimous (6-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.


Rodney Jenkins, Interim Health Director

2/20/2018
Date


Dr. William Philbrick, Chair

Feb 2, 2018
Date

CUMBERLAND COUNTY DELEGATION/BOARD OF HEALTH
JANUARY 16, 2018 – 6:06 p.m.
1235 RAMSEY STREET, THIRD FLOOR BOARD ROOM
DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT:

Representative Elmer Floyd
Representative William Richardson
Representative John Szoka (Arrived at 6:21pm)
Optometrist, Dr. William Philbrick, Chair
Dr. Connette McMahon, Vice Chair
Dr. Vikki Andrews, Public Representative
Dr. Heather Burkhardt, Veterinarian
Dr. Oliver Hodge, Dentist
Ms. Sonja Council, Nurse
Duane Holder, Assistant County Manager
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Annie Harris, Management Support Processing Assistant

ABSENT:

Senator Wesley Meredith
Representative Ben Clark
Representative Marvin Lucas
Commissioner Jeannette Council (Excused for BOCC meeting)
Dr. Sam Fleishman, Physician

Welcome and Introductions:

Dr. Philbrick welcomed and thanked the Cumberland County Delegation for attending the meeting.

Discussion topics:

1. Long-term vision for the county and its citizens:

Dr. Philbrick asked about the long-term vision of the Cumberland County and city of Fayetteville.

Rep. William Richardson answered that he is a huge believer in having a vision of a long-term plan. We will be a county in the top five in the nation for teachers' pay, principals' pay, and technology in the classroom. He aspires to renew or re-vamp infrastructure state-wide, including bridges, roads, and the electric grid; and Public Health is definitely part of his long-term vision because people need proper treatment accessible on a regular basis, even those who do not have health care. In a long-term vision, the issues needed to be addressed are water and use of renewable resources. He absolutely plans to start now to continue into the next 30 years.

Rep. Floyd stated that in the State level, we need to address our infrastructure set aside from health and education. Even on the I-295, it still does not move traffic east to west. It is possible to move to the city north and south; if you look at Murchison Rd, Bragg Blvd, Ramsey St, and Raeford Rd, you can move north to south. However, to connect east to west, we need an inter-loop (like Raleigh) for moving traffic. We have a lot of pocket holes that need help and need water and sewage systems as it relates to health. We also need to multi-task rather than having one focus. Our county is conservative in our vision, which throws us behind in our incentives to attract industry here, which would give us a greater tax base and, ultimately, allow many of our residents who are uninsured to be provided insurance by the organization. If one goes to Cape Fear for emergencies, someone needs to pay for it. They cannot operate without revenue, and patients, even though Cape Fear is looking at a rescue program, will bring in million dollars within a two-

hour radius. We have to determine our standpoint of view what we want to be. We cannot depend on the military base. We, as a county, need to prepare in the event the military wishes to downsize, making it difficult to rely on the military base as a representation for the county.

Rep. Richardson, in sum, stated to forget all liberal, progressive, or conservative parties. What the county needs is the conservative or the liberal to pay for the county. We must maintain the house by paying for the house in which we live. Why are we not investing in our children? Why are we not investing in our infrastructure? Why do we not beautify Murchison Rd. to lift Fayetteville State University and that part of community up to grow economically? Why are we not protecting our water? We are reacting to the water problem because we failed to proactively invest in our water. It is essential that we, in government, start being proactive and doing long-range planning. He believes that all representatives would love to be a partner with us in the long-term vision of planning. In terms of the septic issue in the county, we failed to invest in water and sewer in areas falsely defined with boundary lines in whether they received water or sewer, rather than actually defining these areas based on the need of water and sewer. Until we start investing for 20 years down the road, problems will continue to arise. He would love to see us being more proactive.

Dr. Philbrick said when he came to Fayetteville in the 1970s; anyone could receive free water and sewage throughout the county because it was government-paid. This is being done in various counties; however, this county refuses out of fear of being annexed by the city. We have Harnett, Hoke, Sampson, and Cumberland counties, as well as parts of Bladen County. Our long-term plan cannot be just Cumberland County. The hospitals are being taking over between counties, and those counties will be all involved. In long run, it would involve more than Cumberland County.

2. Update on House Select Committee on River Quality – next steps; your take on issues with Chemours in our region:

Rep. Floyd stated that, as a member of the River Quality Committee, in the house, Chemours talked with the Senate. The House met about four times. Based on media, his concern was regarding the funding. The Chair indicated that he was working on funding with approximately \$2.3 million dollars. When you look at the budget of \$21-23 billion dollars, the amount is a mere drop in the bucket.

Dr. Philbrick mentioned that he doesn't think they will find the edge. The Airborne is still on-going.

Rep. Richardson mentioned that he put it on the memo; however, there was loss of the memo of Airborne Admission.

Rep. John Szoka arrived at 6:21pm.

Rep. Szoka briefly introduced himself.

Dr. Philbrick asked if we need to replace the water since we cannot find the edge of contamination.

Rep. Szoka answered that we will not replace water lines.

Rep. Floyd stated that we don't know where the boundary is. So the committee will push it further out to determine when, how, and where. This is a problem that we don't know what we don't know. House is attempting to address the problem to sub-committee and the full house. Because it is unique, Senate even researched at home; while the negotiation takes place, although they are not in session, they are still negotiating.

Rep. Szoka mentioned that in reality, legislature is the same as the Board of Health, church board, or any other organization that you may be a part of. They have different opinions that must be brought together. Sometimes a group has an opinion based on fact, and sometimes a group has opinions not based on fact. In his opinion, the House did what they were supposed to do and investigated selected residents to try and gather facts. The River Quality Committee was a House-selected committee, and the Senate was not in that

committee; therefore, they weren't very engaged in it. Some of the members interpreted things in the committee differently; however, his hope is that they will take initiative to better educate themselves and do the right things. What they are looking for is an informed decision; he believes the bill they came up with through the committee's work through direct negotiation with DEQ and DEH was a good start. That's why we got 116 people of various political backgrounds to agree with it as well. Now we need to decide who will work in the Senate. He believes it would be helpful if the Board of Health addressed concerns in a non-confrontational manner regarding the issue for starters.

Rep. Floyd mentioned that they haven't tested Columbus County, but only part of Bladen, New Hanover, and Cumberland Counties. They found Gen-X up and down the river. He is interested in Columbus's test results because Wilmington gets their drinking water from Wake which is within that part of the river with growing blue algae.

Rep. Szoka asked what is the Board of Health's position in the issue and what questions do they wish the legislative to bring to the House? He represents Greys Creek and asked if the vet clinics collect information when animals are put down for any cause? Dr. Burkhardt answered yes, and the vet collects information regarding the cause when animals are put down. However, the problem with collecting accurate data is that not all Greys Creek residents go to one vet. Rep. Szoka has statistics and has advanced degree in statistics; though he is not saying that we will get statistically significant, if a trend is seen, it might indicate the need to do further studies. A 20 year study would be required to analyze the trends in cancer; however, it was stated that it is difficult to track.

Mr. Jenkins said he has heard the exact same concerns from citizens about their pets. We are willing to conduct research in the veterinary society and collecting this data; however, reports have not been concrete, merely hearsay. It is a serious issue, and many citizens contact the Environmental Health Inspectors. We are grateful there are considerations even made towards human studies in terms of appropriating funds to work with NC State and researchers. Pets are a widespread concern from a human aspect of what is going on. Citizens in this area think their pets are being poisoned, and it's very concerning.

Rep. Szoka said it is a good comment and that he also receives phone calls on similar concerns. What some people want is to say Chemours is guilty without going to court. This problem will not resolve overnight. For the short-term, find where the limit is. He has requested DEQ to map and show ground water, surface water, and some surface water to try to find out where the water is going.

Rep. Floyd stated that it is a mystery. It didn't get there through river flow or by pond; there are many unanswered questions about it. One of the things he doesn't want to see happen is to have a corporate citizen be condemned when they were, essentially, following the law. As long as they are willing to be partners and participate in cleaning it up, he doesn't think it behooves us, as a county, to automatically condemn it. If anything was at fault, it would be our inadequate law, in which they were in compliance.

Rep. Szoka said in reality, this is not a new issue but was just brought up last year. In committee, it was stated that the legislative knew about it since 2005.

Dr. Andrews said she thinks that the Board of Health's substitute input cannot be provided tonight. Rather, it should be prepared to provide to the legislative in a reasonably given time frame.

Dr. Philbrick said those most urgently affected by the issue is the chicken and swine industry.

Rep. Szoka said that brings up an interesting thought. Smithfield takes so much water. That's why they built a separate water plant, so they can pull water out of the river because they were sucking the aquifer dry and taking water from further areas, potentially contributing to the spreading of the issue to wells. Therefore, building another plant helps and is another reason why he asked DEQ to map the issues. Apparently it's very complicated underneath the ground the way it goes. In some cases, water can even go down not towards the river, but in the opposite direction.

Rep Floyd said that in response to the river question, they have two purposes in terms of the budget. The first is to tweak the budget this year; the second is to take on non-controversial bills, but not to mean that other subjects cannot be placed on the agenda. There are a lot of things that the public does not know about and the public does not see, but a lot of the work is done in committees.

Rep. Richardson stated that in other words, the further they know in advanced, the easier it is to process through the committee process.

Dr. Andrews asked if a month to present our agenda to legislative is enough.

Rep Floyd mentioned this will be helpful, and delegation will forward it to Rep. Davis, the chair and he will incorporate the agenda in the discussion. This is all new, and the legislature has been looking at this for six months for a working solution. They asked DENR to look at the state and national databases. This is serious; however, we cannot address the issue by constantly throwing money away without addressing the problem. Legislature should have looked prior to dispersing the money, but threw the money instead without actually looking at the cost, unlike both the staff and River Quality Committee. If their speaker was not sincere, he would not have appointed the committee. He believes the Senate should pass what the legislative passes, or at least some version of it, from which they can compromise.

Dr. Andrews mentioned that Sampson County has a meeting to look at this issue.

Rep. Szoka mentioned that any feedback from discussion will be accepted eagerly. However, they also may not have all the answers either, so providing maximum information, as well as questions that need to be answered, will be helpful. It is a local problem now that can become a national issue. Sponsorship in the national level is possible, but he is eager to collect everyone's input, so then they can get involvement at a national level.

Rep. Richardson stated that we are a united delegation, regardless of political party, and we are serious about being united and doing what is best for Cumberland County. He can assure that questions and solutions will be received in a united way. We work very well when it comes to matters of Cumberland County.

Rep. Floyd stated that when they come up with a note, it's not just a note. Every dollar must be there.

3. Consolidation in 2012 by the Department of Social Service and the Board of Health under one board: How are these models working throughout the State?

Rep Richardson answered that he is aware of the Mental Health consolidation issue.

Dr. Philbrick mentioned that we understand there are seven counties in consolidation, and most are thinking about backing out of it. There are two different entities that are too complicated to consolidate.

Delegations will prepare the answers on the pros and cons of consolidation.

4. Long-term vision for the county and its citizens:

Rep Szoka answered, firstly, to encourage business investment in the county by decreasing taxes. In the past six years, it has been a real help in both personal and corporate income taxes. The results have shown it helps businesses here and attracts more to the county.

Secondly, he wants to reduce regulations because regulations enlarge our tax on business. He does not want the starting of a business to cost more than they yield back and wants to provide value back to the consumers.

Third is to protect Ft. Bragg and its 53,000-54,000 active duty soldiers as a delegation. If we lost the brigade of the 82nd Airborne, that would crater our economy, and we cannot afford to lose jobs. Legislative

ensured county-wide water will be provided without the need to voluntarily annex into the county by changing the city charter. He believes if we had county-wide water now, the Chemours water issue would be much less of a problem. When it comes to the health of people, his long-term vision is to assist the county to become more competitive alongside neighboring counties. Water and sewer are on top of his list, along with making it a receptive area for industry to come.

Rep Floyd added that we need infrastructure and natural gas. Some people agree, and others disagree.

Rep Richardson mentioned that from a security point of view, all of our pipelines run south to north, which is essential. If there is a major disaster around Alabama, Louisiana, or the Gulf in general, we will have an energy crisis. It amazes him how the infrastructure was made to slip so badly by not preparing the grid and energy in the event of a crisis. Therefore, he strongly agrees the best possible renewable energy is natural gas in substitute for oil and coal.

Rep Floyd thanked everyone for allowing the legislative to share and hear some of the issues in Cumberland County.

Other topic:

5. Funding for Communicable Disease Nurses:

Mr. Jenkins presented that the Cumberland County Department of Public Health supports the request from the NC Association of Local Health Directors in asking the General Assembly for \$8 million to be spread out amongst all 100 counties to fund a Communicable Disease nurse; (\$80K per each county). Communicable Disease is more than just fighting STDs, and we had a history of communicable disease (Hep B) at Olive Garden a couple of years ago. So, we certainly ask for the legislative's support to conservatively use this fund in Cumberland County.

Rep. Szoka offered a suggestion on how we can maintain the relationship with the six legislative members, focusing on their respective committee focus (i.e. Appropriation or finance committee)

Rep Floyd said two things can be done regarding the relationship with the legislation. First, find the correct committee and their respective chairs, and educate them with maximum information. A list of the committees will be provided.

Rep. Richardson stated that more information and education can be helpful.

The part of the regular Board of Health meeting with the Cumberland County legislative delegation concluded and departed at 7:03 p.m. and continued with the regular order of the agenda.