

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
February 15, 2022 – 6:00p.m.  
1235 RAMSEY STREET, THIRD, GO TO MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Olusola Ojo, Pharmacist, Chair  
Dr. Cynthia McArthur-Kearney, Registered Nurse, Vice Chair  
Mr. John Larch III, Professional Engineer  
Dr. Hakkam Alsaidi, Optometrist  
Dr. Kent Dean, Veterinarian  
Dr. Jennifer Brayboy-Locklear, General Public Representative  
Ms. Kiera Wade, General Public Representative  
Dr. Jeanette Council, County Commissioner  
Mr. Joseph Fiser, General Public Representative  
Dr. Sam Fleishman, Physician

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Kingsley Momodu, Dentist

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director  
Ms. Ashley Curtice, Deputy Health Director  
Dr. Lori Haigler, Medical Director  
Mr. Rick Moorefield, County Attorney  
Dr. Krystle Vinson, Director of Nursing  
Mrs. Candice York, Accountant  
Mrs. Kelly Smith, Administrative Assistant to the Health Director

**WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

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

**ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Dr. Sam Fleishman moved to approve the Board of Health (BOH) Meeting Agenda  
SECOND: Dr. Kent Dean  
VOTE: Unanimous (10-0)

B. Approval of January 18, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Dr. Sam Fleishman moved to approve the Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
SECOND: Dr. Jennifer Brayboy-Locklear  
VOTE: Unanimous (10-0)

C. Approval of 2022 Board of Health Handbook including Operating Procedures and policies for Compliance with Public Health Laws and Regulations, Hearing Appeals to the Board of Health, and Board of Health Adjudication,

MOTION: Dr. Jeanette Council moved to approve the 2022 BOH Handbook and  
SECOND: Dr. Jennifer Brayboy-Locklear  
VOTE: Unanimous (10-0)

### **INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **A. Public Comment**

Dr. Ojo opened the floor for public comments at 6:15p.m. There being no public comments registered, Dr. Ojo closed the floor for public comment at 6:16pm.

#### **B. Financial Reports**

Mrs. Candice York presented her financial reports. The statement of revenues and expenditures for the month closing January 31, 2022, exceeded our expenditures of \$500,965.57. Expenditures by programs are at 38.40% reporting as of January 31, 2022. We have earned 25.21% for State and Federal Allocations and 18.84% for Grants as of January 31, 2022. Over-all we have earned 38.10% of revenue by source. Accounts Receivable was broken down by payor source with an accounts receivable aging report available for private pay as of January 31, 2022. Mrs. York said they are currently preparing the 2023 budget and have until 2/28 to complete data entry with supplemental expenses and operating expenses. Mrs. York will present next month on the 2023 budget process.

#### **C. External Reports – deferred to next month.**

#### **D. Director's Report**

Review of Strategic Planning Priorities: The Board of Health met for a retreat on February 11, 2022, to review data sources, county health rankings and reviewed utilization data and participated in a SWOT analysis. Board members worked in small groups to develop goals from priorities.

The Board agreed to 5 external, or community focused, priorities for the short and long term:

- Continue increasing partnerships and collaboration with groups from various sectors, including academic, military, healthcare and faith-based organizations
- Expand mental health and substance abuse services to include teen substance abuse programming
- Improve external communications through varying platforms to better explain “what we do,” educate and ensure literacy and equity
- Continue expanding community access to Health Department services to include transportation and mobile outreach events
- Reduction of the STI/STD incidence rates in Cumberland County

The Board also established 3 internal priorities for the department:

- Increase staff recruitment and retention and improve morale
- Improve quality and efficiency of services through Electronic Health Records and other technological methods and improvements

Normalizing COVID-19 Response and incorporating it into everyday practice

CUREMD Update: Discovery sessions are completed, practice management supervisors' sessions completed. Data migration ongoing, EMR Super User sessions ongoing, staff trained and will go live in April. Patient portal and text reminders will be set up.

Delta Dental Grant: The Public Health Department received \$2400 for Smiles for Kids Grant. Healthy Smiles and Self-Esteem will be the focus for fifth graders, and all will receive goody bags and there will be a poster contest for children to participate in.

Health Equity and ARPA Workforce Development Update: Dr. Green is currently about to start interviews for the Workforce Development position within the Health Department. COVID

Update: Dr. Green gave an update on our current COVID numbers, current mask guidance from the CDC and NC DHHS, and testing, treatment, and vaccination availability. Dr. Green discussed current isolation and quarantine guidance including masking guidance after exposure and isolation. Dr. Green invited Rick Moorefield, our County Attorney to answer questions for Board members as well. As of 5pm on February 20, 2022, the Abatement order is being rescinded. This was a hard decision and allows time for businesses to produce their own mask mandate and get prepared. Dr. Green recommends businesses and citizens look at the CDC guidelines and recommendations when making their decision. Dr.

Fleishman said that in January the hospitalization numbers were up with 190 patients with COVID and 90 COVID related deaths. Dr. Fleishman added that compared to the Delta Surge, the Omicron deaths are down. Mr. Larch asked if Dr. Green was directed to rescind the abatement order by Commissioners. Dr. Green replied that she was not asked to rescind, however she retains the authority to rescind it without the commissioner's vote. Dr. Fleishman agrees with Dr. Green and that based on guidelines and recommendations from the CDC, it should be clear how citizens should proceed with masking or not-masking. Mr. Rick Moorefield said the real concern was that numbers show most positive cases are among the non-vaccinated populations. Mr. Moorefield explained that to keep the abatement going, Dr. Green would have to sue the School Board, and this is not the outcome wanted. Dr. Alsaïdi and Mr. Joseph Fiser were concerned with the families of the children in schools not masking. A concern was mentioned that teachers need to send children home if they are sick and come to school, so that parents and grandparents do not get infected. Dr. Council is happy with the way that Dr. Green has handled the masking situation and supports the decision. Dr. Fleishman added that the best defense is to get vaccinated! Dr. Ojo thanked Dr. Green for all her hard work during COVID.

#### E. Membership Roster

Dr. Ojo encouraged Board Members to review the attendance roster and let Kelly know if there were any discrepancies.

#### F. Board Member Comments

Dr. Green reminded everyone that we are continuing to vaccinate at the Health Department daily. The plan is to issue a release to the public to strongly get vaccinated on the county website.

As a reminder, the next regular meeting is Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 6pm.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Jeanette Council moved to adjourn.  
SECOND: Mr. John Larch  
VOTE: Unanimous (10-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Jennifer Green 3/8/2022  
Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director Date

DAOjo 03/07/22  
Dr. Olusola Ojo, Chair Date