

RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
RANDOLPH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
2222-B South Fayetteville Street, Asheboro, NC
Monday, September 9, 2019

Members Present

Charles Lee, DVM, Chair
Julie Mabe, RN
Robert Brown, MD
Courtney Alston Wilson, Community Member
William Walker, OD
Hope Haywood, County Commissioner
Daryl Hill, DDS
Lyn Richardson, RD, Community Member
Marianne Evans, PharmD
Marty Trotter, Community Member, Vice-Chair

Staff Present

Susan Hayes, Health Director
Tara Aker, Assistant Health Director
Brooke Hogan, Executive Assistant
Arey Rash, Director of Nursing
April Wilburn, Clinical Nursing Supervisor
Wesley Vann, Animal Services Manager

Members Absent

Mack Summey, PE

Visitors Present

Ashley Duggins, PharmD, Guest Speaker

I. Call to Order

The Randolph County Board of Health met on Monday, September 9, 2019, in the Randolph County Public Health conference room. Dr. Lee, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Public Comment Period

Dr. Lee opened the public comment period. Hearing no requests, the public comment period was closed.

III. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Lee presented minutes from the July 11, 2019 board meeting for board member review. Dr. Hill made a motion to “*approve the July 11, 2019 minutes as presented.*” Dr. Brown seconded, and the motion carried.

IV. CBD Oil/Hemp Products Presentation

Ashley Duggins, Pharmacist and Owner of Prevo Drug, presented board members with information about Hemp products and Cannabidiol (CBD) oil. In Ms. Duggins presentation she

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included information she acquired from a Food & Drug Administration (FDA) visit she made on May 31, 2019 through her role on the NC Board of Pharmacy. She stated that many types of hemp products have been tested, however often times test results indicate varied levels of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) across test samples. A health concern related to these products is that there is little to no clinical research about product safety or definitive proof that the products have medicinal value. The FDA is looking into establishing standards to be associated with these products. Dr. Walker stated that dosing is difficult due to the inconsistency of the content.

Ms. Duggins shared that amendments to NC Senate bills 315 and 352 are being considered related to smoke-able hemp. The NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services has strict guidelines in place involving testing the plants to ensure that extraction limits do not contain higher than the federally defined legal limit 0.3% THC level. Another issue is the difficulty for law enforcement to differentiate between hemp products and marijuana possession in the field. Dr. Brown stated that medical reporting officers must notify the employer when employees test positive for marijuana, even if the positive THC result is from taking CBD oil.

There was much discussion regarding Hemp/CBD oil products. Concern was raised about this topic, which included that if this is a public health issue, it needs to be addressed before it gets out of control and becomes a problem similar to the opioid crisis. Ms. Duggins referenced a documentary entitled "Charlotte's Web", about a child with a seizure disorder; the child used CBD products and it helped with the condition. Ms. Duggins stated that she serves on the NC Board of Pharmacy and is neither for nor against the product. The NC Board of Pharmacy has tasked Ms. Duggins with staying abreast of the latest research and information about Hemp/CBD oil products as it becomes available.

Dr. Lee mentioned that hemp plants tend to grow best in soils that have formerly grown tobacco products, so states such as NC, KY, etc. tend to produce the product well. Ms. Duggins said that this is a very lucrative crop. Board member, Courtney Alston Wilson, stated that she comes from a family of former tobacco farmers and they are currently hemp farmers. There was discussion across the board.

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V. Communicable Disease Update

Arey Rash, Director of Nursing, presented board members with a communicable disease update and a situation report (*Sitrep - see report following the minutes*). Ms. Rash's report included that an area long-term care facility recently had a new case of carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE). The facility currently has five confirmed cases. Public Health nurses have been on-site for the second round of testing. Another long-term facility experienced a sentinel event with Group Strep A; the facility is currently on two-month surveillance for any new cases. Dr. Brown inquired about whether Randolph County has seen any resistance to chlamydia. April Wilburn stated that she had not seen any yet; however, RCPH only offers urine testing. There was some discussion among board members regarding STI (sexually transmitted infection) testing. Susan Hayes stated that positive results of STI cases are reportable communicable diseases and doctor's offices, pregnancy care centers, etc., are required by NC law to report positive cases. Ms. Wilburn referenced the timeframes in which agencies are permitted to report according to the type of infection. Ms. Hayes stated that follow up with clients and partners is key to prevention.

Recently, 14 cases of cyclosporiasis have been confirmed and linked to food product(s) consumed at Don Julio's restaurant. The cases were able to identify eating at the restaurant on the same days and getting sick during the same timeframe. Don Julio's restaurant has been very compliant in taking necessary steps to avoid further illnesses. The State of NC is currently working with the Center for Disease Control as part of what appears to be a national outbreak of cyclosporiasis involving Michigan, Virginia, Texas and North Carolina. The common denominators in the outbreak appear to be celery, basil and cilantro. Food handling has not been indicated, rather its felt more likely that this outbreak stems from a field source where the product is grown.

Ms. Rash also updated the board regarding changes to Title X which impacts the family planning program. Changes to Title X state that any agency receiving federal funds must revise policies to exclude "abortion only" providers on resource lists provided to clients. Likewise, prenatal care providers must be offered on a resource list. Randolph County Public Health staff are revising policies and resource lists to ensure they reflect the necessary changes.

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Ms. Rash stated that NC was fortunate not to sustain a lot of injury and loss from the recent Hurricane Dorian. NC outer banks areas are still in need of help. Local crews have dispatched some officers and EMS staff.

VI. Bad Debt Write-Off Review/Approval

Susan Hayes presented an accounts receivable report for the Fiscal Year 2018-19 for board members to review (*see financial statements following the minutes*). Ms. Hayes reviewed FYE escrow balances. Ms. Hayes noted that bad debt write-off amounts had decreased annually and collections from utilizing the NC debt set-off program have increased. Bad debt write-off amounts have reduced significantly over the years due to policy changes, efficient use of electronic medical record system, utilization of NC debt set-off system and the hard work of staff.

Ms. Hayes asked board members to consider “*approving a bad debt write-off total of \$1,287.86 for the Fiscal Year 2018-19.*” Dr. Hill made a motion to “*approve the bad debt write-off amount of \$1,287.86 for the Fiscal Year 2018-19*” as presented. Hope Haywood seconded, and the motion carried.

VII. Health Director’s Report

- Ms. Hayes recognized Arey Rash, Director of Nursing, with warm regards concerning her upcoming retirement on September 30. Ms. Hayes thanked Ms. Rash for an outstanding Public Health career and for being a great colleague. Board members also thanked Ms. Rash for a job well done.
- Ms. Hayes introduced April Wilburn, RN, as the newly appointed Director of Nursing effective October 1, 2019. Ms. Wilburn has worked eight years within Randolph County Public Health and has prior experience with Randolph Health. She has served in all aspects of Public Health nursing including the supervisory role as Clinic Nursing Supervisor for the past four years. Ms. Hayes stated she looks forward to working with Ms. Wilburn in her new role as Director of Nursing.
- Ms. Hayes reported 450 cases of vaping related lung illnesses nationally with five deaths. NC has seen three cases. Symptoms include shortness of breath, nausea, etc. Dr. Brown stated that

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in these type of cases what is actually happening is that the lungs are shutting down. There was some discussion across the board regarding education to parents and school-age kids.

- A new Animal Services Director may be in place by November 1, 2019. Once this position is filled, there will be a transition time in which Public Health staff will work with Animal Services staff to relinquish duties and responsibilities. Until further notice, Public Health continues to assist Animal Services with grant writing, adoption events, and all the related daily work.
- The local health director, by NC General Statutes, has the authority to declare a dog vicious. However, local commissioners have to appoint someone with the authority to declare dogs dangerous. Ms. Hayes asked Board of Health members to support her in asking that Randolph County Animal Services Director be appointed to handle the declaration of dangerous dogs with an appointed appeals board as a subcommittee of the newly formed Animal Services Board.
- A Subaru-ASPCA Adoption event will be October 12, 2019 at the Strider Subaru dealership from 9 am – 1 pm. Health Education Supervisor, Wendy Kennon, and Animal Shelter Manager, Wesley Vann, worked together on this grant. Their work paid off and we received grant funding in the amount of \$4,500.00 from ASPCA to host an adoption fair. Grant funds will cover the adoption fee for the animals that are part of this event.
- A temporary WIC site is now open at the Northgate Shopping Center. The site opened late August. Staff are seeing clients and things are going well. If things continue to go well at this site, it may become the primary location for WIC services.
- The Randolph County Public Health Strategic Planning meeting will be held on December 4, 2019. Board members will receive an invitation to attend and participate.
- The Public Health Dentist vacancy may be filled soon. Ms. Hayes has been in discussion with an interested candidate.
- New Leash on Life Graduation is Wednesday, September 11, 2019, at 2:00 pm at the Senior Adults Center.

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- NCDHHS staff will conduct a Data Privacy and Security Compliance Review visit at RCPH on September 27, 2019. This assessment will be a helpful tool for local government agencies to identify best and safest technology practices.
- A First Amendment Audit group, an activist group, has been to several government agencies requesting tours of government agencies, calling it first amendment audits. They have made videos of employees and daily operations. Staff associate attorney, Aimee Scotton, is working on a proposed resolution, to be presented to the Board of County Commissioners' to address this issue. Until a resolution is in place, staff have been advised that if this advocacy group comes to Public Health, to be kind and let them know we have HIPAA protected clinical areas that are off limits. Staff may offer to provide the group a tour of areas not providing confidential services.
- The next Opioid Collaborative will meet on September 30, 2019 at 2:00 pm in the Public Health conference room.
- Ms. Hayes mentioned having a nice visit from Dr. George Sumner's daughter recently. Dr. Sumner was hired as the first health officer in Randolph County in 1927. Dr. Sumner's daughter wanted to see if her father's picture was still hanging on the conference room wall. She was delighted to see her father's portrait is still here.
- Susan Hayes noted that Dr. Lee, Dr. Walker, and Dr. Hill would rotate off the board in December of 2019. She asked board members to let her know if they have recommendations for filling vacant positions.

The next Board of Health meeting is the Annual Report presentation and dinner on Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 6:00 pm in the Randolph County Board of Education Board Rooms A & B. Board members were encouraged to bring a guest/spouse.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.



Dr. Charles Lee, Randolph County Board of Health Chair



Susan D. Hayes, Randolph County Health Director