

# **SCHD Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

## **March 18, 2024**

Attendance: Board Members: Jeffrey Bell, Yire Hernandez, Allie Ray McCullen, Cynthia Davis, Lethia Lee, Katrina Boykin, Russel Devane, Daniel Cumbo, Shane Sundlie

Non-Board Members: Wanda Robinson, Edwin Causey, Joel Starling, Cherish Allen, Kelly Parrish, Luke Smith, Tamra Jones, Kory Hair.

- I. **Call to Order:** Jeffrey Bell
- II. **Invocation:** Russel Devane
- III. **Election of Vice Chair:** Commissioner Lethia Lee nominated Russel Devane, 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Dr. Sundlie.
- IV. **Induction of New Member:** Cherish Allen inducted the committee's new member, Katrina Boykin.
- I. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - a) January 20, 2024- SCHD Health Advisory Committee Meeting minutes. Motion to approve minutes as written made by Yire Hernandez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russel Devane. All in favor.
- II. **SOTCH:** Luke Smith reviewed the SOTCH report from 2023. The Sampson County State of the County Health (SOTCH) report provides information for the health priorities identified in Sampson County's 2021 Community Health Assessment (CHA). The report serves as an update of action taken to address these priorities and highlights the ongoing need for Sampson County to collectively address social determinants of health through our Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPS). Priorities identified consist of Obesity, Substance Use, and Teen Pregnancy. COVID-19 and Opioids/Overdoses were the two Morbidity and Mortality changes since the last CHA. Tuberculosis and Syphilis were two emerging issues since the last CHA. See attached 2023 CHA report for details.
- III. **Lamaze Class:** Kelly Parrish presented for Rebecca Buchanan. Childbirth education classes: the hospital no longer offers these classes for pregnant clients. Rebecca has offered to give these classes to maternal health patients here at the health department. She can teach in person or online. She will also be able to bill Medicaid and private insurance companies. She has completed her class and is currently working on her last online modules. Start date TBD.
- IV. **Covid Update:** Kelly Parrish. Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> recommendations were updated. They are to help the ones most at risk. COVID, Flu, and RSV are now "Respiratory Viruses" New guidance brings forward a unified approach. See attachment.
- IV. **Financial:**
  - a) Monthly Update: Tamra Jones reviewed the monthly update. She stated that

activities are staying consistent. No questions. Wanda Robinson stated that the WIC participation has remained elevated. Sampson County is one County out of 10 that have maintained their WIC caseload. We will not experience a WIC cut in funds this year. The Medicaid revenues are as well staying consistent. Billing is being completed within 2 to 3 days of service provided. No questions.

- b) CPT Code/Fee Update: Tamra reported that there are 2 new LabCorp codes that need to be added. Real Time Abbott-HIV Test at \$576.85 and GGT at \$17.72. See attached handout for details. Motion to approve made by Russel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Yire Hernandez.
- c) AA 121-ARPA Funding: \$50,000. Funds are for public health services. Funds can be carried over to September of next FY. Motion to approve made by Lethia Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katrina Boykin.
- d) AA 452-BCCCP Program: \$3250 more in funding to see additional BCCCP patients until June 30<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve made by Dr. Davis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russel Devane.
- e) AA 175-Family Planning: three-year grant of \$150,000 per year. Unsure if it can be carried over to next FY. Motion to approve made by Allie Ray, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. Sundlie
- f) Opioid Grant Funds: \$60,000 from Eastpointe that can be carried over to the next FY. Wanda stated money can be used for Opioid awareness and testing. These funds could be used to stock the Kiosk machine. Motion to approve made by Lethia, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. Sundlie.
- g) COVID Funding: Carried over from last year's budget. Allie Ray, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russel Devane.
- h) Budget Summary: (No vote necessary. This is for information only.) Tamra reviewed the budget summary for 24-25. Significant cuts include lack of COVID funding this year. Wanda Robinson reviewed the drivers for this fiscal year. Medicaid managed care has not gone as expected. There have been issues in inconsistencies with insurance companies. Two main inconsistencies were overpayment (per member per month) and birthdates were not calculated properly. Total of approximately \$19,000 to be paid back. Environmental Health software program to be paid for from this budget. The Health Department has been applying for grants to help make up for some of the shortages. Tamra stated that if there are any questions the board could bring them back to the next meeting.
- i) Environmental Health Fee Update: Kory reviewed the EH Fee update. These changes were mandated by the State. Food and Lodging Plan Review: Due to General Statute 130A-248(f), fee cannot exceed \$250.00. Engineer Option Permit (EOP) and Authorized Onsite Wastewater Evaluator (AOWE) Permits: Fee is restricted to \$35 due to the updated General Statutes 130A-336.1 and 130A-336.2. A2 Permits: Added by General Statute 130A-335 (a2) (a3) (a5), with a maximum allowable percentage of permit fee. See attachments for fee details, to include an explanation of each fee. Motion to approve made by Russel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Cumbo.

**V. Health Directors Report:** Current vacancies include PHN II-Outreach, PHN III Child Health Coordinator, Accounting Technician II. No further update.

**VI. Public Comment:**

Wendy Taylor: "My name is Wendy Taylor, many of you probably already know me. I'm standing here tonight as a result of my well that I recently had tested, and I live in Garland, which is not even close to the landfill and the landfill didn't contaminate my water, according to the chemicals that are in my well, Chemours did it. But yeah, apparently the air, because

I'm like 22 miles from Chemours. I would not have had my well tested, because I just assumed I was out in the middle of nowhere, everything was fine, you know, but at the urging of Whitney Parker, who I've seen speak numerous times related to the landfill, I was like ok well I went to the meeting in Roseboro from DEQ and then I was like, Ok no problem I will have it tested, you know for a peace of mind. Well, shocking, my wells contaminated. So, once I had that one tested, there is a well on the other end of the property, where renters are and it is even more shallow than mine, so I thought, yeah let's get that one tested. Got that one tested too, and guess what, it's contaminated as well, with higher levels of PFAS than mine. Ok, so I had no idea you guys had this meeting, I just happened to see it posted on Sampson County Government page. I will say that I saw on the bottom of my results that they have been sent to the Sampson County Health Department. Well, apparently, they were sent out on February 6<sup>th</sup>, that's the date on my information. Then I was like, well you know, I haven't heard from anybody, surely, they would be calling, you know, to say hey your waters contaminated, you might want to do A, B, C and don't do A, B, and C. And so, you know, I waited and waited and no, no call. So finally, I think it was on Wednesday, I called and left a message for, I guess your name Kory now. I called and left you a message and the message that I got was I'll call you back in 24 hours. I'm still waiting for that call. Haven't heard back from him yet, so this advisory council meeting was perfect. And, you know, I thought about what I wanted to say, but then I thought you know what, I'll just ask some questions and let you all see if you have thought about these questions, you know, brought them to light, given them any thought to it considering the situation in Sampson County with the landfill and with water and with wells. So, I'll just give you some questions that I had and then maybe when I get that call back, I can address them and they will be answered from someone, whoever is in the Environmental there but some of my questions where:"

- 1) "How are these testing results used by the County?"
- 2) "Does the County have protocols in place that guide the Health Department in how to handle contaminated well information?"
- 3) "Does the Health Department contact residents after receiving the report for DEQ? I guess the answer to that is no."
- 4) "Does the Health Department offer any resource information pertaining to PFAS to residents, like what is safe and not safe to do if your well is contaminated? Particularly, elderly people who may not be able to go on the internet and research and come up with all the things that I have."
- 5) "Are there any links on the county website to help residents learn about PFAS in their water?"
- 6) "During Covid, the county aggressively tracked anybody who tested positive, could we get the same effort for contaminated wells?"
- 7) "Have you contacted any of my neighbors concerning my contaminated well?"

Robert Graczyk: "So I too, live at the same address." Mr. Graczyk continued to read Mrs. Taylor's questions:

- 8) "How many residents of Sampson County use private wells as their water source?"
- 9) "How many wells have DEQ informed Sampson County Health Department about that are contaminated."
- 10) "Are there any funds set aside to help residents obtain bottled water until DEQ coordinated filtration systems. Our second property qualifies for bottled water delivered daily or delivered weekly I believe, and as most of its filtered because it's at 23 feet, the other well she failed to tell you is at 43 feet."
- 11) "Does the Health Department have any plans to complete a health study related to

the areas where water sources are contaminated? Monitoring for unusual increases in cancer, kidney disease, dialysis, birth defects?"

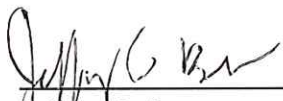
12) "Is there a community health assessment? These are emerging issues that should be included in the health assessment plan."

"Also, there's a brochure about the Sampson County Landfill, and I don't know if you saw this, but it goes into that many of the people around Snow Hill, I'll quote Mr. Whitney Parker, there is not a house in this community that has not had a person who has suffered from some type of cancer or kidney failure. It's Whitney Parker, he's a Snow Hill resident. He's gone to great lengths in his brochure with a timeline of the dump, but it also goes into Chemours waste was taken from Chemours in fact at that time and put into the landfill, and that's where they believe that some of those contaminants are coming from."

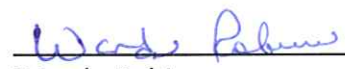
See attached list of questions (questions 1-12, mentioned) and brochure referenced above given to the Committee by Mr. Graczyk.

Jennie Morey and Sharon Campbell: Informed the Committee that Changing Paths is now open in Clinton NC. This is an opioid treatment center for adults.

**VII. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Russel Devane, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Allie Ray McCullen. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

  
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Jeffrey Bell  
Chair

5-14-2024  
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Date

  
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Wanda Robinson  
Secretary

5/14/24  
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Date