

**Chatham County Board of Health
Special Called Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 15, 2022
Dunlap Building – 80 East Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312**

The Chatham County Board of Health held a special called meeting on Thursday, December 15, 2022, in the Board Room of the Dunlap Building in Pittsboro.

Attendees

Board Members: Karen Barbee, EdD, Chair; Franklin Gomez Flores, Commissioner; Carol Reitz-Barlow, MSN, RN, CCRN; Judith Malone, RN; Tammy Lloyd, MD; Marcia Herman-Giddens, PA, MPH, DrPH

Staff: Michael Zelek, Anne Lowry, Dorothy Rawleigh, Zachary Horner, Danielle White

Welcome and Call to Order

Dr. Barbee called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Commissioner Gomez Flores mentioned that he was on the board of Chatham Hospital, and Ms. Reitz-Barlow said that she works for UNC Health.

Maternity Care Letter of Support Discussion

Dr. Barbee said the board was meeting to discuss a letter drafted by a special group of board members regarding the Maternity Care Center at Chatham Hospital. She said the letter draft was sent out to the board yesterday.

Ms. Reitz-Barlow asked what UNC Health's requirement was to keep the board notified. She said it was a perfect letter except for a statement asking UNC Health to keep the board notified of developments. Deleting that sentence was also discussed. The board agreed that removing the sentence would serve the stated purpose.

Ms. Malone referenced a sentence at the end of the first paragraph using "the average distance to care for discharges for childbirth" as a data point. The board generally agreed to take out the phrase "for discharges." The phrase was changed to state "the average distance to receive care for childbirth."

Mr. Zelek said there has been public interest in the letter. He said it may not make sense to post the letter to all platforms of social media, and asked the Board how they would like it to be shared. He said it should be sent to the people to whom it is addressed before being published elsewhere. Dr. Barbee said it was important to publish the letter for the sake of transparency. Board members discussed the possibility of sharing the letter with various media outlets. The board said they would like to be intentional in sending it to the Chatham News + Record and posting the letter to the Board of Health webpage.

The general consensus was to give UNC Health time to receive the letter and then share the letter in various forms, including a press release, as other news releases are typically shared.

Dr. Herman-Giddens motioned to approve the Maternity Care Letter of Support from the Chatham County Board of Health. Dr. Lloyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Dr. Herman-Giddens motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Reitz-Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Karen Barbee, EdD, Chair

Secretary Ex Officio
Michael Zelek, MPH, Public Health Director