

**Chatham County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 26, 2023
Dunlap Building – 80 East Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312**

The Chatham County Board of Health held a regular meeting on Monday, June 26, 2023, in the Board Room of the Dunlap Building in Pittsboro.

Attendees

Board Members Present: Karen Barbee, EdD, Chair; Stephanie Freese, DVM, Vice Chair; Carol Reitz-Barlow, MSN, RN CCRN; Zachary Brian, DMD, MHA; Franklin Gomez Flores, Commissioner; William Roscoe, OD; Marcia E. Herman-Giddens, PA, MPH, Dr PH

Board of Health Members Absent: Tammy Lloyd, MD; Ashley Pappas, PharmD, MHA; Alan Rimer, PE PhD; Judith Malone, RN

Staff: Michael Zelek, Danielle White, Bianca Sahota, Anne Lowry

Guests:

Rob Schooley, Chatham County Schools

Welcome and Call to Order and Introductions

Dr. Barbee called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Dr. Barbee stated we do not have any introductions this evening. Dr. Barbee thanked Dr. Herman Giddens for her service on the Board and presented her with a recognition gift. Dr. Herman Giddens thanked Dr. Barbee and others, and mentioned how honored she was to serve on the Board.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

No conflict was disclosed.

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Herman-Giddens made a motion to approve the agenda, and Commissioner Gomez Flores seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Barbee said there was an addition to the original consent agenda, a vote to approve Public Seat Re-Appointment for Dr. Karen Barbee, third 3-year term.

Dr. Barbee also said to remove the Chatham Health Alliance Update due to the potential weather threat this evening.

Mr. Zelek stated the main driver for creating this position was to increase consistency across the district in health and wellness instruction and ensure standards are met. He added that health department staff offer support and guidance with this position taking a lead.

New Business

None.

Old Business

Board of Health Nomination Committee

Commissioner Gomez Flores stated the Nominating Committee had a meeting to discuss the applications for the Board of Health Public Seat vacancy. Commissioner Gomez Flores, Dr. Roscoe and Dr. Pappas discussed their top two to three candidates and Delfino Benitez was the group's top candidate. He stated Mr. Benitez is the COVID-19 Project Manager with the Hispanic Liaison and is a volunteer firefighter. He is currently enrolled at UNC-G to study anesthesiology. Commissioner Gomez Flores shared the Board of Health Nomination committee recommends Mr. Delfino Benitez to fill the public seat on the Board.

Dr. Herman-Giddens made a motion to recommend Delfino Benitez for the public seat vacancy, and Ms. Reitz-Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Health Director Report

Mr. Zelek shared his report.

- The County budget was approved last week and includes staff pay increases to help make the County more competitive in this environment. There were a few reductions to certain line items in part to help accommodate this, but the department was able to accommodate them.
- Julie Wilkerson, Executive Director of the Chatham Health Alliance, will present in August on behalf of the Chatham Health Alliance. This was rescheduled due to expected inclement weather.
- Anne Lowry, Environmental Health Director, is working with the NC State Climate Office and others to coordinate a meeting for state partners to test a heart alert system, and working with local partners to develop a local heat response plan that includes cooling center protocols. An intern, Idan Kantor, is working with her. The first meeting is Monday, July 3rd.
- Staff have been active in community outreach and engagement events, including Juneteenth and the Pride Festival this month.
- Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Nathan Stokes, has been leading training for County and health department staff, including active shooter and stop the bleed.

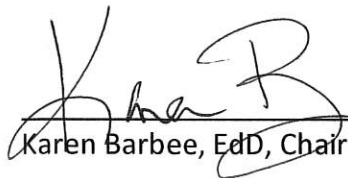
- Opioid Overdose Prevention Coordinator, Morgan Culver, has also coordinated naloxone administration training and has been working to have naloxone kits available at our facilities in the end of an overdose, which are located next to the Stop the Bleed kits. The first meeting of the Sheriff's Prevention Partnership on controlled Substances since hiring Ms. Culver will take place on July 12th, and the group will discuss naloxone education and distribution.
- Last week, the 2023 Chatham County Community Survey was mailed to 580 individuals (a representative cohort) in Chatham. This survey supplements the Community Health Assessment that takes place every three years.
- It is contract season, and staff have been getting in place dozens of annual contracts for the new fiscal year. Mr. Zelek acknowledged their hard behind-the-scenes work to keep efforts moving.
- Mr. Zelek will be on vacation July 19-27th. Anne and Danielle will be available for any needs that arise.
- Mr. Zelek thanked Dr. Herman Giddens for serving on the Board for a total of nine years (three 3-year terms).

Closed Session

Commissioner Gomez Flores made the motion to move the board into closed session pursuant to NGS 143-318.11(A)(6), Dr. Brian seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Ms. Reitz-Barlow motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Freese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Karen Barbee, EdD, Chair



Secretary Ex Officio

Michael Zelek, MPH, Public Health Director