

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
July 25, 2022 6:30 p.m.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:** The regular monthly meeting of the Brunswick County Health and Human Services Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Flint King at 6:33 p.m. in the Health Services Lobby (Building A).

**A. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dr. King asked for public comments. There were none.

**B. SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** Dr. King asked if there were any special presentations. There were none.

**II. REGULARLY OCCURRING ITEMS:**

**A. ATTENDANCE:**

1. The following members were present:

Dr. Flint King, Chairman  
Mr. Hubert Reaves  
Mr. Gene Ward  
Ms. Lisa Narron  
Mr. Michael Norton  
Dr. Allen Williams  
Mr. Marty Cooke  
Dr. Justin Asbury  
Ms. Cindy Carver  
Dr. Jerry Smith

2. Members absent:  
None

3. Staff members present:  
David Stanley, Deputy County Manager – Health & Human Services  
Cathy Lytch, Social Services Director  
Anita Hartsell, Veteran Services Director  
Danny Thornton, Environmental Health Director  
Marjorie Rayl, Quality Assurance Specialist

4. Guests present: None

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes for the monthly meeting held on **June 27, 2022** were reviewed. Dr. King asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were none. **Mr. Ward moved to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Williams seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous. (Closed)**

C. **AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:** Dr. King asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. There were none. **Dr. Williams moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The vote to approve the agenda was unanimous. (Closed)**

D. **STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **VETERANS SERVICES:** Mrs. Hartsell reported that newest staff member, Lee Foreman who was hired in December, has just completed his training with the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NCDMVA). He is now an accredited Veterans Service Officer but is awaiting the training and application process through the VA before he will be able to access the VA computer systems. Mrs. Hartsell is thankful to have an additional full-time Veteran Services Officer approved in the budget. The interview process for that position should be completed this week. **(Info)**
2. **CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TEAMS:** Mr. Stanley announced the next Child Fatality Prevention Team meeting is August 9<sup>th</sup>. **(Info)**
3. **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:** Mr. Thornton reported the wastewater protection staff is still working to catch up on the backlog of applications. Parts of the county are 10 to 11 weeks out. Environmental Health has recruited three new On-Site Wastewater staff members. Mr. Thornton thanked leadership for new positions approved this year. The department had 126 active files on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 79 of which (37%) are over the 4-week turnaround time frame for applications submitted. Staff performed 93 site evaluations, issued 74 improvement permits and 62 construction authorizations. They also inspected 26 new private wells and sampled 36. Food and Lodging staff conducted 132 inspections, made 128 site visits, received 12 plans for new establishments, and issued 16 permits. Staff continues to work with one new employee who has completed the State training and is working toward obtaining their authorization by the end of August. **(Info)**
4. **HEALTH SERVICES:** Mr. Stanley noted that Monkeypox is a new focus in North Carolina, although COVID still has a more significant impact. There are 27 cases of Monkeypox in North Carolina with most being seen in men who have sex with men (MSM). Clinical guidance has been sent to our providers regarding testing. Vaccine is available at seven health departments across the state including New Hanover County where Brunswick County residents are referred to. **(Info)**
5. **HHS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT:** Mr. Stanley reported that Maternal Health staff received 39 survey responses. When asked about the overall visit 31 reported excellent and eight good. Thirty-two patients felt the provider explained things in a way that was easy to understand, with four selecting somewhat easy. Four respondents suggested weekend or evening hours. **(Info)**

6. **NC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** Mr. Thornton distributed a handout and discussed Senate Bill 372, specifically the sections related to making changes in wastewater treatment and dispersal rules. Section 2 delays the newly adopted wastewater rules to take effect on January 1, 2024. Mr. Thornton noted that Section 4 is a permit option available for licensed soil scientists to issue wastewater permits and will sunset January 1, 2023 but is further detailed in Section 5. Mr. Thornton reviewed Section 5 which alters the permitting process and provides an option which requires county staff to issue permits solely on the site work of licensed soil scientists. Section 6 removes the local health department requirement to conduct private water well grouting inspections. **(Info)**
7. **PUBLIC HOUSING SERVICES:** Mrs. Lytch announced that, after stopping during COVID, HUD has resumed annual SEMAP reviews for fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Brunswick County staff continued to submit data throughout the pandemic and have received High Performer scores for both years. She noted that the subcommittee has met to review Fair Market Rents and the report will be in the August packets. Staff is also exploring options of work requirements for program participants. **(Info)**
8. **SOCIAL SERVICES:** Mrs. Lytch reported that WAVES for Kids is conducting their annual backpack drive that will help 200 kids in foster care and child welfare. The summer PEBT program has begun. It gives students who are approved for National School Lunch Program free or reduced-price meals a one-time summer benefit. Mrs. Lytch also reported that the Food and Nutrition auto recertification waivers are going away and staff will start seeing changes in their workloads. **(Info)**
9. **HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Mr. Stanley reported 12 open Health & Human Services positions listed on the Brunswick County website. He asked the Board to reach out to him or Scott Milligan with any questions. **(Info)**

### III. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **COVID-19:** Mr. Stanley reported that Brunswick County is on the medium level (yellow) with some cases. COVID admissions have risen just a little. Compared to other surges, Brunswick County's number of cases and hospitalizations are not rapidly increasing. The State is more closely monitoring wastewater streams rather than positive/negative cases now as an indication of the amount of virus circulating in the community now that there are home tests widely available. **(Open)**
- B. **COVID-19 RESPONSE PLANNING STATUS:** Mr. Stanley said that vaccines are offered in Building A, as well as, at outreach locations around the county. **(Open)**
- C. **VACANT HHS ADVISORY BOARD POSITION:** Mr. Stanley has a lead he is talking with. **(Open)**
- D. **OPIOID SETTLEMENT STATUS:** Mr. Stanley announced that funding is starting to be received. Projects will be presented to this Board and the Board of County Commissioners. Plans are starting to be developed and critiqued. There will be more information in the coming months. **(Open)**

- E. **COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT:** Mr. Stanley reported staff have been distributing the surveys with a goal of about 400 completed. They are finding ways to reach more Hispanic and African American citizens and are targeting these areas. **(Open)**
- F. **Public Water:** Mr. Stanley discussed a letter being distributed by Chemours, offering water samples, to follow the plan established by the NC Division of Water Quality. This is similar to what Chemours has already done around the plant itself several years ago. They are looking now further downstream the Cape Fear to Brunswick County groundwater. He added that, if they find the groundwater to be contaminated, Chemours will provide water. The testing is limited to primary water sources. Testing is being done by a contractor hired by Chemours and results will be reviewed by all parties. **(Open)**

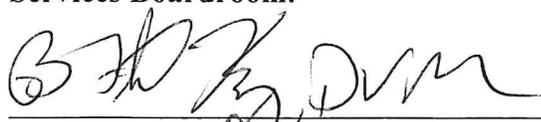
**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **FURNITURE AVAILABLE TO NON-PROFITS THROUGH 07/21/22:** Mr. Stanley mentioned that furniture no longer needed by the Courthouse due to renovations was viewed by county staff for possible use and then offered to our local non-profits. **(Info)**
- B. **COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLANS:** Mr. Stanley reported the Commissioners voted to hire IEM, Inc., a nationally recognized company, to complete the county Emergency Operations Plan and COOP to make sure to have all hazards plans. Being a national company is a benefit as they have seen a lot, including cybersecurity. Commissioner Cooke stated that the county needs an objective oversight. **(Info)**
- C. **COUNTY NUCLEAR DRILL:** Mr. Stanley announced the drill will take place tomorrow with FEMA here to review the response. **(Open)**

V. **BOARD INPUTS:** Dr. King asked if there were any additional Board inputs. There were none. **(Info)**

VI: **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, **the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m. with a motion by Mr. Ward. Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The next BCHHS Advisory Board meeting will be held on **August 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Health Services Boardroom.**

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary

# Brunswick County Health and Human Services

## Advisory Board Attendance Roster 2022-2023

NAME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
King	X					*					*	
Asbury	X											
Carver	X											
Cooke	X											
Narron	X											
Norton	X											
Reaves	X											
Smith	X											
Ward	X											
Williams	X											
Optometrist	V											

**A = Month Appointed/Installed**

**C = Conflict with CC's Meeting**

**O = Off Board**

**X = In Attendance**

**V = Vacancy**

**AA = Approved Absence**

**Blank Space = Absent**

**Quorum equals six members present.**

**^ = Specially Called Meeting**

**\* = No Meeting**