

# Moore County Board of Health May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Members Present

**Alex White, Dr.P.H, M.S., M.P.H., D.D.S.;**  
**Benjamin Wacker, OD**  
**David Williams, B.S., M.A.**  
**Robert Lupski, R.Ph., M.S.**  
**Tom LoSapio**  
**Pauline Sandness R.N., B.S.N**  
**Tyler Brady, DVM**  
**Matt Garner, Secretary to the Board, Health Director**

## Members Absent

**Nick Ellis, Ph.D., M.B.A**  
**Julie Baugher, M.D.**  
**Phillip Picerno, P.E**  
**Kurt Cook, Moore County Commissioner**

## Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting of the Board of Health was held in the Community Room of the Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center in Carthage, NC. Chair to the Board, Dr. Alex White, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Health Department staff present were: Melissa Fraley, Nursing Director; and Miriam Gill, Administrative Officer. Stephan Lapping, Associate County Attorney was present for the meeting. Matt Garner introduced the presenter for the evening, David Robertson, North Carolina Region 6 Tobacco Control Manager.

## Invocation

Matt Garner gave the invocation followed by a reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Secretary to the Board

The following statement was read: "*Does any Board Member have a conflict of interest concerning agenda items the Board will address in this meeting?*" None were noted.

## Approval of, and/or Adjustments to, Agenda

Dr. Ben Wacker requested a motion to approve the consent agenda with no adjustment. Dr. Alex White moved, seconded by Tom LoSapio. All members were in favor and the motion carried.

## Public Comments

A public comment was given by John Misiaszek.

## Presentations/Recognitions

### **Vape Shops/Tobacco 21 Legislative Update**

David Robertson, current North Carolina Region 6 Tobacco Control Manager, and Sanquis Graham former Region 6 Tobacco Control Manager, Sanquis Graham presented on the impact of licit substances, which are commonly found for sale in local Tobacco and Vape shops.

*The presentation is included in the Appendix as 'Document 1'*

## Board of Health Education/Staff Reports

### **Department's 3rd Quarter Activity Report**

### **Department's 3rd Quarter Fiscal Report**

### **Department's Performance Measures**

The following reports were presented for the Moore County Health Department's Third Quarter: FY25 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Activity Report; FY25 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Fiscal Report; FY25 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Performance Measures.

## **Health Director's Report**

Matt Garner shared that the installation for the health department's electronic display along with an update to the monument was completed. The new display allows for messaging to be seen with greater visibility and increases efficiency for information updating. Federal grant funding covered the cost of the installation of the electronic display.

The department's Women's Health and Family Planning programs are scheduled for their annual monitoring. This monitoring consists of a six-day review period. Objectives under review consist of policy, procedure, protocol, and the Standing Order training record. In addition to the objectives, the State Nurse Consultant will monitor one preventative visit and one pregnancy test visit. The billboard advertising approved by the Board will be displayed in the coming weeks. The display will include the contact and service information of the programs existing for Women's Health at the Moore County Health Department. An additional quality assurance review of records, coding, and billing will be done on May 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Environmental Health remains in compliance having permit issuance within a two week time frame. Jacob Odom, Environmental Health Specialist, received full authorization and delegation of authority for onsite wastewater.

The Advance Practice Provider posting closed with no successful candidates and will be reposted. The Nutritionist II posting closed with a successful candidate and is expected to be filled before July 1<sup>st</sup>. Edwina Rich, Nutritionist III, brings a wealth of knowledge to the department and serves as the newly appointed director for the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program.

As of May, 1<sup>st</sup> a total of 935 confirmed measles cases were reported by 30 states. There are no known cases in North Carolina at this time. Measles is highly contagious and spreads through droplets. Approximately 13% of cases are severe enough for hospitalizations, with the majority of those admitted being unvaccinated. There have been 3 confirmed measles deaths this year. The disease can cause pneumonia induced encephalitis which is extremely dangerous for children aged 5 and under. The largest concentration of confirmed positives is found in Texas, with 245 cases. Notices and advisories have been sent to local healthcare providers with info about testing and notifying public health if measles is detected. The Epidemiological Team (Epi Team) for the health department meets quarterly, and Measles was the most recent meeting focus. Deen Gu from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services presented to the Epi Team during the April 2025 meeting. The

department continues to educate and reiterate that the MMR vaccine when given as recommended, is safe and shows a 97% efficacy rate in preventing the contraction of Measles.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Dr. Ben Wacker requested a motion to approve minutes from the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 regular meeting with no adjustments. Dr. Alex White moved, seconded by David Williams. All members were in favor and the motion carried.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

#### **BOH Advocacy for House Bill 197**

Matt Garner shared the issuance and breakdown of public health funding which is sparsely given in relation to the need it is assigned to meet. House Bill 197 (HB197) also titled: Local Communicable Disease Programs/Funds, focuses on the request for and distribution of adequate funds, to ensure local health departments can continue serving North Carolina's counties. An official letter, which expresses gratitude and support for the furtherance of HB197 was crafted by Matt Garner and has been addressed to NC Representative Ben Moss. A request was made for support of the letter by all members, including endorsement via the Board Chair's signature. The intent is for both an e-mail version and hard copy to be sent to the NC General Assembly. Dr. Ben Wacker requested a motion to approve the endorsement of the letter as written. David Williams moved, seconded by Tom LoSapio. All members were in favor and the motion carried.

*The draft of HB197 is included in the Appendix as 'Document 2'*

#### **FirstHealth Lung Bus**

Matt Garner presented on the FirstHealth Lung Bus and its offering of preventative screening as a mobile imaging unit. Imaging is offered to all Moore County residents who reach certain screening criteria. The plan is to invite the Lung Bus to the health department campus for a half-day screening event. Appointments are not required but preregistration is available. No memorandum of understanding is required for this to take place. Dr. Alex White moved for Matt to coordinate an event, which was seconded by Dr. Ben Wacker. All were in favor and the motion carried.

*The link is included in the Appendix as 'Link 1'*

#### **Health Director Evaluation Process**

Dr. Ben Wacker will have the evaluation tool distributed by June in order to formally meet and discuss with board members by the July 2025 meeting during a closed session.

### **Closed Session**

*No closed session was held.*

### **Adjourn**

Dr. Ben Wacker requested a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. David Williams moved, seconded by Tom LoSapio. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

# Appendix

To access documents, double click on the image provided, or highlight and double click the link provided.

## Document 1



Tobacco.THC  
Presentation.pptx

## Document 2



H197v1.pdf

## Link 1

<https://www.firsthealth.org/medical-care/lung-care/lung-bus/>