



Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County
Board Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2025

A regular meeting of The Public Health Authority Board was held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

Board members attended in-person at CHA.

Members Present:

- Lara Pons, MD, Chair
- Mark Spitzer, Vice-Chair
- Natasha Lipscomb
- Laura Lindsey
- Amy Jewell
- Kerry Dove
- Cecilia Plez
- Asha Rodriguez
- Daryle Adams

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Erin Shoe, Rolanda Patrick, Mariah Kendrick, April Sloop, Sue Yates, Jamie Newman, Megan Easterday, Amanda Prevetie

Guest and Members of the Public Present: Brian Burchfield, Paula Yost, Geraldine Gardner

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Lara Pons called the meeting to order at 5:27pm.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chairperson Dr. Lara Pons requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Laura Lindsey moved. Daryle Adams seconded. Motion and approval carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairperson Lara Pons requested a motion to approve the February 2025 minutes. Cecilia Plez moved. Natasha Lipscomb seconded. Motion and approval carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED MINUTES

Chairperson Lara Pons requested a motion to approve the February 2025 Closed Session Minutes. Natasha Lipscomb moved. Vice-Chair Mark Spitzer seconded. Motion and approval carried unanimously

NEW BOARD MEMBER INSTALLATION

Notary Alisha Richards installed new board member, Laura Lindsey, by providing the Oath of Office. Ms. Lindsey was successfully sworn in as the Cabarrus County Commissioner representative on the CHA Board.

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

REPORTS

Health Insurance Renewal

Brian Burchfield, Burchfield Insurance Group, presented the Health Insurance Renewal overview. Brian shared that CHA spends approximately \$2.1 million annually in health insurance premiums. CHA currently has 12 retiree members, employed by July 1, 2004, on the plan. Twelve (12) additional employees are expected to qualify for the benefit should they remain and retire with CHA. Retirees are enrolled in a plan through the individual marketplace that provides the same network and a similar level of coverage. The strategy includes continuing to pay the premium cost for retirees and to provide a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) that reimburses deductible and coinsurance expenses. The 'out of pocket cost' remains the same as active employees. This decision to transition retirees to an individual plan positively impacted CHA's health insurance renewal with a decrease in renewal rate.

Child Protection & Fatality Task Force

Paula Yost, Chair of the Cabarrus County Child Protection & Fatality Team (CPFT), shared "The State of our Children: A 2024 Report." Paula provided an overview of what the CPFT does along with a list of community partners. She shared the 2024 Department of Human Services (DHS) cases (including investigations, assessments, requests abuse and child fatalities). Paula shared the rising cases of child suicide and a resource parents can utilize to help navigate their child's ability to thrive. She also shared the importance of social workers and the vital role they play in the community. Paula presented the goal of reducing newborn ER visits & zero infant fatalities. In closing, Paula shared the successes of the team as they continue to manage crisis the best way possible, relying on community partners to help prevention.

Strategic Planning Kick-off

Executive Director of Centralina Regional Council, Geraldine Gardner, presented the Strategic Planning Kick-Off. She reviewed the work already completed in Phase I: Vision, Mission, and Values; shared about Phase II: Discussion of the Process and Timeline; ending with Phase III - Next Steps. She highlighted organizational benefits, plan content and goal development. Lastly, Geraldine emphasized the focus on internal and external progress by collecting data and measuring community impact.

Finance Committee Report

Chief Finance Officer, Sue Yates presented the following reports:

- CHA Financial Summary as of January 31, 2025. The summary includes revenues and expenditures, actuals for past and present fiscal year, and the year-to-date collected percentages.
 - Reviewed and recommended for approval by Finance Committee 3/11/2025.
 - Net positive amount of \$63,129.
 - Revenues include the Medicaid Cost Settlement.

- CHA Snapshot as of January 31, 2025. Shows the budget, actuals, and year-to-date percentage collected for each department.
 - Reviewed and recommended for approval by Finance Committee 3/11/2025.
 - All departments are in 'the green'.

CONSENT AGENDA

Finance Policies & Budget Revisions

Sue Yates presented an overview of the Finance Policies & Budget Revisions. There are currently four (4) Finance Revisions and three (3) Budget Revisions. All were reviewed by both the Executive and Finance Committee on 3/11/25.

The Finance Policy revisions include the following:

1. Travel Policy
2. Dental Clinic Debt Management Policy
3. Dental Clinic Free Policy
4. Dental Clinic Eligibility Policy

The Budget Revisions include the following:

1. State for Investment in Performance Management – increased \$13, 204
2. BlueCross BlueShield for Dental Services - increased \$6, 204
3. Medicaid for Care Management for High-Risk Pregnancies - increased \$90,000

Sliding Fee Schedule

Sue Yates presented the Sliding Fee Schedule for Adult Primary Care, Dental, and Behavioral Health. The fee schedule reflects the Federal Poverty Guidelines. It was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Finance Committee on 3/11/2025.

BUSINESS AGENDA

Nomination of New Board Members

Public Health Director, Erin Shoe, presented the Nomination of New Board Members. If reappointed Board members will serve the following terms:

Asha Rodriguez: 7/1/2025 - 6/30/2028; *Local hospital appointee by the hospital governing body*

Kerry Dove: 7/1/2025 - 6/30/2028; *Local practicing dentist*

Daryle Adams: 7/1/2025-6/30/2028; recommendation was made to the Board to waive the one (1) year wait as Amy Jewell is with Cabarrus County Schools in the mental health board role. If Mr. Adams is not re-appointed, the seat transitions to Cabarrus County Schools and the board feels it is good to have a representative from each system. Mr. Adams also brings a wealth of historical knowledge to a board with several new members.

Chairperson Lara Pons requested a motion for the nomination of New Board Members. Cecilia Plez moved. Vice-Chair Mark Spitzer seconded. Motion and approval carried unanimously.

HEALTH DIRECTOR REMARKS

Erin Shoe shared the Health Director's Remarks.

- CHA has seven (7) federal grants under review. As of now, there is no notice or change in program activity. The agency will continue as normal.
- CHA's three (3) CDC employees have received notice to return to work. They are an asset to CHA and we appreciate all they do!
- Brown Mill is scheduled to be completed mid-December 2026. A possible launch will take place in January 2027. The neighboring housing units will be complete in the next three weeks.
- CHA Adult Primary Care will open April 2025. We are excited to begin offering this service!
- The 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment is now open through April 17, 2025.
- The state alerted the rise in suicide attempts reported in the ER. CHA will continue to accelerate resources such as QPR (Question, Persuade & Refer) training, and utilization of applications such as Calm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

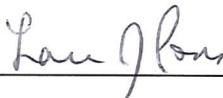
MOTION TO ADJOURN

No further business to come before the Board.

Chairperson Lara Pons requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Amy Jewell moved. Asha Rodriguez seconded the motion. Motion and approval carried unanimously.

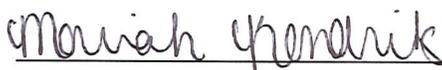
The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

The next meeting of the Board will be May 20, 2025 at 5:30pm.



Lara Pons, MD, Chair

Public Health Authority Board of Commissioners



Minutes Taken by Mariah Kendrick

Governance Program Manager