

Henderson County Board of Health

Minutes

Regular Meeting – April 21, 2025

Classroom of the Henderson County Department of Public Health
1200 Spartanburg Highway Hendersonville, NC 28792

I. Call to Order

The Henderson County Board of Health meeting was called to order by Dr. Maggie Hayes, Chairperson, at 6:07 p.m.

Members Present	Jay Egolf, County Commissioner Samantha Roberts, Veterinarian Jeffrey Young, Professional Engineer Kathleen Baluha, Registered Nurse Maggie Hayes, Physician – Chairperson Alison Reid, Dentist Haley Perry, Optometrist John Bryant, General Public Member
Members Not Present	Scott Prechter, General Public Member Jennifer Hensley, General Public Member Kenesha Smith, Pharmacist – Vice Chairperson
Staff Leadership Present	Dave Jenkins, Health Director Camden Stewart, Administrative Officer Stacy Nash, Community Health Director Crystal O'Dell, Director of Nursing Seth Swift, Environmental Health Director

Quorum Present

II. Public Comments

A community member representing the Progressive Alliance of Henderson County summarized requests on behalf of the Alliance for the board to present a resolution about the federal administrations actions towards public health in the May board meeting.

III. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Henderson County Board of Health

Minutes

Regular Meeting – April 21, 2025

Dr. Maggie Hayes asked board members if they were prepared to approve the proposed agenda. **Motion:** Ms. Baluha made a motion for the agenda to be approved. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bryant. **Vote:** The motion passed by unanimous vote.

IV. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Dr. Hayes requested approval of the consent agenda. **Motion:** Dr. Bryant made a motion for the consent agenda to be approved. The motion was seconded by Dr. Roberts. **Vote:** The motion passed by unanimous vote.

V. Presentations and Reports

Communicable Disease Annual Report

Ms. Crystal O'Dell, Director of Nursing, updated the board on communicable disease trends through 2024. Notable trends and concerns included a pertussis outbreak with most cases (117) presenting in April and May 2024. This was a remarkable increase from past years. Chlamydia cases remain high and continue to consume a great deal of the communicable disease staff time. Campylobacter infections and Group A streptococcus were also noted as diseases that had been identified locally which required a disproportionate amount of work to investigate and address. Rabies was referenced with over 500 identified human exposures from domestic and wild animals over the year.

Notably, Ms. O'Dell relayed that the statewide benchmark was for 80% of communicable disease case investigations to be completed within 30 days. Henderson County's performance was 94% which was attributed to the work of the program staff and the budgetary investments supported by the board of health.

Quarterly Fiscal Report

Mr. Jenkins, Health Director, provided the board with an updated quarterly fiscal report detailing department revenues and expenditures through March 2025. The department maintains favorable performance in both the Public Health and Environmental Health budgets. Expenses for both Public Health and Environmental Health were under 75%. Overall, Health revenues are at 90% with county appropriations at 56%. Environmental Health revenues are as expected. Both budgets operate within the limits of local appropriations provided.

Health Director Report

Henderson County Board of Health

Minutes

Regular Meeting – April 21, 2025

Mr. Jenkins shared the following:

- The department recognized and celebrated National Public Health Week April 7-11, 2025.
- The Epi Team hosted a Measles tabletop exercise on April 7th. Representatives from many of our major community health partners participated in this exercise.
- Blue Ridge Humane Society now has two Certified Rabies Vaccinators on staff.
- The Partnership for Health will soon be selecting the public health priorities for the next Community Health Assessment. Stacy Nash or a delegate from her team will be presenting these selections to the board in May.

VI. Old Business

None.

VII. New Business

Board of Health – Review of Member Terms

Dr. Hayes reviewed the member's terms noting that Dr. Reid, Dr. Prechter and Dr. Hensley will all be ending their first term on June 30, 2025. These members will need to elect to proceed with a second term if desired. All members may serve three consecutive, three-year terms.

Support – Mental Health Awareness Month Resolution

The board was presented with a resolution recognizing the month of May as Mental Health Awareness month. Dr. Hayes read the resolution aloud to the board. Mr. Jenkins requested the board support this resolution and proposed a presentation of the resolution at the Henderson County Board of Commissioners meeting in early May. **Motion:** Dr. Bryant made a motion to support the Mental Health Awareness Month Resolution. The motion was seconded by Dr. Perry. **Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Fee Schedule FY 25/26

Ms. O'Dell stated that staff had followed the process outlined in the board policy to determine costs and set fees. Based on that analysis which included recognition of higher staffing costs for staff-delivered services, an increase of 3% was proposed for that particular category. Other direct costs like vaccines and medical supplies were adjusted to current pricing with the overall goal of achieving cost recovery. Notably, the fee for Foreign Travel consults was increased to reflect the appropriate staff time necessary to prepare for foreign travel vaccine appointments. A new fee for gonorrhea and chlamydia testing was also added

Henderson County Board of Health

Minutes

Regular Meeting – April 21, 2025

to allow the department to complete this testing rapidly, on-site rather than sending labs out externally. Mr. Jenkins noted that these fees are comparable to other counties.

Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Swift noted there were no necessary changes to Environmental Health fees at this time. All fees remain valid and are comparable to neighboring counties.

Motion: Ms. Baluha made a motion to accept the proposed fee increases for the Health budget and to forward them as part of the department's budget proposal. Additionally, she indicated no additional fee proposals at this time for the Environmental Health budget. Dr. Reid seconded the motion. **Vote:** The motion passed by unanimous vote.

VIII. Board Member Remarks

None.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: Dr. Young made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Dr. Reid. **Vote:** The motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm.

Respectfully submitted: David Jenkins
Secretary to the Board/Health Director

05/22/25
Date

Approved by the Henderson County Board of Health at the May 19, 2025 meeting.