

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
FEBRUARY 13, 2026 11:00 AM
1235 RAMSEY STREET
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Cynthia McArthur-Kearney, Registered Nurse, Chair
Mr. Bart Fiser, General Public Representative, Vice Chair
Dr. Kingsley Momodu, Dentist
Dr. Olusola Ojo, Pharmacist, Public Representative
Dr. Kent Dean, Veterinarian
Dr. Nitin Desai, Physician
Mrs. Cynthia Massie, General Public Representative
Ms. Jermecka Hamilton, General Public Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT: Veronica Jones, Commissioner
Joseph Ballard, OD Optometrist

STAFF PRESENT: Mrs. Heather Skeens, Assistant County Manager /Acting Health Director
Dr. Jennifer Green, Consultant (virtual)
Mrs. Candi York, Business Manager
Ms. Tamra Morris, Deputy Health Director
Dr. Lori Haigler, Medical Director
Ms. Sanquis Graham, Local Public Health Administrator
Mrs. Kelly Smith, Administrative Assistant III

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dr. Cynthia McArthur-Kerney welcomed all guests and called the meeting to order. Introductions were given. A moment of silence was taken.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Dr. Kent Dean moved to approve the Board of Health (BOH) Meeting Agenda
SECOND: Mr. Bart Fiser
VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

B. Approval of January 20, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mrs. Jermecka Hamilton moved to approve the Board of Health Minutes
SECOND: Dr. Olusola Ojo
VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

C. Approval of 2026 Board of Health Handbook to include the Operating Procedures

MOTION: Mr. Bart Fiser moved to approve the 2026 Board of Health Handbook to include the Operating Procedures.
SECOND: Dr. Kent Dean
VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

D. Approval of Dental Health month Proclamation

MOTION : Dr. Kingsley Momodu moved to approve the Dental Health Month
: Proclamation
SECOND: Dr. Nitin Desai
VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

E. Approval of Proposed Fee changes - FY2027

MOTION : Mr. Bart Fiser moved to approve the proposed fee changes to Fy2027
SECOND: Mrs. Cynthia Massie
VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

Item 3: Informational/Discussion Items:

A. Public Comment

Dr. Cynthia McArthur-Kearney opened the floor for public comments at 11:35 am. There were no registered speakers, the floor was closed at 11:36am.

Action Item C: Approval of the 2026 Board of Health Handbook to include the Operating Procedures. Dr. McArthur-Kearney asked the members to review the new handbook that is installed on the ipads, which were also emailed to each member before the meeting. Any questions can be sent to Kelly. At the next meeting, each member will get a copy of the new handbook and an affirmation to sign saying they received it. The Operating Procedures have been updated as members had a chance to ask questions at previous meetings. This was approved along with the handbook. **Action Item D:** Ms. Tamra Morris read aloud the Proclamation for Dental Health Month and the Board approved it. **Action Item E:** Candi York presented proposed changes to fees that will be submitted to the County's Budget department for consideration by the County Manager to recommend these changes to the proposed FY2027 Budget that he will present to the BOCC in May. If approved, the fee changes will become effective on 7/1/2026. Establishing and reviewing fees annually is a funding stipulation in our contract with NC DPH and is a NC LHD Accreditation standard. Health Department staff reviewed fees for all services at our Management Team meeting held in January 29th. We are required to establish 1 fee for each service for all payors and it is recommended by Division of Public Health that the fee should never be lower than the approved Medicaid rate. While reviewing the fees, we considered several factors. We compared Medicaid rates, medicare rates, private insurance rates, other health department fee schedules, actual cost to provide the service (by using Medicaid Cost Settlement Report data) and for vaccines we looked at the cost to purchase the vaccine, whether the vaccine was VFC eligible (which would indicate the vaccine would be free to uninsured patients) and lastly we considered if the sliding scale would be applied to the charge for self pay patients. After the review and discussion the Health Director is recommending to change or add the following fees:

Vaccines: 12 vaccines rates were increased to the Medicaid rate. 6 vaccines were increased to the private insurance rate- these are all VFC vaccines so will not pass additional cost on to a patient. 1 new code for Flu 90656- this new code is just replacing 90686. And we are requesting to remove 6 codes that are not used any longer. The exceptions are 90691- Typhoid and 90717 Yellow fever. Another note on vaccines- we currently have approval through FY26 to waive flu/ covid and rsv vaccine cost to uninsured/underinsured individuals.

LAB Services: We are requesting to adjust these lab rates to the charge we incur for the outside lab agency. This service is provided in Maternal Health for genetic testing. The Sliding Fee is applied to this fee for all MH patients and slides to 0.

EH Fees: Requesting to increase fee for public pool inspections and tattoo inspections. The fee is reflective of the cost to perform the service

B. Financial Reports:

Mrs. Candice York presented her financial reports. Ms. York presented the statement of revenues and expenditures for the month closing January 31, 2026 (revenues exceeded expenditures by \$ 553,658.70). Expenditures by programs are at 48.92% reporting as of January 31, 2026. We have earned 44.63% for State and Federal Allocations and 18.88% for Grants as of January 31, 2026. Over-all we have earned 50.58% of revenue by source. Accounts Receivable was broken down by payor source with an accounts receivable aging report available for private pay as of January 31, 2026.

C. Quarterly Strategic Plan Update:

Ms. Tamra Morris spoke about Internal Priority 2, Goal 1 - which has been full implemented surrounding CureMD. AI Scribe was implemented in Fall of 2025. Patient Portal - CureMD has launched an updated patient portal, staff completed demos in Fall of 2025. Staff are currently developing policy and procedures to take in account changing state and federal policies related to record access and minor's consents. Lab tube system enhancements are in progress. Electronic Test Ordering System/State Public Health Lab - lab web portal to roll out in March. CureMD - bi directional Interface to roll out late 2026-2027. Tamra also highlighted External Priority 3, Goal 1 which was to improve health literacy. Tamra was proud to report that Environmental Health had held a ServSafe food safety training in Spanish as well as hosted an information session on regulations and outdoor grilling requirements which were well attended. Also, Health Education department held a panel discussion on Prostate Cancer Awareness which was well attended as well.

D. Nursing Program Highlight - Dr. Green discussed the NCCPHN Course Overview - which is for participants to demonstrate their foundational knowledge, skills, and judgements associated with the roles and functions of public health nurses. This course replaces principles and practice of Public Health Nursing course. This is a 5-week, self-paced and virtual course. Each participant receives 15 contact hours. This is only being offered 3x a year with a max enrollment of 600 per year. When complete, it awards a CPHN credential. We are working to get all of our nurses enrolled and complete. Cynthia Massie asked what makes these nurses unique to this credential? Dr. Green replied they are very limited to training on community health.

E. Director's Report - Heather deferred this report to Dr. Green -

Dr. Green said that Public Health Infrastructure Grant Funding had been cut and then restored for some states.

Public water and sewer infrastructure investments to modernize aging systems and expand access to countywide clean, safe, regulated water.

Engineering studies for future water supply and capacity projects in Gray's Creek and southern Cumberland County.

Investments in school infrastructure, including critical facility repairs and a new high school to address aging buildings and enrollment needs.

Expanded youth mental health and substance use services.

Preconstruction funding for a regional aquatic center.

Emergency Services equipment, including a mobile incident command unit and digital dispatch upgrades.

Congress passed a final, full-year appropriations package for FY 26 and it was signed into law.

Includes the FY26 Labor-HHS spending bill, which contains funding levels for federal public health agencies that are largely the same or similar to the previous fiscal year

\$116.5 billion for HHS and \$9.147 billion for the CDC

\$10 million increase each for Public Health Infrastructure and Capacity and Public Health Data Modernization

Flat funding for the 317 Vaccine Program and Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreements.

Board of County Commissioner Legislative Priorities

Policy priorities include

- Maintaining local fiscal authority
- Addressing impacts of proposed changes to SNAP and Medicaid administration
- Supporting education funding formulas
- Advancing transportation and rail connectivity
- Monitoring implementation of public safety legislation that may impact county operations and costs.

A resolution will be considered following the Board's meeting with the State Legislative Delegation.

H. Membership Roster/Attendance Roster - Dr. Kearney asked the group to review the attendance report from February and let Kelly know if there are any changes that need to be made.

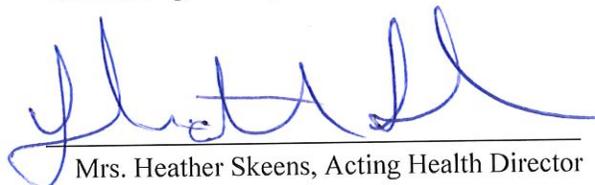
I. Board Member Comments - None

As a reminder, the next regular meeting is Tuesday, March 17th at 6pm.

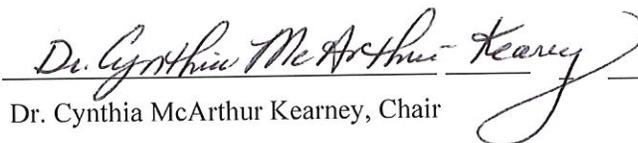
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Kingsley Momodu moved to adjourn.
SECOND: Dr. Olusola Ojo
VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM


Mrs. Heather Skeens, Acting Health Director


Date


Dr. Cynthia McArthur Kearney, Chair


Date