

Warren County Health Department
Board of Health
January 16, 2024

The Warren County Board of Health held its meeting on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at the Warren County Health Department.

Members Present: Dr. Elton Brown, Ms. Linda Baker, Ms. Cheryl Coffman, Dr. Christian O'Malley, Mrs. Kaye Hall and Mrs. Candice White.

Dr. Margaret Brake requested roll call for members that were on conference call. Conference Call attendees are Mrs. Eva Brown and Commissioner Bertadean Baker.

Others present: Dr. Margaret Brake, Andrea Goode, Rhonda Mushaw, Atty Shiekel Richardson, Deidre Sully and Tanisha Lyons.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Margaret Brake, Secretary and a moment of silence was observed.

Dr. Brake read the Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

There was no public comment.

Mrs. Candice White moved to nominate Dr. Elton Brown as Chairman and seconded by Mrs. Kaye Hall. There were no other nominations. The motion closed with the said name and passed unanimously.

Ms. Coffman moved to nominate Dr. James Crenshaw as Vice Chairman and seconded by Ms. Linda Baker. There were no other nominations. The motion closed with the said name and passed unanimously.

The meeting was turned back over to Chairman Dr. Brown.

The November 2023 minutes were reviewed. Mrs. White moved to accept the minutes as read and seconded by Ms. Linda Baker. There being no further discussion the motion unanimously passed.

Deidre Sully, Region 7 Tobacco Prevention and Control Coordinator shared some updates about Tobacco 21 on state level and engaging local boards of health. Ms. Sully's presentation shared information about vaping among youth and educating board members about Tobacco 21 – a tactic that involves increasing the purchase age from 18 to 21. At this time North Carolina does not have a Tobacco 21 law. Local boards of health have been asked to consider passing a resolution in support of Tobacco 21.

Rhonda Mushaw, Health Educator III (Supervisor) gave an update on health education programs and upcoming events. Ms. Mushaw's team consists of a Health Educator I, Health Educator II and Processing Assistant. Health Education is a program that promotes disease prevention, presents information on target populations on certain health topics including health benefits and provides tools to support behavior changes. The Health Education Unit provides training in the form of courses, webinars, seminars and classes. Health Education implement programs such as Diabetes Self-Management Program. Karen Prince, Health Educator I conducted a train the trainer program of the targeted population to get peer educators to implement the program. They currently partner with the Senior Center and had 13 participants of the program that completed it with certification. They are currently working on developing a Diabetes Support Group to continue to provide information to the class participants. Brittley Harris, Health Educator II is responsible for conducting the Community Health Assessment. The goal is to have the surveys in all areas of the county to get a complete understanding of the county as a whole. Dynesha Perry, Processing Assistant/Wellness Coordinator is responsible for the gym and we currently have 7 people that use it regularly. They are currently considering extended hours to accommodate more people. Upcoming events include the Community Health Fair and Over the Counter Medicine give away in collaboration with NC Med Assist.

Dr. Brake presented the Finance Report. The health department has spent almost 42% of total budget. The Health Department is working hard to ensure we do not have a surplus in funding to impact the budget. Ms. Coffman moved to accept the finance report and seconded by Ms. Baker. There being no further discussion the motion unanimously passed.

The Board reviewed the 2024 meeting schedule. Dr. O'Malley moved to accept the meeting dates and seconded by Mrs. Hall. There being no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed Statement of Interest to Serve from Mr. Alan Daeke (Engineer). He will replace Mr. Michael Kilian. Ms. Coffman moved to approve the Statement of Interest from Mr. Alan Daeke and seconded by Dr. O'Malley. There being no further discussion the motion unanimously passed.

Dr. Brake presented the BCCCP sliding fee scale, this information is provided by the Division of Public Health. Dr. Brown asked if there were any changes from last year and there are no changes. Ms. Coffman asked about the guidelines, if the patient meets certain criteria the hospital agrees to accept the payment amounts for the service(s). Ms. Coffman moved to accept the BCCCP sliding fee scale retroactive to January 1, 2024 and seconded by Dr. O'Malley. There being no further discussion the motion unanimously passed.

Health Director's Report

01/16/24

Staff Updates

Actively recruiting for vacant nursing positions in clinic and home health.

Program Updates

World AIDS Day - On December 1st, the health department and HOPE Regional Medical Clinic hosted a Warren County World AIDS Day Candlelight Vigil with about 30 attendees. Various speakers included myself, Dr. Demaura Russell, Terrell Alston (Eastpointe) and Rev. Dr. Mark Wethington (Warren Ministries United) participate to raise awareness of the AIDS pandemic and to remember the lives lost to this disease. We also provided 25 free Home HIV Test Kits to attendees.

Respiratory Illnesses Update - NC's COVID/FLU/RSV rates for 01-06-2024 are down from the week before. RSV has finally peaked and those rates continue to go down. Hospital admissions were for COVID 896 the week before they were 923. Flu hospital admissions are 763 the week before they were 1,055. The county level for hospital admissions for Warren County is now at Medium.

In **Warren County, North Carolina**, the COVID-19 hospital admission level is **Medium**.

- If you are at [high risk of getting very sick](#), wear a high-quality [mask or respirator](#) (e.g., N95) when indoors in public.
- If you have household or social contact with someone at high risk for getting very sick, consider self-testing to detect infection before contact, and consider wearing a high-quality mask when indoors with them.
- [Stay up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines.
- Maintain [ventilation improvements](#).
- Avoid contact with people who have suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Follow recommendations for [isolation](#) if you have suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Follow the recommendations for [what to do if you are exposed](#) to someone with COVID-19.

Vaccine Updates - Health Department has received the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Anyone can call to schedule an appointment to receive the vaccine.

Covid-19 Moderna Spikevax

Ages 25-44 (6 doses)

Ages 45-64 (17 doses)

Ages 65+ (80 doses)

Total = 103

Flu Vaccine

Ages 19-24 (7 doses)

Ages 25-44 (21 doses)

Ages 45-64 (32 doses given)

Ages 65+ (66 doses given)

Total = 126

All of the above Private Vaccine

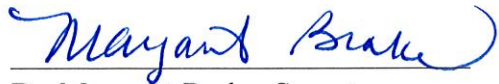
State supplied flu vaccine for 6 months -18 years total of 64 doses given

Opioid Settlement - The health department continues to support planning meetings with our County Manager and partners to identify strategies that can be implemented in the county using Opioid Settlement Funds. We will continue to engage the Opioid Task Force to assist with planning and developing an RFP process to distribute the funds. \$140,000 has been approved to be used over the next 2 years to address these four strategies: Evidence-based Addiction Treatment, Recovery Support Services, Early Intervention and Criminal Justice Diversion Programs.

The meeting adjourned. The next meeting is March 19, 2024 @ 6:00 pm



Dr. Elton Brown, Board Chair



Dr. Margaret Brake, Secretary