

# Halifax County Board of Health (BOH)

## Minutes

Regular Meeting       Special Meeting

January 27, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Home Health and Hospice of Halifax (HHHH)  
220 Smith Church Road, Building C, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

### I. Call to Order and Introductions

Mr. Justin Blackmon called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. No quorum was present.

<b>Members Present</b>	Mr. Justin Blackmon, Chairperson/Engineer Mr. Donald Crowder, At-Large Ms. Eloise Hardee, Nurse Mr. Louis V. "Pete" Mann III, At-Large
<b>Members Absent</b>	Ms. Belinda Jones-Hill, Vice-Chairperson/At-Large Ms. Kimberly J. Mack, At-Large Ms. Carolyn Johnson, Commissioner Dr. Melissa Woodruff, Pharmacist Dr. Carol Anne Rupe, Physician Dr. Eric Nicholson, Dentist
<b>Staff Members Present</b>	Mr. Bruce L. Robistow, Health Director Ms. Patricia Tann, Medical Records Manager Ms. Frances Vick, Interim Director of Nursing (Personal Health) Ms. Betty Reese, LPHA/Finance Officer
<b>Others Present</b>	Ms. Dia Denton, Deputy County Manager

### II. Invocation

Ms. Eloise Hardee gave the invocation.

### III. No Quorum

Since no approval of the Agenda or the minutes could be done as there was no quorum the meeting was condensed. All such items will be carried over to the next BOH meeting on February 24, 2020. Ms. Hardee reported an error in the BOH packet on page 4 with the word plague, which was intended to be plaque. A correction will be done.

### IV. Reports

<b>A. Finance/Budget</b> a. December 2019 Year to Date Report	Ms. Betty Reese, Finance Officer, gave the December 2019 (FY 19-20) Year to Date, HHHH Revenue and Expense.
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	<p>were either in a kennel when Animal Control arrived or there were no dogs to be found. In 3 instances, Owners surrendered their dogs due to being unwilling or unable to comply with the ordinance. In one case an Owner surrendered 8 dogs. Social Media hits have been almost 100 percent favorable and the County as a whole is very grateful that this is something we took on and that we are in the middle of taking care of. Mr. Blackmon asked how long the animals remain in our custody once they are surrendered. Ms. Reese stated she thought it was at least 3 days if the animals were adoptable. Mr. Robistow stated we were very fortunate to have a relationship with Rainbow Rescue because it takes a lot of man-hours to adopt out an animal. Rainbow Rescue will take the ones that are adoptable. Pit Bulls are the only breeds that aren't adoptable. The only places the County Animal Shelter allows to take Pit Bulls are shelters that specialize in Pit Bulls and that aren't located in the State. Those types of shelters are uncommon. Ms. Hardee indicated she saw an interesting piece on the news about Police Departments in Mississippi. The officers were beginning to partner with the shelters and were using the shelter dogs instead of buying and using dogs that were bred for Police work. She felt it was a great idea but that it probably would take some time to educate people to that effect. Mr. Robistow acknowledged that was a good idea but felt its success would depend on the breed of the dog. He did, however, feel that any feasible idea that would lead to salvaging more animals would be very good.</p>
<p>d. County Blood Drive</p>	<p>The County Blood Drive was held on December 11<sup>th</sup> with the goal set at 34 pints. 40 donors registered and 34 units of blood were collected. This will be used to help save that many more lives. Mr. Robistow thanked Denise Norman, WOW Coordinator, for being our representative.</p>
<p>e. Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corona Virus</li> </ul>	<p>Mr. Robistow added that during the NCPHA and the regular North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors Quarterly Meeting in Raleigh last week a lot of time was spent talking about the Coronavirus. There is still uncertainty as to how this disease is transmitted. No one is sure if it is transmitted from human-to-human, although most feel that it is. The current recommendations to avoid contracting the virus include</p>

- Child Fatality Task Force Meeting

washing your hands thoroughly (at least 20 seconds) and no trips to China. There were 6 cases verified in the United States last week. No cases have been reported in North Carolina. China is taking some unprecedented precautions to limit the spread of this disease. They have shut down entire cities and done whatever else they felt would prevent it from spreading. It remains uncertain whether a person is contagious while the virus is in the incubation period or after they become symptomatic.

Mr. Robistow attended the Child Fatality Task Force Meeting held in Raleigh earlier today. He is a member of the Sub-Committee of Unintentional Deaths of Children that is championing changes to provide more safety for our children. The Sub-Committee makes recommendations to the Primary Committee which in turn presents those to the Legislators at the next Legislative Session. The main meeting will take place on February 17, 2020. The Sub-Committee decided, however, not to present the items discussed today due to the next Legislative Session being a short session that may be an even shorter due to the Budget.

Mr. Robistow acknowledged that he personally felt Medicaid Expansion would be good for the Health Department because it would enable more patients to receive care who currently may be unable to afford it. Thirty-seven states already have Medicaid Expansion. He added that the Federal government would pay for 90% of the Expansion costs and the Insurance companies would pay the other 10%.

Motor Vehicle Items. Ignition Interlocks are devices you have to blow into in order to operate a vehicle if you have a DWI. Right now a .15 or greater number has to be blown or a repeat DWI conviction is needed before those devices are mandated. The Sub-Committee wants it changed so that having one DWI, with any level .08 or above, would result in having to get one of those devices. This is due to the fact that the number one cause of death for children ages 0-17 are automobile accidents.

Another is the primary enforcement of rear-seat restraints. This is difficult to enforce. Currently, a Law

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vidant North Hospital</li> </ul>	<p>Enforcement officer can pull a driver over for a passenger not wearing a seat belt if they're in the front seat of the vehicle. However, if the person is 16 or older and sitting in the back seat of a vehicle without wearing a seat belt Law Enforcement can't pull the driver over since this can't be used as a primary reason to stop someone. The Sub-Committee wants to have that law changed so the driver can be pulled over in those instances as well.</p> <p>Both Halifax and Nash Counties were commended at the State Meeting for doing such an exceptional job with their Baby Love Programs. Their hard work has been instrumental in reducing the unintended injuries of children by 60% due to their actively promoting proper car seat installation and safety.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee also wants to do studies on catastrophe injuries of children while playing sports.</p> <p>A Firearm Storage Initiative was also discussed. Suicides are on a dramatic incline. The majority of suicide victims are younger and the act is done on a spur-of-the-moment basis. Most of the weapons used usually belong to parents who just didn't put them away properly. They feel better education about gun storage will lead to a reduction in unintended deaths. Mr. Blackmon stated that whenever a pistol is purchased instructions on how to properly store it are given to the buyer and they sign verifying they've received those instructions. Mr. Robistow stated the Committee wanted training involved with the purchasing, if possible since no training is currently happening.</p> <p>Mr. Robistow reported that Vidant North Hospital has shown interest in leasing the former HHHH building.</p>
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**V. New Business**

Mr. Blackmon asked if the Operating Procedures and the Policy Reviews would be brought up at the next BOH meeting and he was assured they would be. He added that Kristie Davis had emailed all BOH members Mr. Robistow's s evaluation information and he felt the BOH members needed to get together on that as well.

**VI. Comments**

- A. Board of Health
  - There were no comments.

B. Public (*Accreditation benchmark 41.1*)  
There were no public comments.

C. County Management  
There were no comments.

**VII. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2020 at 6:00 pm at the Home Health and Hospice of Halifax, 220 Smith Church Rd., Building C, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Mr. Blackmon adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Tann  
Recording Secretary

Approved:

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Mr. Bruce L. Robistow, MPA  
Health Director

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Date