



**CONSOLIDATED HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 – 6:00 PM

Call to Order / Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance

The Stanly County Consolidated Health and Human Services Board met on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Health and Human Services Auditorium.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Joan Eudy	Board Member	Excused	
Ric Cain	Board Member	Present	
Beth Thomas	Board Member	Excused	
Tom Norwood	Board Member	Present	
James Marshall	Board Member	Excused	
Laura Harbeson	Board Member	Excused	
Kristi Small	Board Member	Present	
Wendell Drye	Board Member	Present	
Diane Robinson	Board Member	Present	
Jenny Hinson	Board Member	Excused	
Amy Furr	Chairman	Present	
Teresa Lanier	Board Member	Present	
Patty Crump	Commissioner	Present	
Kenny Kendall	Board Member	Present	
Dr. James Link	Board Member	Present	
Shaun Morgan	Board Member	Present	
Victoria Ramos	Vice Chairman	Present	
Seena Koohestani	Board Member	Present	
Brandon King	Commissioner	Present	
Dr. Mark Speight	Board Member	Present	

In the absence of David Jenkins, Mrs. Dolly Clayton, DSS Director and Assistant Director of Health & Human Services, opened the Consolidated Health & Human Services Board meeting. Amy Furr provided the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

1. Swearing In Ceremony - Oaths of Office

Teri Bowers, Notary Public, administered the Oath of Office to first term Board members, Kenny Kendall, Dr. Mark Speight, Dr. James Link, Shaun Morgan, Victoria Ramos and Seena Koohestani.

2. Nomination of Chairperson

Dolly Clayton opened the floor for nomination for Chairman of the Consolidated Health & Human Services Board. Amy Furr nominated herself for Chairman. With no other nominations presented, Dr.

Tom Norwood moved to close nominations, seconded by Ric Cain and carried by unanimous vote. Amy Furr was elected Chairman of the Board for 2024. Mrs. Clayton congratulated Chair Furr and the proceedings were turned over to her.

3. Nomination of Vice Chairperson

Chair Furr opened the floor for nomination for Vice Chairman. Victoria Ramos nominated herself for Vice Chairperson. With no other nominations presented, Dr. Speight moved to close nominations, seconded by Dr. Tom Norwood and carried by unanimous vote. Victoria Ramos was elected Vice Chairman by unanimous vote.

Adoption of Agenda

With no changes to the agenda, Dr. Tom Norwood made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Kristi Small. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tom Norwood, Board Member
SECONDER:	Kristi Small, Board Member
AYES:	Cain, Norwood, Small, Drye, Robinson, Furr, Lanier, Crump, Kendall, Link, Morgan, Ramos, Koohestani, King, Speight
EXCUSED:	Eudy, Thomas, Marshall, Harbeson, Hinson

Scheduled Agenda Items

1. 2024 Consolidated Health & Human Services Board Meeting Schedule

The regular monthly Board meeting schedule was included in the Board packet for review. Chair Furr reviewed the calendar, asking for suggestions or comments in the proposed schedule. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Kenny Kendall to approve the meeting schedule as presented, seconded by Diane Roberson. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kenny Kendall, Board Member
SECONDER:	Diane Robinson, Board Member
AYES:	Cain, Norwood, Small, Drye, Robinson, Furr, Lanier, Crump, Kendall, Link, Morgan, Ramos, Koohestani, King, Speight
EXCUSED:	Eudy, Thomas, Marshall, Harbeson, Hinson

D.S.S. Updates

Mrs. Dolly Clayton reviewed the DSS Report of Services through October, 2023 included in the Board member's packet. She highlighted program numbers stating foster care census continues to rise with 54 children in DSS custody as of today. She recognized accomplishments by staff sharing that three children achieved permanence through adoption, Medicaid audit completed without eligibility errors and two new Medicaid workers hired for Medicaid expansion. They continue to work hard to fill vacancies and currently have nine vacancies.

With Medicaid expansion beginning December 1st, Mrs. Clayton states they are seeing clients coming in requesting that expansion. She explained the expansion has a narrow window as you have to be under 65 years of age, not receiving Medicare as this is intended for the working poor, single adults. They also

continue to see challenges with the Medicaid unwinding process and also the complicated eligibility process. She also shared they continue to meet with community members and organizations who have expressed willingness to help support DSS with the lack of placement of foster care children. Mrs. Clayton shared with the Board that she also serves as the local appeal hearing officer, explaining that when any client disagrees with a decision on their eligibility status related to any public assistance program, they have a right to appeal. She wanted Board members to be aware that due to Medicaid unwinding and expansion, she is seeing more appeal hearings than before.

Mrs. Clayton shared that the income maintenance program manager, the three Medicaid supervisors along with several health department staff, met with representative Wayne Sasser, who came to discuss the challenges they have regarding Medicaid expansion. She shared with him the challenges staff face with not having Medicaid policies all in one place along with challenges with the internet based case management system, lack of foster care placement and concerns of consequences for the unlicensed kinship placement payments.

She states DSS is doing their yearly food drive to benefit Stanly County Christian Ministry, which they start in November and will run through January. Also, Mrs. Clayton gave a shout out to child support agent, Tammy Chaney, who was recognized as number 13 in the top 20 in the state for the month of September, by collecting \$12,577.98 from someone to satisfy their child support payment.

Following a period of questions and discussion, Mrs. Clayton shared that Board members were welcome to contact her with any questions.

A. DSS Board Report - October 2023

Health Department Updates

A. Exp/Rev Report thru October, 2023

The Budget Performance report through October is included in the Board packet for review. Mrs. Clayton had no updates to share and suggested Board members may reach out to Mr. Jenkins with any questions they may have.

B. Activities Summary Report thru October, 2023

The Activities Summary report through October is included in the Board packet for review. Mrs. Clayton shared that this report highlights the number of services seen in various programs. She had no updates to share and suggested Board members may reach out to Mr. Jenkins with any questions they may have.

Consolidated Human Services Updates

No updates.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Ric Cain to approve the consent agenda as presented, with a second from Dr. Tom Norwood. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ric Cain, Board Member
SECONDER:	Tom Norwood, Board Member
AYES:	Cain, Norwood, Small, Drye, Robinson, Furr, Lanier, Crump, Kendall, Link, Morgan, Ramos, Koohestani, King, Speight
EXCUSED:	Eudy, Thomas, Marshall, Harbeson, Hinson

A. CHS Meeting Mins. 11-02-23

A motion was made by Ric Cain, and seconded by Dr. Tom Norwood, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Comments

No public comments. Chair Furr took a moment to once again congratulate the Health Department for obtaining Re-accreditation with honors. She recognized the hard work by both Health and DSS staff with minimal staffing, and asked Board members to remember the staff during the Holiday season.

Adjournment

With no more business, Chair Furr moved to adjourn the meeting.

Amy Furr, Chair/Date

Teri Bowers, Clerk/Date