

**PENDER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

**Minutes
April 14, 2022**

The Pender County Advisory Board of Health held a regular meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Pender County Government Annex in Hampstead, NC.

Board Members Attending:

- Shannon Jennings, Vice-Chair
- Beth Caveness
- Jan Dawson
- Denise Houghton
- Frank Perez

Board Members Absent:

- Kim Collins, Chair
- George Brown
- Samenthia Jones

Health Department Staff Attending:

- Carolyn Moser, HHS Director
- Vence Dodge, Environmental Health Supervisor
- Airell Swanson, Environmental Health Specialist Trainee
- Shirley Steele, Director of Nursing

Meeting called to order by: Shannon Jennings, Vice-Chair

Welcome and Introductions

- Vence Dodge introduced the newest Environmental Health staff member, Airell Swanson. Mr. Swanson attended N.C. State University and lives in Castle Hayne. He will be working as a Trainee until he successfully completes several weeks of training in Raleigh. He will begin in the Food and Lodging Program and move to the On-Site Wastewater Program at some point.

Public comment: None

Action Item:

➤ **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from the January 13, 2022, board meeting were presented for approval. A motion for approval passed unanimously.

Program Updates:

Environmental Health Update

Vence Dodge continued with his Environmental Health report and reviewed his written hand out. He asked that his report be corrected to show 38 instead of 83 existing permits issued for January through March. Mr. Dodge also shared some examples of Engineered Operation Permits (EOPs) with the board. Mosquito larviciding has begun and spraying should begin sometime in late May or early June.

➤ **Staffing Update**

Vacancies have been filled for the nutritionist and the animal shelter attendant positions. Unfortunately, there are five RN vacancies. The board agreed that the nursing shortage is a problem nationwide.

➤ **Capital Project Update**

Bids have been issued for an HHS facility and are due May 6th. A team will review the bids and make a recommendation to commissioners for a Design-Build project. This is the first time the county has chosen this process instead of a Design-Bid-Build method for design and construction.

Other

- Vice-chair and veterinarian, Shannon Jennings, shared information on Avian Influenza (A1) in the state. Johnston and Wayne counties have flocks with confirmed A1. It has been found in commercial turkeys and broilers. He shared a Briefing Map, Depopulation Impact numbers, and number of poultry affected. Additional questions were asked by the board which also acknowledged the severity of this disease if it were to spread closer to Pender County. There was discussion on migratory birds, the various reports, and the efforts to combat the spread. Those with backyard birds should also consider precautions.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 14th at 5:00 p.m. at the health department in Burgaw