

**Lowndes County of Board of Health**  
**March 28, 2017**  
**Minutes**

---

**Members Present**

Dr. Mark Eanes, Chairman  
Dr. Mary Margaret Richardson – Vice-Chairman  
Dr. Randy Smith, Secretary  
Mayor John Gayle  
Wes Taylor  
Myron Faircloth

**Members Absent**

Bill Slaughter

**Others Present**

Dr. William R. Grow  
Tad Williams  
Sherrie White  
John Sparks  
Patrina Bowles  
Norma Jean Johnson  
Kyle Coppage  
Brenda Nash  
Chris Calhoun  
Ken Lowery  
Teresa Giles  
Robert Elliott  
Richard Stalvey

---

**Call to Order**

- A meeting of the Lowndes County Board of Health was held Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. in the large conference room at the Lowndes County Health Department.

**Public Comments**

- There were no public comments.

**Lowndes County Board of Health FY2016 Audit Report** – Fowler, Holley, Rambo & Stalvey, P.C.

- The Lowndes County Board of Health's FY2016 Audit Report was presented by Robert Elliott and Richard Stalvey. The Firm issued an unmodified opinion, which is the top level of opinion that can be received.
- The statement of net position indicates assets of \$4,047,232. The main increase is due to an increase of cash funds and funds from other governments.
- The net pension liability is an amount determined by actuaries and is a large liability.
- The Lowndes County Board of Health complies with all areas of testing conducted by Fowler, Holley, Rambo & Stalvey.
- After discussion, a motion to approve the Lowndes County Board of Health's FY2016 Audit Report was made by Mayor Gayle. The motion was seconded by Dr. Richardson. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Approval of January 24, 2017 (Attached)**

- The minutes from the January 24, 2017 Lowndes County Board of Health meeting were approved with no opposition.

**Business**

**Financial Information – Sherrie White (Attached)**

- The Revenue and Expense Summary was reviewed. The health department is approximately 66.67% complete with 73.67% of revenue received.
- A small budget revision was made and the change was within a few hundred dollars. The clinical software management was moved from Repair and Maintenance to Contracts/Clinical Software. The amount is Lowndes' obligation through June 30, 2017. This will start over with the next fiscal year.

- Dr. Eanes asked if the new clinical software system is cloud-based or a state server. Dr. Grow indicated it is both. Ms. White said the conversion has gone well in other counties and the hope is that the new system will help generate more revenue and be more transparent.
- Fee income was higher in February than in the previous four years. School flu revenue decreased. Dr. Grow noted that flu mist was unable to be used this year and many of the children were not willing to get an injection and the forms most likely did not make it home to the parents. Mr. Taylor offered that information regarding school flu could be sent out online.
- Medicare billing was completed earlier than in the past and funds came in earlier. There is still one more payment expected from the state for those flu vaccines given to those without a payment source.
- Family Planning numbers are important because part of the salary of three nurses is paid from these funds. Dr. Eanes asked if each health department is under separate tax identification number. Ms. White said the payee number is the same.
- Dr. Smith asked if all other health departments charge the same fees as Lowndes. Dr. Grow said the new clinical software system has promoted the review of all fees, which are now being made uniform throughout the District in order to be compliant with Medicaid rules and regulations. Services will not be denied; however, in order to be compliant and to avoid penalties, fees had to be revised.
- Lowndes' fund balance was reviewed. There is a healthy fund balance and Lowndes has enough to cover the pension liability.
- Ms. White updated the Board on Partnership's financial status. As of March 27, 2017, there was a liability of \$108,000. Partnership is still waiting on a decision regarding their application to move to a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Ms. White said she will follow-up with Mr. Sparks to see if he can bring the liability under \$100,000 today. Dr. Grow mentioned Partnership's move to South Georgia Medical Center's (SGMC) Southside Clinic. Patients are diverted from SGMC to Partnership in an effort to prevent re-admission within 30 days. White also informed the Board that John Sparks will be the only employee remaining on the District's payroll as of March 31, 2017. Ms. White will update the Board as she receives new information from Mr. Sparks.

#### **Public Health Updates – William R. Grow, MD, FACP (Attached)**

- Dr. Grow provided his fee update earlier in the meeting and had no additional information to report to the Board.

#### **Nurse Manager's Report – Norma Jean Johnson**

- Ms. Johnson informed the Board of the February 2, 2017 CLIA Audit with no exceptions noted.
- There are two vacant positions posted – one part-time lab technician and one full-time registered nurse in general clinic. One nurse will complete her online health assessment trainings in May.
- Staff is scheduled to attend training on the new software system May 9-12, 2017. The go-live date is May 15, 2017. Some of the staff have already been trained and visited other sites during their go-live dates.
- A new vaccine refrigerator will also be purchased.
- Dr. Eanes asked what the efficacy rate of the flu vaccine. Ms. Lowery said it is 48% and 43% for B.

**Environmental Health Update – Kyle Coppage (Attached)**

- The Environmental Health Activity and Inspection report was reviewed. Wild adventures recently opened a new pool.
- Chris Calhoun informed the Board that the District is beginning to update and adopt environmental rules and regulations. Part of the process includes having public hearings. After that process has been completed, the information will be brought back to the Board for adoption.
- Ken Lowery provided a Zika update to the Board. The species of mosquito that breeds the Zika virus begins breeding in May. There have been no local transmissions in this area. Ms. Lowery reviewed travel recommendations and provided an interactive travel map. Interpretation of the testing is difficult because of misdiagnosis, which is why the state would like to assist in testing and interpreting the results from the specimen. The Georgia Department of Public Health recently held a meeting to discuss moving forward with Zika preparedness. Continuing education and outreach to both the community and providers was encouraged.

**Announcements**

- There were no announcements.

**Adjournment**

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Dr. Randy Smith, Board Secretary  
Brenda Nash, Typist