

**Lowndes County of Board of Health**  
**May 22, 2018**  
**Minutes**

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**Members Present**

Dr. Mark Eanes, Chairman  
Dr. Mary Margaret Richardson, Vice-Chairman  
Dr. Randy Smith, Secretary  
Mayor John Gayle  
Dr. Frances Brown  
Bill Slaughter  
Wes Taylor

**Members Absent**

Dr. Frances Brown

**Others Present**

Dr. William R. Grow  
Norma Jean Johnson  
Teresa Giles  
Kyle Coppage  
Brenda Nash  
Elsie Napier  
Traci Gosier  
Vicky Davis  
Mark Eanes, Jr.

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**Call to Order**

- A meeting of the Lowndes County Board of Health was held Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 7:30 a.m. in the large conference room at the Lowndes County Health Department.

**Public Comments**

- There were no public comments.

**Approval of March 27, 2018 Minutes (Attached)**

- Dr. Randy Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor John Gayle. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Business**

**Financial Information – Teresa Giles (Attached)**

- Ms. Giles reviewed the Revenue and Expense Summary for the Lowndes County Health Department.
- The budget is 83% complete. There are a lot of bills outstanding; however; the budget will be at 100% by the end of June.
- It was noted that expenses were on track and that there was nothing unforeseeable regarding revenue and expenses.

**FY2019 Budget**

- The FY2019 Budget was presented for Board approval.
- This budget is \$167,000 less than the FY2018 budget and there is a \$34,075 decrease in Grant-in-Aid; however; the health department will adapt to what is received.
- After a brief discussion, Mayor John Gayle made a motion to approve the Lowndes County Health Department's FY2019 Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Randy Smith. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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

- Dr. Grow announced no additional participating or non-participating funds were requested from the county and that the health department is in good shape.
- Dr. Grow updated the Board regarding Enterprise System Modernization (ESM). This process is being restructured because the cost was higher than anticipated. There is also the federal mandate that WIC be fully electronic by 2020.

- Since Partnership is no longer associated with the Lowndes County Board of Health, there has been a change in the lab process in the hypertension clinic. Dr. Grow asked Elsie Napier to provide more information regarding this change and Traci Gosier to provide an update on community collaboration.
- Mrs. Napier began by thanking the Board for their commitment to public health over the years and by giving the Board an historical overview of the District's relationship with South Georgia Medical Center, which began in 1996.
- Mrs. Napier continued to explain how the lab process changed when Partnership transitioned from the Lowndes County Board of Health and that the forms are no longer being honored when patients present them to the hospital. Ms. Napier said Azalea Health may be able to keep Lowndes as its own entity but if not, the District will try to communicate with South Georgia on the administrative level, noting that the ability to submit labs through South Georgia keeps people out of the hospital. The health department currently provides intensive case management services to approximately 383 clients which could not be as effective without the relationship.
- Mrs. Napier said they are working with Azalea Health to get the form changed and to be proactive in the event this effort does not work. The hypertension clinic's current control rate is 85% with hypertension clients maintaining a blood pressure level at 140/90 and below within three months of entering the clinic. The licensed practical nurse contacts clients to ensure they keep or reschedule missed appointments and within the last year, diabetes case management has been added as a new service within the last year.
- Dr. Eanes asked what would happen in July. Mrs. Napier indicated that Partnership will move over to the system the hospital uses. Dr. Eanes spoke about provider use of South Georgia's Epic system and a brief discussion was held about the possibility of gaining access to the system for lab results.
- Traci Gosier outlined the District's partnership with South Georgia Medical Center as it relates to the community needs assessment, specifically the implementation of district programs, program data and projects the District implemented in target areas throughout the district such as Georgia Shape, Power Up For 30, substance abuse with a focus on tobacco prevention, particularly in the schools, the Georgia Cardiovascular Health Initiative, as well as faith-based collaborations.
- Dr. Grow added that the hope is the lab situation can be settled. If not, he may speak with the hospital's CEO to discuss the continuation of support to the District as a community partner and keep the Board updated.

#### **Nurse Manager's Report – Norma Jean Johnson (Attached)**

- A summary of health department services was provided.
- Mrs. Johnson providing a staffing update and informed the Board that interviews were being held to hire an additional full-time RN.
- Refrigerators were purchased for the health department and two satellite clinics totaling \$17,348.11
- Mrs. Johnson reminded the Board that the health department will begin the new hours on July 1, 2018 (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday and 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. on Friday).
- Flyers have been distributed to each school with information regarding school flu vaccinations. Injections and mist will be available this year.

- The health department has received state-supplied Shingrix and should soon receive the private stock. This vaccine helps to prevent shingles and is available to clients who are 50 years of age and older even if they have already received a shingles vaccination in the past. Dr. Grow indicated that the older shingles vaccine was 60% effective for patients 60 and older but Shingrix is 90% effective for those 50 and older. The health department will work with Courtney Sheeley to advertise the new vaccine.

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

- Kyle Coppage presented Vicky Davis with her five-year service award.
- Mr. Coppage announced that pool season has begun and there were a couple re-inspections.
- On-site numbers are growing and there were a few bacterial samples and well permits.
- The inspection scores were provided as well.
- Mr. Coppage provided a summary of the food safety training held at the health department. Twenty-eight attended the class and provided good feedback. Four classes will be offered this year and if they are successful, more will continue.

**Announcements**

- Dr. Eanes reminded the Board of the upcoming September 25, 2018 Board meeting.

**Adjournment**

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dr. Randy Smith, Board Secretary  
Brenda Nash, Typist