



Georgia Department of Public Health

Lowndes County

# Lowndes County Board of Health Meeting

MINUTES

February 24, 2026, | 12:00 P.M. | South Health District Office

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## Members Present

Frances Brown, Ph.D.  
Sandra Wilcher  
Mayor Scott Matheson  
Brenda Mims, RN  
Susan Ring  
Dr. Anthony Johnson  
Bill Slaughter

## Others Present

Mark J. Eanes, MD, MBA  
Dwain Butler  
Kim Davis, RN  
Allie Pridgen  
Teresa Hritz  
Karen Harrison  
Kyle Coppage  
Dr. Ken Lowery  
Maria Rodriguez  
Terri Ball  
Tiffany Cannon

## Call to Order

Mayor Matheson called meeting to order at 12:00PM.

## Introduction

No introductions.

## Public Comments

Mayor Mattheson announced Dr. Frances Brown was reappointed by the county commission to serve on Lowndes County Board of Health.

## Approval of Previous Minutes

Mayor Matheson asked for a motion to approve minutes from November 17, 2025. Commissioner Bill Slaughter made a motion to approve. Dr. Frances Brown seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion passed.

## Business: Financial Updates- Allie Pridgen, Director of Finance

- Ms. Pridgen reviewed the Revenue and Expense Summary 07/01/2025 – 12/31/2025.

## Public Health Updates- Mark J. Eanes MD, MBA, District Health Director

- Dr. Eanes recognized several employees of South Health District/Lowndes County Health Department with the number of years employed. (See attached)
- Dr. Eanes updated the board on the Customer Service Survey, stating Lowndes received a 5 out of 5.
- Dr. Eanes stated South Health District continues to monitor the CDC and federal government changes. There are no cuts to present services.
- Dr. Eanes updated on Influenza and Measles.
- Dr. Eanes thanked board members for responding to the Community Assessment Survey.

- Dr. Eanes announced South Health District is now enrolled with Tricare for immunizations and hopes to expand contract in the future.
- Dr. Eanes stated that South Health District is developing a building standards facility assessment for each county, stating once completed it will be presented to the board for approval and implemented to make counties aware of needed repairs, etc.
- Dr. Eanes stated DPH travel restrictions are still in place at least until April 4.
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#### **Infectious Disease Teresa Hritz, Coordinator**

- Ms. Hritz introduced herself and stated she is a registered nurse and the coordinator for the Infectious Disease Program. Noting she has worked with Public Health for 31 years.
- Ms. Hritz stated the Infectious Disease Program includes Sexually Transmitted Infections, Tuberculosis, HIV Primary Care, HIV Prevention, and HOPWA.
- Ms. Hritz stated the Infectious Disease Program identifies, investigates, controls, and prevents the spread of Sexually Transmitted Infections throughout the 10 counties in the South Health District.

#### **HOPWA - Terri Ball, Coordinator**

- Ms. Ball introduced herself and stated she has been employed with the state for 30 years.
- Ms. Ball stated HOPWA stands for Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS.
- Ms. Ball explained HOPWA is a housing assistance program sponsored by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that provides housing assistance to anyone who is HIV positive.
- Ms. Ball stated HOPWA received a grant that will support housing stability and improve health outcomes for people living with AIDS across 24 county service areas, including Albany Health District.

#### **Building Update – Mark J. Eanes-Dwain Butler**

- Dr. Eanes stated South Health District is actively working on a location for new a new health department.

#### **Health Department Updates- Kim Davis, RN**

- Ms. Davis reviewed Lowndes County Health Department Productivity Report for October 2025 – December 2025.
- Ms. Davis informed the board that the health department participated in the school's scoliosis screenings.

**Environmental Health Updates- Kyle Coppage, MPH**

- Mr. Coppage presented the Environmental Health Updates and Summary of Food Inspections.
- Mr. Coppage added Lowndes County Environmental Health was contacted by the county manager for assistance with one of Lowndes County's Tourist Accommodations.

**Epidemiology Updates – Ken Lowery, DrPH, MPH**

- Dr. Lowery reviewed an Investigated Illness Report for Lowndes County.

**Announcements**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2026, at 12:00pm and will include approval of 2027 fiscal year budget.

**Adjournment.**

There being no other business Mayor Matheson adjourned at 1:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mayor Scott Matheson, Chairman  
Karen Harrison, Typist