

Board of Health

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2021, 3:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Board Members Present

Clyde Watkins, Jr., M.D., Chair

Mrs. Delphyne Lomax Taylor, Vice Chair

Sonia Alvarez-Robinson, Ph.D.

The Honorable Steve Bradshaw

Camara Phyllis Jones, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D.

Board Members Absent

Dr. Deborah Moore-Sanders

District Health Director

Sandra J. Valenciano, M.D., M.P.H.

Staff and Guests were virtual via Zoom

Actions

I. Call to Order

The May 27, 2021, DeKalb County Board of Health meeting was called to order by Chairman Clyde Watkins, Jr. at 3:05 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Watkins asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2021, board meeting. Dr. Jones asked for a correction to say, “She would stay on the board and serve in whatever role as needed.” Dr. Jones moved to approve the minutes with the corrections and Vice Chair Delphyne Lomax Taylor seconded. Chairman Watkins called for a vote. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

III. Approval of the FY2021 Budget

Dr. Valenciano gave a presentation on the proposed FY2022 DeKalb County Board of Health budget. Commissioner Bradshaw asked, “When does the fiscal year run?” Dr. Valenciano answered July 1 through June 30. Dr. Alvarez-Robinson asked, “How does DeKalb County compare to other counties?” Brenda Smith responded by saying the historical trend is based on the recession in 2008-2009 when counties were cutting budgets. Dr. Jones asked if the state requires counties to give funds? Brenda Smith said, “Yes. It is a \$1.2 million participating match, but DeKalb County gives \$5 million. In

comparison to other counties, DeKalb County gives more than what is required. It would be ideal if legislators and counties would meet to demand an increase in funding.”

Dr. Watkins shared that the proposed deficit is from decreases in fees. Brenda Smith responded that the decrease comes from two areas: decrease in fees at health centers and two unfunded initiatives cost, i.e., mobile units and agency call center. Dr. Jones asked how often we access the slush fund. Brenda Smith responded that we do not tap the fund balance often because it is for emergencies. We used it two years ago for capital projects.

Dr. Valenciano stated that Dr. Ford was looking at our models and efficiency throughout the agency. Mobile units will assist us and forge relationships with the community which will generate funds. The goal is to help the community, regardless of health insurance and/or finances. Dr. Jones asked if the infrastructure bill will help if passed (The American Rescue Act). Brenda Smith stated that those funds will go to CDC or the state, but we do not know how it will be distributed. Commissioner Bradshaw wanted to know what our unrestricted fund balance was and were there any requirements/percentages in the fund balance. Brenda Smith said, “There is \$7 million in the unrestricted fund balance and \$2.7 million in reserves.”

Chairman Watkins asked for a motion to approve the FY2022 budget. Dr. Alvarez-Robinson moved to approve the FY2022 budget, and Dr. Jones seconded. Chairman Watkins called for a vote. The motion to approve the FY2022 budget passed unanimously.

IV. District Health Director’s Board Report

Dr. Valenciano presented the director’s report on the Board of Health’s daily operations in March and April.

V. Financial Report

Chief Financial Officer Brenda K. Smith presented the Financial Report. Dr. Jones asked what our process was for the \$1.7 million surplus. Brenda Smith stated that the \$1.7 million surplus is per year program income and will be used there. We are still waiting on payment from Medicare.

VI. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

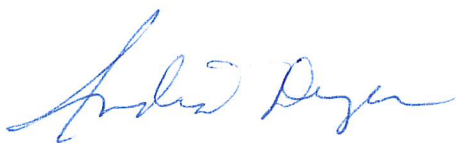
VII. Board Comments

Dr. Jones thanked everyone and welcomed Dr. Valenciano. Dr. Alvarez-Robinson stated that Dr. Valenciano has onboarded a lot of staff and she offered her congratulations to the new employees who want to make a difference.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Watkins called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Jones so moved, and Dr. Alvarez-Robinson seconded. Chairman Watkins called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Watkins adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "India Dyer".

India Dyer, Recording Secretary

Approved by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clyde Watkins, Jr.".

Clyde Watkins, Jr., M.D., Chair

