The Lowndes County Board of Health met at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at the South Health District Office in the small conference room.

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| **Members Present** | **Members Absent** | **Others Present** |
| Dr. Mark Eanes, Chairman | Dr. Shawn Haralson | Dr. William R. Grow |
| Bill Slaughter |  | Dwain Butler |
| Dr. Frances Brown |  | Patrina Bowles |
| Mayor Scott Matheson |  | Teresa Giles |
|  |  | Kim Davis |
|  |  | Dexter Dudley |
|  |  | Allie Pridgen |
|  |  | Kyle Coppage |

**Call to Order**

* Dr. Eanes called the meeting to order at 11:58 a.m.

**Public Comments**

* There were no public comments.

**Approval of September 27, 2022 Minutes (Attached)**

* Mayor Matheson made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Slaughter. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Business**

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

* Ms. Giles presented the Lowndes County Board of Health’s Revenue and Expense Summary and provided a brief update, noting no significant changes to the budget.
* A revision was made to reflect the increase in salaries. Funding for the increase was sent down from the state to cover that amount.
* Dr. Grow added Lowndes’ budget is in strong financial shape. Fees a slightly down due to the decrease in demand for COVID vaccinations compared to this time last year.

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

* Dr. Grow began by informing the Board of the decrease in COVID numbers, which are at the lowest rate they have been in more than a year. Numbers decreased by 22% last week alone.
* There has been a low demand for vaccine, which means a decrease in fees by approximately $50,000; however, Dr. Grow reiterated that Lowndes’ budget is in good shape.
* Dr. Grow mentioned to the Board that three public health districts in the state do not currently have a district health director. Those districts are currently being covered by other health directors.
* Dr. Grow also announced his retirement as district health director in July. The position has been posted by the state and applications are being received.

**Nurse Manager’s Report – Kim Davis, RN (Attached)**

* Ms. Davis reviewed provided a summary of health department services, noting most services provided have increased and more patients are being seen than the last reporting period.
* Outreach events and health department activities were outlined for the Board and provided in the packets. Also mentioned was the District’s Employee Development Day held at the UGA Center on March 16, 2023 in Tifton.
* All staff in need of CPR recertification received training Mach 17, 2023.
* Several areas need to be updated at the health department. Mr. Butler mentioned having discussions with the county to determine which items should be upgraded.
* Ms. Davis informed the Board of two pediatric cases of TB that are being followed.

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

* Mr. Coppage presented Environmental Health’s year-end summary of activities as well as the most current activity report and inspection summary.
* Staff are on track to meet all state-mandated inspections for this inspection period.
* The Seven Rivers loan program was presented to the Board. This program provides low-interest loans to individuals who are in need of having their septic systems or wells repaired or replaced.

**Announcements**

* Ms. Davis announced a new administrative support employee to begin April 3, 2023. This new employee is also bilingual, which will assist with addressing the demands to accommodate a growing Hispanic population receiving services at the health department.

**Adjournment**

* There being no further business, Mr. Slaughter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Matheson. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dr. Mark J. Eanes, Chairman

Patrina Bowles, Typist