

Agenda Item Number:

**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: November 17, 2021

Agenda Item Subject: BOCC Annual Report and Workplan

Attachment(s): Annual Report and Workplan

Staff or Board Member Reporting: Quintana Stewart

Purpose: ___ Action
 ___ Information only
 ___X Information with possible action

Summary Information:

The attached annual report informs the Board of Commissioners of the past yearly activities of the Board of Health. The work plan also entails a plan for future activities of the BOH. These activities align with the goals and objectives of the Board of County Commissioners and Health Department.

Most likely, this information will be addressed at a work session in the winter/spring 2022.

Board members should review and approve report.

Recommended Action: ___ Approve
 ___ Approve & forward to Board of Commissioners for action
 ___X Approve & forward to Clerk to the BOCC
 ___ Accept as information
 ___ Revise & schedule for future action
 ___ Other (detail):

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION Board of Health

Report Period January 2021-December 2021

**ORANGE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
ANNUAL REPORT/ WORK PLAN FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Commissioners appreciates the dedication of all the volunteers on their boards and commissions and welcomes input from various advisory boards and commissions throughout the year. Please complete the following information, limited to the front and back of this form. Other background materials may be provided as a supplement to, but not as a substitute for, this form.

Board/Commission Name: **Board of Health**

Person to address the BOCC and contact information:

Quintana Stewart, Health Director – ext. 2412

Primary County Staff Contact:

Quintana Stewart, Health Director

How many times per month does this board/commission meet, including any special meetings and sub-committee meetings?

Board meets once monthly except for July and December.

Subcommittees normally meet at a minimum quarterly, however due to the 2021 COVID response efforts these meeting were temporarily suspended.

Brief Statement of Board/Commission's Assigned Charge and Responsibilities.

The Board of Health is the primary policy-making and adjudicatory body (NCGS 130A-39(a) (powers and duties of the boards of health) and NCGS 130A-24 (appeals), for the health department and is charged to protect and promote the public health of Orange County.

What are your Board/Commission's most important accomplishments?

- **COVID Response:** OCHD continues to engage community partners in addressing Access to Care, Health Behaviors, and Health Equity.
 - Facilitated the Joint Information Command (JIC) team that met weekly to plan, implement, and distribute equitable information to educate the community on COVID-19 and COVID-19 Vaccines.
 - Facilitated the Communicators Group – a collaborative of communication personnel across county department, municipality departments, and various other organizations to ensure COVID-19 messaging is succinct, equitable, and aligned.
 - OCHD's Environmental Health Division worked tirelessly to keep area businesses and restaurants informed of COVID-19 mandates and to ensure they had the resources needed to make informed operational decisions.
 - Maintained the State's highest vaccination rate for several months during the pandemic.

List of Specific Tasks, Events, or Functions Performed or Sponsored Annually.

- **Community Health Assessment – Conducted every 4 years and submitted to NC DHHS in March 2020**
- **Financial Reports and Billing Dashboards – Quarterly Review**
- **Budget – Annual Review**
- **Outside Agency Funding Request – Annual Review**
- **Cardinal Innovations Annual Report – Annual Review**
- **Advisory Board Summary Report – Biannual Review**
- **OCHD Racial Equity Commission (REC) – Annual Update**
- **Policy Review – Annual Review**
- **Communicable Disease Report – Annual Review**
- **Child Fatality Report – Annual Review**
- **Tobacco Prevention Program – Annual Update**
- **Health Director Annual Review; informal review in 2021 as the County transitions to Focal Reviews**
- **BOH Reappointments – Chair and Vice Chair – Annual Review**
- **Healthy Carolinians of Orange County – Annual Update**
- **BOH Meeting Schedule – Annual Review**
- **Delinquent Accounts – Annual Review; on hold for 2021 due to pandemic moratoriums**
- **Immigrant and Refugee – Annual Update**

Describe this board/commission's activities/accomplishments in carrying out BOCC goal(s)/priorities, if applicable.

Ensure a community network of basic human services and infrastructure that maintains, protects, and promotes the well-being of all county residents

- **BOH is the primary policy-making and adjudicatory body for the Health Department and is also charged with protecting and promoting the public health of Orange County residents.**
- **The Environmental Health Division sunset the WTMP Program to avoid duplicate fees for residents with regard to having their septic systems inspected.**

Promote an interactive and engaging system of governance that reflects community values

- **The Board of Health facilitated multiple listening sessions to gather community input about health needs and priorities for the County during the Community Health Assessment Process.**

Invest in quality County facilities, a diverse work force, and technology to achieve a high performing County government

- **OCHD has begun dental services on the Mobile Dental Unit two days a weeks at Southern Human Services in Chapel Hill.**
- **OCHD has begun renovations of the clinical waiting room at the Whitted Human Services Building to be inviting to the community.**

Create, preserve, and protect a natural environment that includes clean water, clean air, wildlife, important natural lands, and sustainable energy for present and future generations

- **The Environmental Health Division hosted a student intern from UNCG that studied the current challenges to onsite wastewater systems and private drinking water wells in the Gaines Chapel community of Efland, NC.**
- **18 of the 51 dwellings participated in the study which revealed that thirteen were interested in municipal sewer service. However half of those interested stated that the cost of services are a hindrance for replacing/upgrading/maintaining their septic tanks.**
- **This interaction with the community afforded Environmental Health to do some additional education around maintenance of septic tanks.**

Ensure a high quality of life and lifelong learning that champions diversity, education at all levels, libraries, parks, recreation, and animal welfare

- **The BOH arranges educational sessions every month during meetings to learn more about the community at-large, OCHD programs and services, and other opportunities to learn about programs across the state.**

Describe the collaboration relationship(s) this particular board has with other advisory boards and commissions?

- **The Board receives summaries on the activities of the following local boards or governing bodies at meetings twice a year, or as necessary for timely board action.**
 - **BOCC**
 - **Cardinal Innovations Healthcare**
 - **Carrboro Board of Alderman**
 - **Chapel Hill Town Council**
 - **Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education**
 - **DEAPR**
 - **Family Success Alliance**
 - **Healthy Carolinians of Orange County**
 - **Hillsborough Board of Commissioners**
 - **Jail/Mental Health Subcommittee**
 - **Justice Advisory Council**
 - **Orange County Partnership for Young Children**
 - **Orange County Schools Board of Education**
 - **Orange Resilience Initiative**
 - **OUTBoard**

- **Other Board that BOH members sit on:**
 - **Orange County Animal Services Advisory Board**

Identify any activities this board/commission expects to carry out in 2022 as they relate to established BOCC goals and priorities. If applicable, is there a fiscal impact (i.e., funding, staff time, other resources) associated with these proposed activities (please list).

- **Completion of the Annual State of the County Health (SOTCH) Report**
- **Completion of the BOH Strategic Plan**
- **Completion of the OCHD Departmental Strategic Plan**
- **Prepared for Reaccreditation with NC DHHS; site visit tentatively scheduled for early 2023**

What are the concerns or emerging issues your board has identified for the upcoming year that it plans to address, or wishes to bring to the Commissioners' attention?

- **The impact that finances, mental health, and students' education will have on the health of county residents as long-term recovery related to COVID-19 begins/continues.**