



Macon County
Public Health

MACON COUNTY CHSA Board
MINUTES
2/24/2026

- Members:** Garrett Higdon-Engineer/Chair, John Shearl-County Commissioner, Barry Breeden-County Commissioner/ Optometrist position, Dr. Roy Lenzo- Veterinarian, Cortney Patrick- Pharmacist, Dr. Matt Corbin- Dentist/Vice Chair, Angela Stone- Nurse Representative, Dr. Nathan (Don) Feibelman III- General Public, Steve Grissim-General Public, Dr. Michael Toedt- Physician, Ava Ammons- General Public, Marc Hehn-General Public.
- Members Absent:** Ava Ammons, Michael Toedt, Cortney Patrick and Roy Lenzo
- Staff Present:** Tammy Keezer, Eric Ridenour, Kim Dills, Christina Stamey, Lisa Browning, Allison Smith and Melissa Setzer
- Guests:** None
- Media:** Shelby Powell (The Franklin Press)
- Call to Order:** Garrett Higdon called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.
- Approval of Agenda:** Garrett Higdon asked for approval of the agenda. Matt Corbin made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Grissim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Welcome/Intro/
Departures/
Recognition/
Announcements:** Kim Dills welcomed Mr. Chris Hedden to CHSA Board, filling a general public seat. Next Ms. Dills announced the resignation of Deborah Moore, clinic nurse and a

position change with Sheila Corbin from the clerical section to assisting Melissa Setzer in the finance department.

Public Comment:

None

1. Presentation:

None

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Steve Grissim made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 27th meeting. Dr. Don Feibelman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business:

None

4. New Business:

a. Respiratory Disease Illness Updates:

Dr. Allison Smith provided an update on respiratory diseases. Dr. Smith reported that hospitalizations and ER visits for respiratory viruses are trending down. Covid-19 peaked in early fall and has remained low, while flu peaked at the end of December and is also low. RSV had two small peaks, with the second peak late, which is unusual but occurred across the country. In total, the state had 279 influenza deaths, with seven being pediatric and 217 over 65 years old.

b. Mid-Year Budget Review:

Melissa Setzer presented the mid-year budget review, including expense and revenue reports. The expense report breaks down each program and shows what has been spent and remaining funds. The revenue report lists all agreements and fees, highlighting those in red for state and federal funding. Melissa explained the Medicaid cost settlement report due at the end of February and notes the surplus from the previous year. The board had no questions on the budget review. (Please see handouts for review)

5. Requested Agenda / Discussion Items:

Kim Dills provided an update on activities at the Animal Services Building. Cleanup efforts and landscaping are ongoing to improve the facility's condition. Two covered areas are being constructed for dog exercise and storage of materials. General maintenance updates are being made, including recommendations from the state inspector.

The old Molar Roller unit is being converted to an on-site clinic to provide care for animals. Kim Dills discussed the challenges of transporting animals and the reliance on volunteers. A decommissioned van from Macon County Transit will be used for animal transports. The new van, nicknamed "Waggin Wheels," will help with local and long-distance transports. The board was pleased with the innovative use of resources and the ongoing efforts to improve animal care. Dr. Feibelman mentioned reports of distemper in animals, particularly foxes and raccoons. Kim Dills confirmed multiple calls from Highlands about wild animals suspected of having distemper explaining the symptoms of distemper are similar to rabies, making it difficult to differentiate without testing. Macon County Public Health has sent these animals, mostly foxes, for testing resulting in a negative rabies diagnosis with suspicion being distemper. Kim Dills emphasized that distemper is a vaccine preventable disease and the importance of community education. Kim Dills also addressed the large number of feral cats in the Macon County area and is actively working with the community to resolve this issue.

6. Closed Session:

(If necessary, according to
N.C. Statute G.S. 143-318.11)

None

Adjournment:

Matt Corbin made a motion to adjourn. Steve Grissim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 6:36 p.m.

Next Meeting Date:

March 24th, 2026

Minutes Recorded by:

Christina Stamey