



## Board of Health

## Minutes

September 15, 2020

**Call to Order** – The September 15, 2020, board meeting was held with in-person attendance as well as the option to attend virtually. President Neisha Grubaugh called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Members in attendance were: Dr. Scarpitti, Mrs. Mary Billy, Mr. John Wetmore, Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh, Mrs. Carole Wachtel, Mrs. Shelly Ellis and Mrs. Chicky Dyer. Mr. Gary Wood attended virtually.

**Adoption of the Agenda** –Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Second by Mrs. Mary Billy, motion approved.

**Approval of Minutes** – Mrs. Carole Wachtel made a motion to approve the August 18, 2020, meeting minutes. Second by Mrs. Shelly Ellis, motion approved.

**Introduction of Staff:** Health Commissioner, Chad Brown introduced newly hired EH Clerk, Maryanne Grady to the board.

### Public Comment:

Mrs. Barb Lechner of Granville, Ohio addressed the board.

Ms. Patricia Perry of Newark, Ohio addressed the board.

Mrs. Rochelle Volen-Smith of Newark, Ohio addressed the board.

Health Commissioner Chad Brown responded to questions posed by Mrs. Smith regarding information pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic and the disbursement of public information. There was discussion about how the information could be shared with poverty-stricken in the county.

**Hearings and Variances** – A hearing to consider the Maternity Licensure of Licking Memorial Hospital was presented to the board. An inspection is conducted by The Ohio Department of Health annual, and the findings shared with the local health department for licensure approval. The annual inspection returned no negative results or findings.

A motion to approve the hearing request for the maternity licensure was made by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, second by Dr. Scarpitti, motion approved.

A roll call vote was conducted:

Dr. Scarpitti	Yes
Mrs. Mary Billy	Yes
Mr. John Wetmore	Yes
Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh	Yes
Mrs. Carole Wachtel	Yes





Mrs. Shelly Ellis	Yes
Mrs. Chicky Dyer	Yes
Mr. Gary Wood	Yes

**Featured Program** – There is no featured program presentation scheduled for this month.

**Community and Personal Health Report** – Kari Kennedy provided a written report to the Board. Kari spoke about the receipt of flu vaccines as they have started to trickle in, and we anticipate having them available within the next week or two, including the High-Dose vaccine for the population of 65 and older. Dr. Scarpitti inquired about back to school vaccinations and if we have still seen a decline. LCHD conducts recalls monthly for those who have missed vaccines or appointments. In addition, reports are received from local minute clinics for immunizations, and an uptick in the number of individuals receiving vaccinations in those locations has been greater than in the past. Though we are staying busy, we have not seen the demand, or double-booked clinics like in years past. Local doctors are cooperating in sharing information pertaining to vaccines as well. Last month, there was talk of doing a drive-thru clinic, and we anticipate seeing an uptick in these numbers when Newark City Schools return to in-person school. We continue to work with school nurses to ensure vaccination compliance in the schools and there has been no indication that the state will be extending the date of this required report. Kari provided an update on Covid-19 Contact Tracing and advised that some additional staff have been added to help with the workload associated with contact tracing and all are doing well. There is little new information to report on Lyme disease as we are still waiting on lab reports to confirm. The pandemic has fizzled off some, and we are maintaining well, and the jail has maintained their status of no cases. Mrs. Chicky Dyer inquired about the turn around time for testing, which seems to be 2-4 days. Mrs. Shelly Ellis inquired about the availability of test kits, and Chad advised that they do not appear to be coming as he thinks that universities and colleges have consumed much of the testing demand.

**Environmental Report and Health and Preparedness Report** – A written report was provided to the board. Chad provided an update on Maryanne Grady and Hanna Kibler and their ability to work together and have done well. Additionally, Chad has interviewed several EH Director candidates which he will address in Executive Session. Chad also advised that Plumbing Inspector, Chris Price has done an excellent job taking over the plumbing inspection work and is maintaining the program well since Jay Litten's retirement. Food inspections continue to be conducted, with pertinence being given to critical violations. School inspections will take place with a reduction to school access outside of what the inspection is needed for, to consider Covid restrictions. There was brief discussion on the construction of the new Burger King in Heath.

**Maternal and Child Health Report** - Todd Kirkpatrick provided a written report to the Board. Todd advised that we have received NOAs for two grants: Cribs for Kids





beginning on October 1, with LCHD as the lead to a regional program. We have held this grant in the past but have partnered with Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department. We will request cribs from the state, without the expense burden to LCHD. The Maternal and Child Health Program was also awarded and will begin October 1. This has the potential to be a three-year grant, but the first year is a lot of community work and establishment of committees. WIC is scheduled to re-start October 1 as well. Todd is not sure which restrictions they will have in the new grant year as far as the pandemic is concerned, but the new year also brings the addition of Yogurt as a WIC eligible food. Todd also introduced the WIC intern, Lexi who will be with us the next six weeks and she will be chartering a range of projects including a survey among WIC recipients. Early Head Start's grant year will be re-starting in October, and he is currently working on the application via a bidding system, but there is no indication that we will not receive the funding.

**Health Promotion Report** - Ashley See provided a written report to the Board. Ashley touched on Covid compliance complaints, which have slowed, but they are still receiving a lot of questions some of which are complex and warrant group discussion. Ashley advised that LCHD learned today that we received the Creating Healthy Communities grant for the 2021 Grant year, beginning in January. Three car-seat technicians on staff at LCHD were able to attend a virtual training and meeting yesterday, which went well, but involved sitting on the computer for most of the day. Overall, it was well conducted and allowed the technicians to keep their certifications and obtain CEU's. Dr. Scarpitti inquired about drug overdose data. Ashley advised that those numbers will be presented quarterly via the PDOP Grant and INAIS program. We continue to work on the OD-Mapping tool and are still working with first responders to get the data collection moving forward. Ashley advised that she is encouraging PDOP Coordinator, Ashleigh Thornton to present the information to the board. Dr. Scarpitti advised that the board would like an update on this information, in some form, and the overdose death data if available, on a monthly basis so that they are aware of issues taking place so that they can assist with this effort getting off the ground locally. Dr. Scarpitti inquired about the distribution of Naloxone kits as well. We continue to distribute these kits virtually and will be adding an information card with a QR code that can be scanned upon use or expiration so that we have a data collection point to determine when kits are used and for what reasons. Chad advised that he believes we have a slight training gap with some of our first responders in the use of the OD Mapping which will be addressed as Sergeant Brooks begins providing training to first responders on when and how to use. Once the tool is live, we are hopeful to disburse this information so that the public can see what jurisdictions are trying, and push for others to do the same. Dr. Scarpitti inquired about resources being available so that addicts can learn how to get help and was advised that our naloxone kits do contain this information.

**Health Commissioner Report** – Chad Brown provided a written report to the Board. Chad addressed the 2019 State Audit report and explained what the report reflects. There are no concerns with the results of the audit. He explained that one



recommendation was an error that will not take place again, while the other is a new and active ongoing project pertaining to public records request tracking. Chad, Anna and Justin met with Grand Monuments on Monday and Chad provided a picture of the stone to the board. We anticipate that the order will take 6-8 weeks to receive, and are hoping to conduct some type of ceremony to be paired with Veteran's day. Chad was approached by Lower Lights Christian Health Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), who had spoken to former Health Commissioner, Joe Ebel, but they are ultimately looking for a spot to occupy in Licking County. While they offer full medical services, LCHD advised there is a tremendous need for addiction services. We reached out to Union County who uses the same center. Union County closed their health clinic, and the FQHC was able to start providing services and they struggle with a rural model but are learning as their clinic is designed around functioning in a metropolitan area. They continue to look for space and LCHD's clinic space was showed to them. We ultimately do not want to compete with them, but there is certainly a need for the services, including dental, vision and addiction services in the county and we will continue to help them in their search. Chad advised that the clinic typically sees 120 people in 4 days through the week, and addiction services would be outpatient providing methadone treatment and counseling. They would ultimately have to obtain approval from LMH, but it would reduce LMH's uncompensated care numbers, so he does not anticipate any pushback from them. Looking on to Covid related information, Chad advised that we would remain in the Orange rating category in Ohio's rating system this week. Mrs. Carole Wachtel asked about how quickly a Covid death is reflected in our data. Chad advised it depends on approval at the various reporting levels and the states certification as a Covid-19 death. Chad provided an update on the school-based data which was touched on in previous meetings. We are not seeing a large uptick in cases or anything concerning, and each school presents absence data a little differently, but we are going to work with LACA to achieve consistent data. Additionally, Adam has compiled the number of active cases within a school district boundary divided by the population within the district and provides it to the school district on a weekly basis. This data reflects all ages of cases, as well as a set of school-aged data. We are still reluctant to publicly publish this data as it would be easy for the public to misinterpret, but the schools are comfortable with it and use it in their decision making. Some schools have also published the graphics on their website. Dr. Scarpitti inquired about ill students returning to school. Chad advised that they are isolated for ten days and symptoms are followed-up on at that ten-day mark. If their symptoms have resolved, they are able to return to school, which is per the CDC guidance. Chad provided an update on Denison University. 8 cases have been reported while 6 have been asymptomatic and they have partnered well with us to share information. Chad advised that Homecoming dances have presented some issues as the schools have not provided their blessing on such gatherings, but some parents have been organizing events, which will remain on our radar. Dr. Scarpitti inquired about a large public record request that was made by the OEA. Chad advised that under Ohio law we are exempt from lawsuit pertaining to guidance disbursed to schools and he believes that the request is stemming from concerns related to the return to in person classes in some





districts.

**Financial Reports and Bills** -The financial reports were presented to the Board and discussed.

The August LCHD Financial Reports were motioned for approval by Mrs. Carole Wachtel second by Mrs. Chicky Dyer, all members voted yea, motion approved.

The August LCHD Bills were discussed and approved on a motion by, Mrs. Carole Wachtel second by Mrs. Shelly Ellis all members voted yea, motion approved.

The 2019 State Financial Audit was presented and discussed with the Board. A motion was made to accept to the 2019 report as presented and waive the exit audit conference by Dr. Scarpitti, second by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, motion approved.

### **Personnel**

A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti to enter Executive Session to consider the employment of a Public Employee. Second by Mrs. Mary Billy. A roll call vote was conducted.

Dr. Scarpitti	Yes
Mrs. Mary Billy	Yes
Mr. John Wetmore	Yes
Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh	Yes
Mrs. Carole Wachtel	Yes
Mrs. Shelly Ellis	Yes
Mrs. Chicky Dyer	Yes
Mr. Gary Wood.	Yes

The board entered Executive Session at 7:58 PM

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:29 PM

A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti to authorize the creation and hiring of the Plumbing Manager Position, seconded by Mrs. Mary Billy. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti to authorize the creation and hiring of a Public Health Outreach worker, seconded by Mrs. Chicky Dyer, motion approved.

### **Board member comments:**

Chad offered to reach out to Canton City Health Department pertaining to the syringe exchange program and obtain information on how it operates and its success rate, as it was depicted in a video shared with the board by Ms. Patricia Perry. Additionally, Dr.

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**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Scarpitti advised that he is familiar with the Portsmouth area, which operates 4 exchanges and still has problems with dirty needles being discarded in the streets.

Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh inquired about when Governor DeWine would lift the mask order and Chad speculated that it may not be until there is a vaccine and at least through year-end. Mrs. Grubaugh also inquired about church seating arrangements and if the placement of patrons three feet apart, with masks, would work since we are allowing it in schools, but Chad advised that those students or members of the congregation would still be contacts of a positive case and this exception was made to get kids back in school. Neisha also asked about hosting a cook-out and if there is liability in a positive case stemming from the cookout, but it does not appear that there would be enough proof to pinpoint that the case stemmed from there. Lastly, Neisha share the gratitude provided to her by The Hartford Fair Board as they had expressed their thanks for LCHD helping get the event off the ground.

Mr. John Wetmore inquired about the cancellation of community fireworks events and that an event took place in Etna that was not cancelled. Chad advised that we unfortunately had no knowledge of such an event.

The next scheduled meeting of the Licking County Board of Health will be held Tuesday, October 20, 2020.

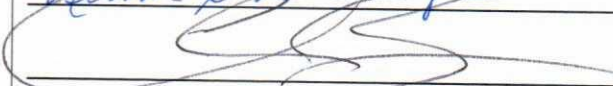
The Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at on a motion by Dr. Scarpitti, second by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, motion approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved:



Neisha Grubaugh, Board President



Chad Brown, Health Commissioner



Anna Wollenburg, Administrative Director