



## Board of Health

## Minutes

April 20, 2021

**Call to Order:** The April 20, 2021 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 5:30 PM.

Members in attendance were: Dr. Patrick Scarpitti, Mrs. Mary Billy, Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh, Mr. Larry Arnold, Mrs. Carole Wachtel, Mrs. Shelly Ellis, Mrs. Kathy Wyatt, and Mrs. Chicky Dyer, with Mr. John Wetmore in virtual attendance.

Members absent were: Mr. Gary Wood and Mr. Larry Friesel.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Adoption of the Agenda:**

Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Carole Wachtel made a motion to approve the March 16, 2021 meeting minutes. Second by Dr. Patrick Scarpitti, Shelly Ellis abstained, eight members voting yea, motion approved.

### **Public Comment:**

Ms. Barb Lechner of Granville, Ohio addressed the Board.  
Ms. Patricia Perry of Newark, Ohio addressed the Board.

### **Hearings and Variances:**

#### *a. 718 Lancaster Avenue, Thornville*

Health Commissioner Chad Brown provided an explanation regarding the proposed request for a variance related to a private water system at this location. The property currently has a water well which has failed. The private water system contractor is unable to meet the distance requirements to the property line due to the small property size. The neighbor has offered consent for the well to infringe on the minimum property line distance. Brown recommended approval with a seven-foot distance instead of the required ten-foot distance.

Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve the variance request, second by Carole Wachtel, all members voting yea, motion approved.

#### *b. 9455 Lancaster Road, Hebron*

Brown provided an explanation regarding the proposed request for a variance related to a private water system at this location. The property is limited in the placement of the



system due to a concrete parking lot. The proposed variance is to place the system 40 feet from an underground storage tank; however, 50 feet is the requirement. The tank does have a secondary containment surrounding the tank. Brown recommends approving the variance due to the secondary containment.

Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve the variance request, second by Shelly Ellis, all members voting yea, motion approved.

*c. 1225 River Road, Granville*

Brown provided an explanation regarding the proposed request for a small flow onsite wastewater treatment system. Granville Recreation District is proposing to build a new concession stand at Raccoon Valley Park, but the property is located within the 100-year flood plain. Wastewater will include men's and women's restroom waste along with concession water waste. Brown suggests approving the variance with the condition that the septic tank and dosing tank are secured according to the manufacturer's requirements due to the flood plain.

Mary Billy made a motion to approve the variance request, second by John Wetmore, all members voting yea, motion approved.

**Presentation to the Board:**

Tracy Cloud, CEO of Lower Lights Christian Health Center, presented to the Board of Health on current Lower Lights Christian Health Center operations. The community health center serves over 12,000 patients at 6 sites in Central Ohio. Services include primary care, behavioral health, pharmacy services, care management, spiritual care, vision care, dental care, nutrition education, and women's health. Cloud also spoke about Lower Lights' strategic plan, which includes growth into areas like Licking County which does not have a federally qualified health center. Lower Lights is proposing to provide onsite services at LCHD, including primary care, counseling, addiction treatment, transportation, and pharmacy discounts via local retail pharmacies. Telehealth services would also be available.

Cloud answered questions from the Board. Cloud explained that hours may be limited as the client base is built up, but the intention would be to have availability five days a week at varying hours. Due to the clientele, Cloud does not believe that Lower Lights would duplicate services with other providers, but instead provide additional services to a community in need. Cloud also explained that they have never needed to close a clinic location due to poor community engagement.

**Community and Personal Health Report:**

Director of Community and Personal Health Mrs. Kari Kennedy updated the Board on LCHD's vaccination efforts. Kennedy applauded staff efforts across all divisions. Justin Untenaher has been moved into a role to support infectious disease activities as contact tracing is transitioning away from LCHD. The current TB patient in Reynoldsburg is





doing well but remaining in isolation at home. The legionella case reported this month did unfortunately pass away due to other healthcare concerns. Staff have been unable to determine where the case contracted the disease.

Dr. Patrick Scarpitti requested HIV and AIDS data monthly, but Brown explained that those cases are reported and tracked by state investigators. Brown will request that data, but it may not be available monthly since the state only reports the data annually.

John Wetmore asked about reports of adverse reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine. Kennedy explained that we have not have any emergencies in the 15-minute observation window after the vaccine, but there has been one case of anaphylactic shock that required the patient to go to the emergency room within an hour after receiving the vaccine.

### **Environmental Report and Health and Preparedness Report:**

Health Commissioner Brown updated the Board on school inspections. Last week, Brown conducted two administrative reviews regarding food safety issues with Sunset Inn, located in Hebron, and Louie's Corner House, located in Buckeye Lake. Louie's Corner House has shown progress in making the required changes, but Sunset Inn requires additional steps be implemented according to their mitigation plan. These facilities will be reinspected in 7 days. Staff are currently inspecting mobile home parks as part of a contract with the Ohio Department of Commerce. Brown recently approved a temporary campground license for 200 campsites at the Brushy Fork Campground, pending all state mandates are followed. The Hartford Fair Board has begun discussion on the 2021 fair. Per the current state mandate, county fairs are allowed to operate. Carli DiTurno, a sanitarian in the food safety program, will transition to WIC as a dietetic technician. This will open one position in the EH program. The WPCLF will be awarding an additional \$150,000 to our program. The Solid Waste program is investigating a complaint regarding the demolition of a house on Hudson Avenue. House debris has been dumped illegally on National Road and the Licking County Sheriff's Office has been involved.

Resolution 2021-03 was presented to the Board to revise Licking County Solid Waste Regulations. The resolution will amend Section 2(R) of Resolution 94-1 to state that the definition of a "Public Health Nuisance" shall mean "any condition that presents or may present a threat or hazard to the public health, public safety, and/or the environment." Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve, second by Carole Wachtel, all members voting yea, motion approved.

### **Maternal and Child Health Report:**

Maternal and Child Health Director Mr. Todd Kirkpatrick shared that WIC's public health emergency has been extended to July 1. This means that in-person waivers are now effective through mid-August. On May 10, Carli DiTurno will transition to a dietetic technician. Additionally, an internal candidate has applied for the clinic assistant



position, so Kirkpatrick will begin that interview process. Early Head Start has transitioned to a hybrid model with in-person and online visits. Additionally, in the fall clientele eligibility will expand from birth-3 years to birth-5 years. This will allow EHS staff to retain clients until they are ready for kindergarten. There are two grant renewal applications currently in process for WIC and Maternal and Child Health through ODH.

Kirkpatrick echoed Kennedy's appreciation of the staff and their work on our vaccination efforts. He stated that staff have all gotten to know each better through this process across all divisions, which has benefited LCHD.

#### **Health Promotion Report:**

Health Promotion Director Mrs. Ashley See advised that staff in five grants are working on their renewal applications. Voicemails on the COVID phone line are slowing down and staff are handling the interactions with the public well.

As the Board requested, See and her staff have investigated the possibility of distributing fentanyl test strips. Shepherd Hill has offered to provide kits to LCHD for free. Staff plan to take them to events and distribute them within naloxone kits. Additionally, staff have requested additional information from ODH on recent CDC guidance that states federal funds can now be used to purchase these kits, opening up the possibility that current grant funds could be reallocated. See also updated the Board on the community advisory that was published on April 16 regarding the increased use of naloxone in the western part of the county. West Licking Joint Fire District reported using 22 doses of naloxone on six individuals within five days, which is an increase from baseline data.

Neisha Grubaugh requested data next month on the geographic spread of kits distributed by zip code through LCHD. See will work with her staff to compile that information.

#### **Health Commissioner Report:**

Health Commissioner Brown reported on an informal quote regarding the security upgrades to the entry of the building, which was an estimated \$65,000 through Claggett and Sons. Brown expects the actual quote to be lower and is investigating grant funding. An additional \$2,900 will be used to install a panic button in the front office. Brown met with Senator Jay Hottinger this month regarding the state budget process along with COVID-19 issues. Senate Bill 22, which has passed, does affect the Board in several ways but it does not go into effect until June 23, 2021, and the bill will likely be challenged in court prior to being effective. The elevator in the building is currently being upgraded and should be completed within a few weeks. Accommodations are being made for clients who cannot use the stairs.

Clinics have been scheduled for schools to provide COVID-19 vaccines to students aged 16 and up with parental consent, starting Thursday this week through next week.





LCHD has provided a cumulative total of 32,525 COVID-19 vaccines since December 23, 2020. According to the state, approximately 60,000 doses have been given within Licking County to date. Positive cases are currently fluctuating, but on average spiked in December 2020 and are lowering throughout April.

John Wetmore requested a graph of COVID-19 hospitalizations in Licking County during the pandemic. Brown will provide that at the next meeting.

Federally, distribution of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine has been halted. Denison University did receive a shipment of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, but they have not distributed any. LCHD will work with Denison to provide Pfizer vaccines to students who would like a vaccine. Local schools have begun planning proms and graduations and are working with Brown to provide a safe experience for students.

Brown has been approached by the League of Women Voters in Licking County, who are concerned with the structure of the District Advisory Council and lack of bylaws for the DAC. Brown will discuss this with Dave Miller, the current chair of the DAC. However, the health department and Board of Health have no jurisdiction over the DAC.

#### **Financial Reports and Bills:**

The financial reports were presented to the Board and discussed. The March LCHD Financial Reports were approved on a motion by Carole Wachtel, second by Chicky Dyer, all members voted yea, motion approved.

The March LCHD Bills were presented and discussed. The bills were approved on a motion by Carole Wachtel, second by Kathy Wyatt, all members voted yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-14 was presented to the Board to tentatively contract with Big Al's Septic Service for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 1515 Ditmoor Stroll, Newark, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-15 was presented to the Board to tentatively contract with Big Al's Septic Service for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 3530 London Hollow Road, Newark, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-16 was presented to the Board to tentatively contract with Big Al's Septic Service for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 40 Utah Avenue, Newark, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Patrick Scarpitti



made a motion to approve, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-17 was presented to the Board to tentatively contract with Jack's Septic for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 4500 Courter Road, Pataskala, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-18 was presented to the Board to tentatively contract with Beagle Hill Services for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 8441 Croton Road, Johnstown, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-19 was presented to the Board to tentatively contract with Smock Construction for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 271 Overdrive Road SE, Newark, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Patrick Scarpitti made a motion to approve, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

#### **Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Dr. Patrick Scarpitti and seconded by Carole Wachtel to enter Executive Session to consider the Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Discipline, Promotion, Demotion or Compensation of a Public Employee. A roll call vote was conducted.

Dr. Scarpitti:	Yes
Mrs. Mary Billy:	Yes
Mr. John Wetmore:	Yes
Mr. Larry Friesel:	Absent
Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh:	Yes
Mr. Larry Arnold:	Yes
Mrs. Carole Wachtel:	Yes
Mrs. Shelly Ellis:	Yes
Mrs. Kathy Wyatt:	Yes
Mrs. Chicky Dyer:	Yes
Mr. Gary Wood:	Absent

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:35 PM.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:50 PM.

No action was taken by the Board.





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**Personnel:**

Resolution 2021-20 was presented to the Board for the contract between LCHD and Muskingum University. This is a new contract to allow Muskingum University Baccalaureate of Science (BSN) students to assist LCHD with operating COVID-19 vaccination clinics as a part of clinical learning. No funds will be exchanged. Carole Wachtel made a motion to approve, second by Larry Arnold, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-21 was presented to the Board for the contract between LCHD and Envolve. This contract will allow LCHD to continue to be credentialed with Envolve and bill for dental services rendered for individuals insured by the company. Shelly Ellis made a motion to approve, second by Kathy Wyatt, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2021-22 was presented to the Board for the contract between LCHD and Strategic Government Solutions. This is a new contract for the development and continued use of an online COVID clinic registration platform. Carole Wachtel made a motion to approve, second by Larry Arnold, all members voting yea, motion approved.

An authorization to hire a Registered Environmental Health Specialist or Specialist in Training was made on a motion by Kathy Wyatt, second by Dr. Patrick Scarpitti, all members voting yea, motion approved.

An authorization to hire a Clerk was made on a motion by John Wetmore, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

**Board member comments:**

Dr. Patrick Scarpitti inquired about the memorial ceremony for Chief Jim Glover. The plaque has been installed; the ceremony will be scheduled at a future date due to weather concerns and the current state of affairs.

The next scheduled meeting of the Licking County Board of Health will be held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

The Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at 8:05 PM on a motion by Dr. Patrick Scarpitti, second by Mary Billy, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Meeting adjourned.



Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neisha D. Grubaugh", written over a horizontal line.

Neisha Grubaugh, Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Brown", written over a horizontal line.

Chad Brown, Health Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Waldrop", written over a horizontal line.

Kate Waldrop, Grant Coordinator, in lieu of  
Anna Wollenburg, Administrative Director, due to maternity leave.