



Board of Health

Minutes

February 15, 2022

Call to Order – The February 15, 2022, board meeting was held with in-person attendance. President Neisha Grubaugh called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Members in attendance were Dr. Scarpitti, Mr. Larry Friesel, Mr. Gary Wood, Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh, Mrs. Carole Wachtel, Mrs. Shelly Ellis, Mrs. Kathy Wyatt, Mr. Larry Arnold, and Mr. John Wetmore.

Those not in attendance were Mrs. Mary Billy and Dr. Chicky Dyer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of the Agenda: Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended. Second by John Wetmore. Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes: Carole Wachtel made a motion to approve the January 18, 2022 meeting minutes. Second by Dr. Scarpitti. Motion approved.

Introduction of New Staff: Health Commissioner Mr. Chad Brown introduced new staff to the board. Mrs. Ashley Spires, RN was hired as a Public Health Nurse in December 2021. She brings the nursing staff back to full capacity and has been doing a great job in her first two months.

Public Comment: Barb Lechner of Granville, Ohio addressed the board.

Hearings and Variances:

- a. Variance for 1752 Lees Road, Heath, was presented to the board. A variance is requested to allow a temporary holding tank at this location until weather conditions will allow the soil absorption component to be installed. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Carole Wachtel. Motion approved.
- b. Variance for Dynahoe Construction and Excavating was presented to the board. The variance was to request an extension to the STS Contractor Continuing Education Requirements as their CEUs were not obtained by the deadline. This is a one-time variance. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Kathy Wyatt. Motion approved.
- c. Variance for Sam's Excavating was presented to the board. The variance was to request an extension to the STS Contractor Continuing Education Requirements as their CEUs were not obtained by the deadline. This is a one-time variance. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Kathy Wyatt. Motion approved.
- d. Variance for 295 West Mill Street, Pataskala, was presented to the board. A variance is requested to allow a temporary holding tank at this location until

weather conditions will allow the soil absorption component to be installed. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Carole Wachtel. Motion approved.

- e. Variance for 8365 Wince Road, Newark, was presented to the board. A variance is requested to allow a temporary holding tank at this location until weather conditions will allow the soil absorption component to be installed. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Carole Wachtel. Motion approved.

- f. Variance for 9601 Cooper Road, Johnstown, was presented to the board. A variance is requested to allow a temporary holding tank at this location until weather conditions will allow the soil absorption component to be installed.

Amendment

First: Dr. Scarpitti

Second: Carole Wachtel

Community and Personal Health Report – Director of Community and Personal Health Mrs. Kari Kennedy advised LCHD has changed walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinics to only Tuesdays and Thursdays. Demand has dropped, so the amount of wasted vaccine doses led us to reduce walk-in availability to only two days per week. Nursing staff still go to the Licking County Jail to offer COVID-19 vaccines once per month and are currently offering J&J vaccinations there. Per the Communicable Disease Report, there was one positive case of rabies in a bat reported in January. The family who was potentially exposed ultimately decided not to take the rabies vaccine. Regarding current tuberculosis cases, two will be done with treatment in March, and one is moving out of state. The remaining two cases still require Direct Observational Therapy, but they are not considered contagious cases. Kennedy thanked Justin Unternaher for all the work he has done in communicable disease; Neisha Grubaugh asked Kennedy to pass along the Board's thanks as well.

Environmental Report and Health and Preparedness Report – Interim

Environmental Health Director Mr. Scott Morris advised that Kelley Damron, EH clerk, resigned her position after one week of employment. Morris will be developing a plan to fill the clerk position. Food license renewals are occurring this month; additionally, food inspections are on track to date. Regarding past issues, Mound Builders Country Club has been sending pest mitigation reports and has had improving inspections. Sunset Inn has also seen improvement in their inspections. However, Taco Dan's will have an administrative review soon due to ongoing pest issues. Weather has been impacting sewage installations, but that has allowed staff to catch up on paperwork. Other programs continue to operate as expected and are doing well. Finally, Morris shared that the Ohio EPA has advised that a company will be possibly applying to construct a medical waste landfill in Hebron, but more details are not available at the time.

Maternal and Child Health Report: Maternal and Child Health Director Mr. Todd Kirkpatrick advised that Early Head Start has resumed in-person home visits this week but will continue to monitor COVID-19 cases. Due to the decrease in COVID-19 contact tracing, Rachel Woods has had more time to spend on her grants, leading to increased long-term planning. On February 14, WIC had a central region meeting; Kirkpatrick reported that only two offices of 13 are open, one of which is LCHD. LCHD's WIC staff have resumed providing medical checks at the LEADS Head Start facility as parents



drop their children off for services. WIC currently has an intern and anticipates having more this spring/summer since our office is one of the few open and accepting interns.

Health Promotion Report: Health Promotion Director Mrs. Ashley See advised that we will be hiring a new full-time Health Educator funded through the ODH Public Health Workforce Development grant. Since this position will be fully funded through a grant, they will work on programs that do not have other funding available, such as Third Grade Partners in Wellness. Otherwise, our current staff would not have the capacity to provide this program to an estimated 2,000 third grade students annually. The position will also assist the Tobacco Use, Prevention, and Cessation grant, which currently funds one full time Health Educator. However, the work exceeds the capacity of 1 FTE. See also advised that we are approaching event season and expect those events to be back to normal, which the new Health Educator could assist with. See said planning has begun for the Change Gears: Ride a Bike event, which will be held in June 2022. See also provided an update on drug overdose data in the county; although 2021 numbers are not finalized, Licking County had at least 45 fatal overdoses with a potential of three more, pending toxicology reports. In comparison, 2020 had 47 fatal overdoses and 2019 had 36 fatal overdoses. In January 2022, staff distributed 75 naloxone kits, which is the highest monthly total since the inception of the program.

Administrative Services Report: Director of Administrative Services Mrs. Anna Wollenburg was absent from the meeting. Health Commissioner Brown provided an update on the administrative division. Staff are currently working on annual financial reporting for auditing purposes. Hanna Kibler is new to these reports and is being trained how to properly complete these reports; she has been a large help across the division. According to Cindy Carpenter, our medical biller, LCHD has brought in over \$912,000 in COVID-19 vaccine administrative fees since December 2020.

Health Commissioner Report: Health Commissioner Mr. Chad Brown advised that the Intel plant coming to Licking County will have a major impact on the county, including our department. The largest impact will likely be seen in the EH division, which will need more inspectors. The city of New Albany has requested to join the Licking County General Health District, which would also greatly impact our department. Brown has spoken with local mayors who are in favor of New Albany joining our health district. The Pataskala mayor has offered space in the Pataskala City Hall for staff, such as plumbing inspectors, to report in the western half of the county rather than commuting back and forth from Newark every day.

The EPA provided an update on the status of the landfill and how drainage will be handled in the future. LCHD will meet with a contractor to install a skimmer and will continue to monitor the site quarterly. There was a small roof leak on the North Wing of the building on a section of flat roof after the ice storm. This has led to a discussion on roof replacement and/or maintenance. Brown is working with a vendor to obtain an evaluation on the quality of the roof and determine what, if anything, needs replaced.



There are several ongoing public record requests, which staff are working to fulfill but this will be a long process. Brown also shared that staff have been asked to create a customer service slogan, which the Board will vote on in March.

Since December 23, positive COVID-19 cases have steadily declined with the ending of the omicron variant surge. Eventually, ODH will classify COVID-19 as an endemic as compared to a pandemic. This will change COVID-19 to a Class B reportable disease and remove quarantine/isolation requirements by LCHD. Currently, there are 22 hospitalizations at Licking Memorial Hospital. Brown advised the virus will likely continue to mutate but hopefully it will be less severe as time goes on.

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

The January 2022 LCHD Financial Reports were approved on a motion by Carole Wachtel, second by Dr. Scarpitti, all members voted yea, motion approved to file for audit.

The January 2022 LCHD Bills were presented and discussed. Shelly Ellis motioned to approve, second by Kathy Wyatt. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-04 was presented to the board to self-certify that \$50,000 will be the micro-purchase threshold for American Rescue Plan expenditures as permitted by 2 CFR §200.320(a)(iii) and (iv). Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Carole Wachtel, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Contract Agreements:

Resolution 2022-05 was presented to the board to approve the contract with the Ohio EPA to implement the WPCLF program for 2022 in the amount of \$150,000. Kathy Wyatt motioned to approve, second by Shelly Ellis, all members voting yea. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-06 was presented to the board to approve the contract between LCHD and Richland Public Health to allow RPH to provide plumbing inspections in Licking County on a backup basis. Residential inspections will be reimbursed \$200 per inspection and commercial inspections will be reimbursed \$225 per inspection. Carole Wachtel motioned to approve, second by John Wetmore. All members voting yea, motion approved.

Resolution 2022-07 was presented to the board to approve the contract with AmeriHealth Caritas Ohio to allow LCHD to bill ACOH for medical services provided to clients insured by ACOH. This is a new type of Medicaid insurance available in our



area. Carole Wachtel motioned to approve, second by Gary Wood, all members voting yea. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-08 was presented to the board to tentatively contract with BNM Services for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 1207 Chestnut Hills Road, Granville, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Larry Friesel, all members voting yea. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-09 was presented to the board to tentatively contract with BNM Services for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 229 Helen Road, Pataskala, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Larry Friesel, all members voting yea. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-10 was presented to the board to tentatively contract with Big Al's Septic for the repair and/or replacement of the household sewage treatment system at 1552 N 21st Street, Newark, as part of the WPCLF program. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve, second by Larry Friesel, all members voting yea. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-11 was presented to the board to approve the contract with Siemens to allow Siemens to continue monitoring and upkeep of LCHD's fire prevention system. Shelly Ellis motioned to approve, second by Carole Wachtel, all members voting yea. Motion passed.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti and seconded by Shelly Ellis 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.

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| Dr. Patrick Scarpitti | Yes |
| Mr. Larry Arnold: | Yes |
| Mr. John Wetmore: | Yes |
| Mr. Larry Friesel: | Yes |
| Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh: | Yes |
| Mrs. Carole Wachtel: | Yes |
| Mrs. Shelly Ellis: | Yes |
| Mrs. Kathy Wyatt: | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Wood: | Yes |

The board entered Executive Session at: 6:55 PM

The board returned from Executive Session at 7:25 PM

Dr. Scarpitti motioned to exit the session, second by Larry Friesel. All members voting yea.



No action was taken as a result of the session.

Personnel:

The resignations of Natalie Culp, clerk, and Kelly Damron, clerk, were presented to the Board. A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti to approve the resignations, second by Carole Wachtel, all members voting yea, motion approved.

Authorization to hire a Part-Time Intermittent Plumbing Inspector was presented to the board. Carole Wachtel motioned to approve the hiring of a Plumbing Inspector, second by Kathy Wyatt. All members voting yea.

Authorization to hire an EH clerk was presented to the board. Carole Wachtel motioned to approve the hiring of an EH clerk, second by Kathy Wyatt. All members voting yea.

Authorization to hire a Health Educator through the Public Health Workforce Development grant was presented to the board. Carole ~~Wyatt~~ motioned to approve the hiring of a Health Educator, second by Kathy Wyatt. All members voting yea.

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Out-of-state travel for Director of Maternal and Child Health Todd Kirkpatrick was presented to the board. The travel would be for attendance to the National WIC Conference in New Orleans, LA. Carole Wachtel motioned to approve, second by Shelly Ellis. All members voted yea.

Board member comments:

Dr. Scarpitti inquired about funding updates on a potential Central Ohio Rehabilitation Facility. Brown shared that he plans to ask a local foundation for start-up funding for such a facility, as there has been no movement at the state or federal level. Dr. Scarpitti was curious if law enforcement has data on the amounts and types of confiscated drugs at the local level. Brown will ask our contacts at the Ohio Department of Public Safety if this data is available.

The next scheduled meeting of the Licking County Board of Health will be held at 5:30 PM on March 15, 2022.

The February 2022 Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at 7:34 PM on a motion by Dr. Scarpitti, second Kathy Wyatt, motion approved.

Meeting adjourned.



Approved:

Neisha Grubaugh, Board President

Chad Brown, Health Commissioner

Kate Waldrop, Grant Coordinator, in lieu of
Anna Wollenburg, Administrator Director, due to meeting absence caused by illness.

