



Board of Health**Minutes****February 20, 2024**

Call to Order – The February 20, 2024 board meeting was held with in-person attendance. President Pro Tempore John Wetmore called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Members in attendance were John Wetmore, Larry Friesel, Carole Wachtel, Shelly Ellis, Kathy Wyatt, Dr. Patrick Scarpitti, Mary Billy, and Ed Smith.

Those not in attendance were Neisha Grubaugh, Rich Kozlowski, and Chicky Dyer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of the Agenda: Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the amended meeting agenda, Kathy Wyatt seconded. All members voted yea.

Approval of Minutes: The January 16, 2023, minutes were presented and discussed. Katie Beaver updated the January minutes to include Larry Friesel's last name in the January board minutes. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Kathy Wyatt. Motion passed.

Introduction of New Staff: Health Commissioner Chad Brown introduced Caitlin Epps to the board. Caitlin is in her second week of employment at LCHD and is currently working on the new Regional Overdose Prevention Grant.

Public Comment: None.

Featured Program: Public Health Specialist Jacqueline Noe presented a Tick Surveillance and Lyme Disease Control presentation to the board. Jacqueline passed around examples of ticks, and the board of health asked tick-specific questions. Jacqueline stated our next focus will be on Lyme education to Licking County residents, starting with dog owners, along with increased surveillance activities.

Hearings and Variances: Fee categories for the following facilities were presented: High Risk Mobile Retail Food Establishments, Low Risk Retail Food Establishments, and Mobile Food Service Operations. The fees were proposed due to a change in the Ohio Administrative Code. Dr. Scarpitti questioned examples of high-risk and low-risk retail food establishments. Dr. Scarpitti motioned to approve as an emergency measure, seconded by Mary Billy. Motion approved and the proposed fees were adopted as an emergency measure.

Community and Personal Health Report: Director of Community and Personal Health Kari Kennedy provided a written report to the board. Kari stated there have only been 2



to 3 COVID vaccinations over the past week, and we have nothing scheduled for next week. We can now order COVID vaccines in quantities of 10 instead of 100.

There were a high number of norovirus cases at a local long-term health care facility, a mix of staff and residents. We were alerted when there were 70+ cases. Public Health Specialist Audri Walker has been following up on these cases and they seem to be resolving.

We had one positive MPOX case, a health care worker who encountered a positive MPOX individual from Franklin County.

There was a legionella case at long term care facility, and we are working with ODH at this time to finish the investigation.

Environmental Health Report: Outdoor Environmental Health Director Scott Morris was absent but presented a written report to the board.

Indoor Environmental Health and Quality Director Greg Chumney provided a written report to the board. He stated he and his team are halfway through the food renewals for the year.

John Wetmore commended Greg and his team for the positive survey responses they have been receiving. Greg praised Chris Price and the EH office clerks for the fast results and the only issue is related to online payments, which we are trying to resolve.

Maternal and Child Health Report: Maternal and Child Health Director Todd Kirkpatrick provided a written report to the board. Todd recently presented at a WIC conference in Oregon. He was asked to send all the WIC data to a WIC director in Louisiana, and Todd was commended for how proficient the LCHD WIC program runs. WIC is also looking to make some improvements over the next few months that Todd and Greg have been working on.

Health Promotion Report: Health Promotion Director Brianna Perkins provided a provided a written report. Brianna stated there have been many changes in Health Education, with staff leaving and others moving into other grants. She was notified on 2/20/2024 that we received the Youth Suicide Prevention Grant from ODH, and it starts on March 1. Briana also gave kudos to Health Educator, Emily Eichhorn for distributing 90 Narcan kids in January. Kathy Wyatt questioned when Drug Take Back Day would be, to which Briana responded it would be on Saturday, April 27 from 10am-2pm.

Administrative Services Report: Taunja Dudgeon did not provide a written report. She said that her team has been working hard on the audits and that everything is going well. She stated Grant Coordinator Kate Waldrop has been working on several grants



and they have been discussing streamlining processes to make processes more efficient.

Health Commissioner Report: Health Commissioner Chad Brown provided a written report to the board. Chad commended the directors for their hard work within their departments. Chad showed the board of health the design for the new mobile clinic. Chad discussed the new/old IT companies and the transitions of moving between companies. He will be on WNKO on Friday morning for the “talk of the town” discussing the health department, upcoming events, etc.

The DAC meeting will be on March 5, 2024. Larry Friesel and Neisha Grubaugh’s seats are up for reelection. Chad will send out another notice to the DAC with all of the nominations for board seats on February 27.

Regarding the norovirus outbreak at the long-term care facility, Chad commended Audri Walker on her work and jumping in while Adam Masters was on leave.

Chad stated that LCHD is up for reaccreditation next year and LCHD has been working on the documentation needed for this accreditation.

Financial Reports and Bills:

The financial reports were presented to the board and discussed. The January 2024 LCHD Financial Reports were approved on a motion by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Dr. Scarpitti questioned the loss in the report. Chad stated Workers Compensation came out this month, which accounts for the payment for the entire year. All divisions are either right on track, or a little ahead. Ed Smith questioned how we are trending in February, and Chad stated we have not seen those numbers yet. All members voted yea; motion passed.

The January 2024 LCHD Bills were presented and discussed. Carole Wachtel presented a motion to approve, Mary Billy seconded. Carole questioned the Xerox bill, which is our new IT company. Ed Smith questioned the number of Amazon bills and Verizon. Chad informed him he and Taunja are taking a closer look into those. All members voted yea; motion passed.

Resolution 2024-06 was presented to the board to appropriate funds in the General Fund to pay for the mobile unit. A motion to approve was presented by Carol Wachtel, Dr. Scarpitti seconded. Motion passed.

Contract Agreements:

Resolution 2024-07 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Licking County Job and Family Services. This is for a partnership to help implement the Falls Among Older Adults Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Shelly Ellis seconded. Motion passed.



Resolution 2024-08 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with HS Govtech Solutions Inc. Govtech is an Environmental Health Data Management Solutions application. This agreement is a 5-year agreement. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-09 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. This is for the water pollution control loan fund. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-10 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Western Governor's University. This contract is for a nursing student to complete her Bachelor of Nursing hours shadowing at LCHD. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-11 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Shepard Hill. This is for the Integrated Harm Grant to purchase gas gift cards for individuals to get to and from treatment. A motion to approve was presented by Shelly Ellis, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-12 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Union County Health Department. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-13 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Delaware Public Health District. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-14 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Fairfield Department of Health. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-15 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Fayette County Public Health. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-16 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Hocking County Health District. This contract is part of the new Regional



Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-17 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Knox County Public Health. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-18 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Madison County Public Health. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-19 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Marion County Public Health. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-20 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Morrow County Health District. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-21 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Perry County General Health District. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Amended Resolution 2024-22 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Pickaway County General Health District. This contract is part of the new Regional Linkages Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Executive Session: A motion was made by John Wetmore and seconded by Carole Wachtel to enter Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, or compensation of a public employee. A roll call vote was conducted to enter the session, with all members voting yea.

The board entered Executive Session at 6:58 PM.

The board returned from Executive Session at 7:26 PM on a motion by Dr. Scarpitti, Carol Wachtel seconded, with the roll call vote, and all members voting yea. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.



Personnel:

- a. An authorization for the acceptance of resignation for Jordan Bell, Health Educator, was received. A motion to accept with regret was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.
- b. An authorization for the acceptance of resignation for Ashley See, Health Education Manager, was received. A motion to accept with regret was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Kathy Wyatt seconded. seconded. Motion passed.
- c. An authorization for the acceptance of resignation for Helen Mengstu, Registered Dental Hygienist, was received. A motion to accept with regret was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Kathy Wyatt seconded. seconded. Motion passed.
- d. An authorization to hire two Health Educators and a Dental Hygienist was presented to the board. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Ed Smith seconded. Motion passed.
- e. An authorization to allow Health Educator Kennedy Thompson to attend an out of state conference in Arlington, VA for the Falls Among Older Adults Grant was presented to the board. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.
- f. An authorization to allow Chad Brown to attend the National Environmental Health Association Conference in Pittsburgh, PA was presented to the board. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.

Board Member Comments: None.

The February 20, 2024, Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at 7:31PM on a motion by Mary Billy, seconded by Carole Wachtel. Meeting adjourned.

Approved:

John Wetmore, President Pro Tempore

Chad Brown, Health Commissioner

Katie Beaver, Operations Manager