



Board of Health

Minutes

March 19, 2024

Call to Order – The March 19, 2024, board meeting was held with in-person attendance. President Neisha Grubaugh called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

Members in attendance were Neisha Grubaugh, John Wetmore, Larry Friesel, Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt, Richard Kozlowski, Mary Billy, and Ed Smith.

Those not in attendance were Dr. Scarpitti, Shelly Ellis and Chicky Dyer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Approval of Minutes: The February 20th, 2024, minutes were presented and discussed. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, seconded by John Wetmore. All members voted yea.

Introduction of New Staff: Health Commissioner Chad Brown introduced Faith Fosco to the board. Faith started her employment at LCHD and is our Seasonal Dental Assistant as of February 20, 2024.

Board Reorganization: President Board President Neisha Grubaugh handed the meeting over to Chad Brown, Health Commissioner, and Larry Friesel nominated Neisha Grubaugh to serve as president. Mary Billy seconded the nomination. Larry Friesel moved to close nominations; Ed Smith seconded. Nominations were closed. Carole Wachtel moved to name Neisha Grubaugh President of the Board of Health and Kathy Wyatt seconded. All members voted yea.

President Pro Tempore: Chad Brown handed control of the meeting back to President Grubaugh, and Carole Wachtel Nominated John Wetmore for President Pro Tempore, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Larry Friesel moved to close nominations and Ed Smith seconded. Nominations were closed. Larry Friesel moved to elect John Wetmore as President Pro Tempore; Carole Wachtel seconded. All members voted yea.

Public Comment: None.

Hearings and Variances: None

Community and Personal Health Report: Director of Community and Personal Health Kari Kennedy provided a written report to the board. Kari stated another dose of the Covid-19 vaccine is now recommended for individuals 65 and over. We will begin taking appointments for individuals wishing to receive this additional dose next



week. Kari reported the Child Fatality Review Committee reviewed 6 SIDS/sleep related deaths for 2023, and there have already been 3 sleep related deaths so far in 2024. Staff is taking it very seriously and are taking steps to address education regarding 4–6-month-olds as this seems to be the age range that most sleep related deaths are occurring. John Wetmore wanted to know the procedure when there is sleep related fatality. Kari stated that typically the coroner's office must go out and investigate along with local law enforcement. Chad mentioned Kari's staff is doing a great job at being on top of this. Neisha wanted to know if any of these individuals were anyone that we had contact with. Kari stated that some did have appointments with various programs here at the health department (WIC, Healthy Mom & Baby) and they all would have received education on safe sleep at each encounter. We will be with LMH and local pediatricians to take steps to make an impact on these sleep related deaths. Kari stated a long-term care facility is conducting screening for Candida Auris. One resident was found to be colonized with Candida Auris and is not ill, this person will be extra barrier precautions while he is a resident at the facility.

Environmental Health Report: Outdoor Environmental Health Director Scott Morris presented a written report to the board. Scott stated we have two (2) Interns coming on board this summer.

Assistant Health Commissioner, Greg Chumney indicated Environmental Health Specialist in Training, Zoe Tyler did a great job on food inspection today after finding an unlicensed mobile food service operation at the Red Roof Inn along State Route 79 in Union Township. The implementation of our new EH software, Health Space is going well and moving quicker than we anticipated. Chris Price, Chief Plumbing Inspector, and Greg are looking to hire another plumbing inspector, likely in April. Neisha Grubaugh stated to Give Zoe and Chris a gold star for such a great work.

Maternal and Child Health Report: Maternal and Child Health Director Todd Kirkpatrick was absent and provided a written report to the board. Chad spoke on the need for additional WIC funding.

Health Promotion Report: Health Promotion Director Bri Perkins provided a written report. Bri stated we have filled our 2 open Health Educator positions. Sydney Perales will be starting on April 9th and will be working on our Tobacco grant and Lucille Gould will start on March 25th working in our Integrated Harm Reduction grant. Health Promotion is working through multiple applications now including the Tobacco grant application due on 4/5, Youth Suicide Prevention grant application due on 4/29, and the Competitive Creating Healthy Communities grant application due on 5/6. The Falls Among Older Adults and Safe Communities applications will be coming out soon as well.

Administrative Services Report: Taunja Dudgeon provided a written report. She stated her staff have been working on the new time tracking system "Insite" and they



are making great progress. Meeting this week with Insite to finalize some reporting. Should hopefully be completed with the TCP and Daily Log system come April 1st.

Health Commissioner Report: Health Commissioner Chad Brown provided a written report to the board. Chad indicated we have made an offer to a candidate for our Operations Manager position and we are waiting to hear back. Chad went to the Pataskala City council with Kathy Wyatt on March 18, and it was a great meeting. Kathy Wyatt stated that LCHD staff are always looking ahead and trying to do our jobs better. Chad has been meeting with all new staff that have been hired in the past 2 years. Meetings have been going great. Chad discussed the rescinded OEPA permit to allow large discharging sewage treatment systems.

Financial Reports and Bills:

The financial reports were presented to the board and discussed. The February 2024 LCHD Financial Reports were approved on a motion by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. All members voted yea; motion passed.

The February 2024 LCHD Bills were presented and discussed. Mary Billy presented a motion to approve, Carole Wachtel seconded. All members voted yea; motion passed.

2025 Operating Budget: Chad reviewed the 2025 operating budget. The budget is required to be approved by the board prior to April 1 of each year.

A motion to approve the budget as proposed was presented by Carole Wachtel, John Wetmore seconded. All members voted yea. Motion passed.

Contract Agreements:

Resolution 2024-23 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Dr. Charles Marty. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Mary Billy seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-24 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Dr. Benjamin Jump. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-25 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Delaware Public Health District. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Ed Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-26 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Ohio EPA. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.



Resolution 2024-27 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Licking County Transit. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, John Wetmore seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-28 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with KN Excavation. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-29 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Smock Construction. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-30 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with KN Excavation. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-31 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Big Al's Septic Service. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-32 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Eccard Excavating. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-33 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Rice Excavating. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-34 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with LCHD and TjohnE Production. A motion to approve was presented by Kathy Wyatt, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-35 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with LCHD and Buckeye Valley Family YMCA. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Ed Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Larry Friesel and seconded by Ed Smith 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 7:04 PM.

The board returned from Executive Session at 7:25 PM on a motion by Larry Friesel, 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 Katie Beaver, Operations Manager, and Wesley Gutridge, Emergency Response Coordinator was presented. A motion to accept with regret was presented by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.
- b. Authorization to Hire an Operations Manager and Public Information Officer was presented to the board. A motion to approve was presented by Kathy Wyatt, John Wetmore seconded. Motion passed.
- c. Rescind COVID 19- Emergency Leave Policy - A motion to approve rescinding the policy was presented Mary Billy, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed
- d. Out of State travel request– A motion to approve was presented Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt. Motion passed

Board Member Comments: Kathy Wyatt – road trip Route 70, inside the restroom says Opioid emergency supplies. Chad stated that we were going to do it in our County but the state beat us to it. State puts these at the rest stop. We are looking to areas that are most targeted.

Chad stated he had been contacted by a reporter from the Reporting Project at Denison regarding the Board’s decision regarding a syringe exchange program in 2019. Rich recommended the department provide a written statement to the reporter and offered to assist with reviewing the statement. Chad agreed to develop a statement and send it to Rich to review and then send it to the reporter on Wednesday morning. The Board agreed the statement should indicate there was not broad public support for such a program, which resulted in the program not being implemented.

The March 19, 2024, Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at 7:56PM on a motion by Carole, seconded by Rich. Meeting adjourned.

Approved:	
	Neisha Grubaugh, President
	Chad Brown, Health Commissioner
	Taunja Dudgeon, Director of Fiscal Services