

**NEWARK**

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PATASKALA

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www.lickingcohealth.org

Board of Health**Minutes****July 15, 2025**

Call to Order – The July 15, 2025, board meeting was held with in-person attendance. President Neisha Grubaugh called the meeting to order at 5:28 PM.

Members in attendance were Ed Smith, Dr. Scarpitti, Mary Billy, John Wetmore, Larry Friesel, Carole Wachtel, Neisha Grubaugh, Shelly Ellis, Kathy Wyatt, Kim Wilhelm and Rich Kozlowski

Members absent: All in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Approval of Minutes: The June 17, 2025, minutes were presented and discussed. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Carole Wachtel. Motion passed. Larry Friesel, Shelly Ellis and Richard Kozlowski abstained

Hearings and Variances:

- **6539 Canyon Rd, Hebron - HSTS Separation Distance** – Based on site conditions, staff recommended approval. Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the variance. Carole Wachtel second. Motion approved.
- **13145 Jobs Rd NE, Newark – HSTS Separation Distance** – Based on site conditions, staff recommended approval. Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the variance. John Wetmore seconded. Motion approved.
- **18 Sinalda Ave SE, Newark - HSTS Separation Distance** – Based on site conditions, staff recommended approval. Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the variance. John Wetmore seconded. Motion approved.

Community and Personal Health Report: Director of Community and Personal Health, Kari Jones, provided a written report to the board. Kari stated that she didn't have a lot to add. Ed Smith inquired if we keep metrics on the mobile unit. Kari stated that they have been to a few locations already. They do keep track of who they see for updated data. Dr. Scarpitti asked about Covid vaccines. Kari stated that she hasn't received any guidance information from the State yet. Richard Kozlowski asked about the vaccine numbers and if we ever track injuries to the vaccines. He also questioned why we track some things and not others like suicides, etc. Chad stated that the

diseases we track are required by law and that we report annually on suicides and any other issues that may occur within the county.

Environmental Health Report: Outdoor Environmental Health Director, Scott Morris, provided a written report to the board. Scott added that there was a positive West Nile test in the county. The area was sprayed and then retested. The result of the 2nd test was negative. Dr. Scarpitti inquired about bats. Scott stated that there has been an increase in phone calls regarding bats. Neisha would like Scott to get information out into the community on what steps to take when encountering a bat. Chad stated that we will post something on our social media page.

Indoor Environmental Health Director, Traven Wood, provided a written report to the board. Traven added that we officially launched Healthspace Cloud on June 30th. Everything seems to be working properly. He also shared that he had a few public records requests this month. The first was on July 2nd regarding a report of dogs in the Taco Dans in Granville. A child dropped food on the floor and was bitten. The dog warden was called and the facility stated that they are emotional support dogs. The second request was for a complaint on an Indian mobile. The complaint was that he has permanently set up in one location. Zoning submitted the complaint due to this being a safety issue. Traven stated that he will be sending out letters to schools regarding their concession stands. He will revisit their agreements and make sure they are all licensed. Traven and Zoe have been finishing the compliance inspections for the Heath ENDS ordinance.

Maternal and Child Health Report: Maternal and Child Health Director, Todd Kirkpatrick, provided a written report to the board. Todd stated that every 2 years they have an audit and have had no corrective actions to date. Results of the latest audit should be received next month. Todd's average time assisting staff with daily duties is currently at 34%.

Health Promotion Report: Health Promotion Director, Brianna Perkins, provided a written report to the board. Bri added that they have a traffic review committee. There were 10 traffic fatalities. She will start including those fatalities going forward. Three were motorcycles fatalities. The Operation BRIDGE event was held last Friday and went very well. There were treatment referrals that occurred during the event. This will be an annual event through our RL Grant. Family Health Services have been distributing fentanyl strips. Our Youth Suicide grant is getting ready to launch a "Life Skills Training" which will consist of 3 2-hour sessions during the last week in July. We will be reaching out to students to promote this opportunity.

Administrative Services Report: Director of Fiscal Services, Taunja Dudgeon, provided a written report to the board. Taunja added that the volleyball tournament for SASS is now tentative. Ed Smith asked about creating a breakdown of cost for the Pataskala office. We have been promoting the Pataskala office more.

Health Commissioner Report: Health Commissioner, Chad Brown, provided a written report to the board. Chad stated that we did a box fan give away in Pataskala. Will be scheduling one here at the Health Department soon. The Budget Commission has been discussing the funding. At the state level we should be ok, but we are not sure what's happening at the Federal level yet. The biggest concern is for some of the Grants in our Health Promotion department. The Federal is talking about giving money to the State so it's possible to receive that funding through the State instead. We have been and will continue to be transparent with our staff on the funding issues. Through our Harm Reduction Grant, we were able to get 2 Naloxone vending machines. Chad asked the board if they approve placing the vending machines. The board approved to promote the vending machines.

Financial Reports and Bills:

The financial reports were presented to the board and discussed. The June 2025 LCHD Financial Reports were approved on a motion by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. All members voted yea; motion passed.

The June 2025 LCHD Bills were presented and discussed. Carole Wachtel presented a motion to approve, Mary Billy seconded. All members voted yea; motion passed.

Resolution 2025-30 was presented to the board to appropriate funds in General Fund to the Mosquito Control Supplies Line Item and appropriate funds in the WIC Fund to the Travel Line Item. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Contract Agreements:

Resolution 2025-31 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the City of Pataskala for office lease space. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Larry Friesel seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-32 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Together We Grow Inc. for the implementation of the CHC grant. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Dr. Scarpitti seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-33 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Ohio State University College of Nursing for the establishment of a clinical experience

training program for Health Workers. A motion to approve was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Shelly Ellis seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-34 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Freedom Center to implement the Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-35 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Family Health Services of East Central Ohio to implement the Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-36 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Genoa Healthcare LLC to implement the Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-37 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with the Licking County Alcoholism Prevention Program to implement the Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-38 was presented to the board to enter into an agreement with Lower Lights Christian Health Center to implement the Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. A motion to approve was presented by Mary Billy, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-39 was presented to the board to authorize Chad Brown, Health Commissioner, to tentatively enter into a contract with KN Excavation for the repair of the household sewage treatment system at 3445 Brownsville Rd., Newark, OH 43055. A motion to approve was presented by John Wetmore, Carole Wachtel seconded. Motion passed.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti and seconded by Shelly Ellis to enter into the 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 into the Executive Session at 7:38 pm.

The board returned from Executive Session at 8:38 pm on a motion by Dr. Scarpitti, Shelly Ellis seconded, with the roll call vote and all members voting yea.

No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

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Personnel:

- a. An authorization to close the LCHD offices on November 14, 8:00AM – 12:00PM for training was received. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Mary Billy seconded. Motion passed.
- b. An out of state travel request was received for Kari Jones, Julie Leedom, and Kelli Hopkins to attend the Mobile Health Conference in Louisville, KY, September 13 – 16, 2025. A motion to approve was presented by Carole Wachtel, Kathy Wyatt seconded. Motion passed
- c. An authorization for the acceptance of the resignation of Caitlin Epps, Health Educator, was received. A motion to accept was presented by Dr. Scarpitti, Mary Billy seconded. Motion passed.
- d. An authorization to hire a BCCP Case Manager was received. A motion to approve was presented by Shelly Ellis, Dr. Scarpitti seconded. Motion passed.

The July 15, 2025, Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at 8:39 PM on a motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Mary Billy. Meeting adjourned.

Approved:

Neisha Grubaugh, Board of Health President

Chad Brown, Health Commissioner

Taunja Dudgeon, Director of Fiscal Services