

**NEWARK**

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PATASKALA

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621 W. Broad St.
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www.lickingcohealth.org

Board of Health**Minutes****April 21, 2026**

Call to Order – The April 2026 board meeting was held with in-person attendance. President Neisha Grubaugh called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

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

Members Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of the Agenda: Upon motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Kathy Wyatt, the Board approved the meeting agenda. All members voted yea; motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: The March 17, 2026 meeting minutes were presented and discussed. Upon motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Carole Wachtel, the Board approved the minutes. All members voted yea; motion passed.

New Staff: Health Commissioner Chad Brown introduced CJ Coakley, Early Head Start Home Educator.

Public Comment: Public comment was opened and closed in accordance with Board of Health Rules. No public comment was received.

Community and Personal Health Report: Director of Community and Personal Health Kari Jones provided a written report to the Board and highlighted current communicable disease activity. Questions from the Board were addressed.

Outdoor Environmental Health Report: Director of Outdoor Environmental Health Scott Morris provided a written report to the Board and highlighted seasonal program preparation and staff participation in professional conferences.

Indoor Environmental Health Report: Director of Indoor Environmental Health Traven Wood provided a written report to the Board and noted upcoming conference participation.

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Maternal and Child Health Report: Maternal and Child Health Director Todd Kirkpatrick provided a written report and discussed staffing updates and program changes.

Health Promotion Report: Health Promotion Director Brianna Perkins provided a written report to the Board and highlighted recent overdose and prevention activities and community outreach initiatives.

Administrative Services Report: Director of Fiscal Services Taunja Dudgeon provided a written report and noted staff recognition activities during Public Health Week.

Health Commissioner Report: Health Commissioner Chad Brown provided a written report and shared updates on upcoming initiatives, community events, and accreditation activities.

Financial Reports and Bills:

The March 2026 LCHD Financial Reports were presented and discussed. A question was raised regarding certain figures in the financial report. Management indicated that the Director of Fiscal Services would review the noted discrepancies and report back if necessary. Upon motion by Carole Wachtel, seconded by Mary Billy, the Board approved the March 2026 LCHD Financial Reports. All members voted yea; motion passed.

The March 2026 LCHD Bills were presented and discussed. Upon motion by Carole Wachtel, seconded by Kathy Wyatt, the Board approved the March 2026 LCHD Bills. All members voted yea; motion passed.

Contracts and Agreements:

Resolution 2026-11 was presented to the Board to enter into an agreement with the Ohio EPA. Upon motion by Carole Wachtel, seconded by Dr. Scarpitti, the resolution was approved. Motion passed.

Resolution 2026-12 was presented to the Board to enter into an agreement with Fulcrum. Upon motion by Larry Friesel, seconded by Carole Wachtel, the resolution was approved. Motion passed.

Resolution 2026-13 was presented to the Board to enter into an agreement with Verizon Connect. Upon motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by John Wetmore, the resolution was approved. Motion passed.



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Executive Session: Upon motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Mary Billy, the Board voted to enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, or compensation of a public employee. All members voted yea, and the Board entered executive session at 6:15 p.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 6:57 p.m. upon motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Mary Billy. All members voted yea.

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

Personnel:

- a. Authorization to accept the resignation of Beth Parker was received. Upon motion by Carole Wachtel, seconded by Shelly Ellis, the Board accepted the resignation with regret. Motion passed.
- b. Authorization to hire a WIC Assistant and Early Head Start Home Educator was received. Upon motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by John Wetmore, the Board approved the hires. Motion passed.

Board Member Comments: The Board approved changing the May 2026 regular meeting date from May 19, 2026, to May 12, 2026, due to scheduling conflicts.

The April 21, 2026, Licking County Board of Health meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. upon motion by Dr. Scarpitti, seconded by Rich Kozlowski.

Approved:

Neisha Grubaugh, Board of Health President

Chad Brown, Health Commissioner

Tiffany Murphy, Executive Assistant