

LUCAS COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
Board of Health Meeting
Zoom Virtual Meeting
April 22, 2021 – 8:30 AM.

I. Swearing in of Board Members

Kevin Pituch presented the Oath of Allegiance to David Karmol and Paul Komisarek as new Board Members. Both are representatives of the District Advisory Council.

II. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Johnathon Ross, President, called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

A roll call was taken of Board Members for attendance:

Present: Amr Elaskary, Richard Fernandez, DPT, Ted Kaczorowski, David Karmol, Paul Komisarek, Donald Murray, Richard Munk, MD, Susan Postal, Johnathon Ross, MD, Barbara Sarantou, Michelle Schultz, Donna Woodson, MD

III. Introduction of Guests

Nancy Benedetto, ONA, Nate Fries, AFSCME and Kevin Pituch, Legal Counsel

Staff and others: Eric Zgodzinski, DrPH, Daniel Cadigan, MD, Dave Welch, Tina Stokes, Josie Smith, Gwendolynn Gregory, Brandon Palinski, Alice Dargartz, Jessica Poupard

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Both Dr. Fernandez and Ted Kaczorowski need to leave the meeting by 10:30 AM. Their reports will be moved up in the agenda if necessary.

V. Approval of Board Minutes from March 25, 2021

The March 25, 2021 Board Minutes were presented for approval. There was a rewording of the Board President's report in section XI, bullet point 4.

(Resolution 2021.04.051) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Dr. Fernandez to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2021 Board Meeting as amended. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

VI. Legal Update

Kevin Pituch reported there were two new lawsuits filed in April one in Toledo Municipal Small Claims Court and the other in the Federal District Court in Toledo. The one in the small claims court is regarding the mask requirement and wants permanent injunction to remove this order. The suit names Commissioner Eric Zgodzinski and Mayor Kapszukiewicz. A motion has been filed to dismiss this case.

In the Federal Court fourteen dance studios are the plaintiffs. They are suing regarding how their businesses were affected at the start of COVID when they were unable to hold their event in Toledo. Included in the suit are the State of Ohio, Governor DeWine and various ODH Directors past and present. A motion has been filed to dismiss this case.

In regards to the suit from December, 2020 where the schools were ordered closed for five weeks, this has been in litigation since then and is in the Court of Appeals. Senate Bill 22 has made this case moot.

Prior to SB22 the Board of Health had authority under ORC 3707.26 to close any and all schools in Lucas County when there was an epidemic, a threatened epidemic or when a dangerous communicable disease was prevalent. With the SB22 changes the board is now only able to close a school when there have been multiple cases in the school and close only that particular school and only for a specific amount of time for the school to be disinfected. This makes the case filed in Cincinnati moot. The appeal will likely dismiss the case.

Eric gave brief update of SB22 agreeing with what Kevin gave regarding closing of the schools. This is still being looked at by the legislators. They are looking into how to remedy this in regards to the health department's ability to protect the citizens. This legislation goes into effect on June 23, 2021.

Kevin Pituch added if any board member receives questions of a legal matter, they can be referred to him, if needed.

VII. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session required.

VIII. Medical Director Report – Dr. Daniel Cadigan

Dr. Cadigan reported COVID has been the main focus this month.

- Discussion are being had regarding how to expand vaccine into the community directly. Seeing the demand at the PODS dropping off we are looking to schedule smaller locations.
- The Physicians Advisory Board will be meeting in May. It will initially looking at what physicians are seeing as public health concerns in the community.
- Dr. Cadigan was invited to be on the UTMC COVID-19 public forum and has been asked to attend future forums.
- Discussion with Dr. Ross as to if other board members would be welcome to sit in on the advisory committee meeting. Initially, the first meeting would be to just give the physicians an overview of what will be involved. This would be with Dr. Cadigan and the Commissioner.

IX. Committee Reports

A) Audit/Finance Report – Ted Kaczorowski

The Audit/Finance Committee met virtually on Monday, April 19, 2021.

1. Payment of the March 2021 Vouchers

There was nothing out of the ordinary with the vouchers this month.

(Resolution 2021.04.052) A motion was made by Dr. Fernandez seconded by Barb Sarantou to approve the payment of the March 2021 vouchers. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

An application has been made for funding from FEMA for the Mass Vaccination site. This will fund 26 mass vaccination clinics. The grant is in the amount of \$1.3. We are required to purchase supplies and then submit for reimbursement from FEMA.

2. Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations:

Board of Health Resolution is required to approve changes in Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations for the month of March 2021 in the amount of \$1,262,973.04.

(Resolution 2021.04.053) A motion was made by Dr. Fernandez and seconded by Sue Postal to approve the Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations of \$1,262,973.04. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Tina Stokes explained the purchase order and invoices procedure and process. Then and Now purchases refers to invoices that need to be paid prior to the board meeting. It must be less than \$3,000.00. If it is more than \$3,000.00, approval of the Audit/Finance Committee Chairperson is required. It was discussed to increase this amount at the last board meeting which would require a change to the policy which will be done mid-year.

(Resolution 2021.04.054) A motion was made by Dr. Woodson and seconded by Dr. Munk to approve the Audit Finance Report as presented. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

B) Personnel Report – Michelle Schultz

The Personnel Committee met on Monday, April 19, 2021. The following items require Board action:

1. The Personnel Committee discussed and recommends the appointment of Ellen Gaietto to the classified full-time permanent position of Ohio Equity Institute (OEI) Program Coordinator in the non-bargaining unit, at the rate of pay of \$26.87 per hour.

(Resolution 2021.04.055) Motion was made by Dr. Woodson and seconded by Dr. Fernandez to approve the hiring of Ellen Gaietto in the position of Program Coordinator in the OEI Program. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

2. The Personnel Committee discussed and recommends the appointment of the following individuals to the unclassified part-time intermittent/temporary position of POD Worker as part of the COVID-19 Emergency Response, at the rate of pay of \$11.82 per hour: Ireland Flores-Rae, Tina Schlievert, Eileen Sullivan, Martha Corcoran, and Linda Panczner.

(Resolution 2021.04.056) Motion was made by Dr. Munk seconded by Ted Kaczorowski to approve the hiring of the five POD Workers as described above. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

3. There was an AFSCME Grievance which was settled.

(Resolution 2021.04.057) A motion was made by Ted Kaczorowski and seconded by Dr. Fernandez to approve the Personnel Committee Report. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

C) Environmental Health Committee – Donald Murray

The Committee met on Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

1. A variance request has been received for the property at 910 Wentworth in Springfield Township. The request is for the use of a holding tank with a high water alarm. This will be for one year from the time of the tank installation. There are sewers planned for the area to be completed in early 2022. At that time the homeowner will tie into the sanitary sewer.

(Resolution 2021.04.058) A motion was made by Ted Kaczorowski and seconded by Dr. Munk to approve the use of a holding tank as indicated above. Motion carried. 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

2. A variance request has been received for the property at 5518 Merriman Road in Sylvania to install a new septic tank to be less than 10 feet from the garage. The lot is small and the tank will be put in the same space as the current tank.

(Resolution 2021.04.059) A motion was made by David Karmol and seconded by Dr. Munk to approve the installation of a new septic tank as indicated above. Motion carried. 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

(Resolution 2021.04.060) A motion was made by Susan Postal and seconded by Dr. Woodson to approve the Environmental Health Report. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

X. Health Services Committee – Dr. Fernandez

The meeting was held on April 15, 2021.

1. Gwen Gregory reported on several of the agency's programs.
2. Our digital billboards are working well in the community. There has been positive feedback from clients and they are bringing people in to the clinic and bringing awareness of program.
3. Other forms of marketing are being discussed with Shannon Lands. Dr. Woodson reminded there was an Ad Hoc committee for Marketing to bring additional ideas on marketing. If any board members have interest in marketing to bring it to the attention of administration.

(Resolution 2021.04.061) A motion was made by Dr. Munk seconded by Dr. Woodson to approve the Health Services Committee Report. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

XI. New Business/Points for Consideration

No New Business

XII. Prior Business – Eric Zgodzinski

1. Consent Agenda Procedure

- Bylaws and Governance Committee will meet to discuss the use of a Consent Agenda. Recommendations will be brought to the full Board for a vote.
- Those on the committee will be: Dr. Ross, David Karmol, Dr. Woodson, Don Murray and Ted Kaczorowski. The meeting will be on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

2. COVID-19 Update

- In Ohio, there have been 4.4 million+ who have started vaccines. That is around 40% Statewide.
- Lucas County is has had 161,000 or 37.75%. We are doing well with 65+ which is above 70%. As we go down in the age groups those numbers diminish. This is concerning in the lower age groups that are hesitant to get the vaccination.
- Mass Vax clinic has been running for the past few months. We have seen 5 – 6 thousand through in a day in earlier clinics but in the last week the numbers have dropped dramatically. Instead of thousands it was down to hundreds. The site is still up and running but possibly shuttering in the next week or so.
- Phase I was mass vaccination clinics. Phase II was moving into the community with smaller PODs. Phase III is more one on one.
- Walk-ins are now being allowed at the clinics.
- Vaccines are being given at several of the schools and the schools are pushing the information out to their communities. Pfizer is allowed for the 16 to 19 year old.

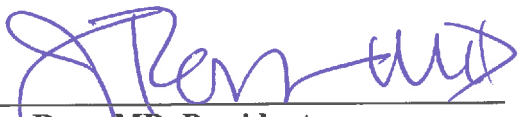
- Marketing is being done through media: Facebook, news stations, etc. Equity planning is working to get vaccines out to other underserved and vulnerable communities.
- There will be clinics for LGBTQ community working with the National Guard.
- There has been a great push to get into the black and brown communities. We have provided Dr. Paat with 800 to 1000 doses a week to give to the under-served communities.
- We are concerned about the Brazilian variant. There will be more study done as it moves further into the US. They are finding that it is more infective and case mortality is 3 times larger in the younger population.
- We are seeing across the board that workers in public health are becoming mentally fatigued. We are working to get our staff to take some vacation time and are staffing the PODs in a way to reduce staff stress.

XIII. Public Health in the News – Dr. Johnathon Ross

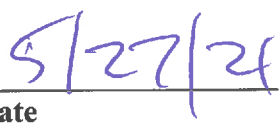
- Dr. Ross suggested every time we send out messages we need to continue pushing masking, social distancing, washing hands, etc. We don't know how safe we are with the variants. The public needs to continually be reminded that with the new variants those who are not vaccinated can be at a larger risk to get even sicker.
- We need to push this out via our individual social media the importance of getting vaccinated. Not getting vaccinated necessarily for yourself, but for those you love.

(Resolution 2021.04.062) A motion was made by Don Murray and seconded by Dr. Woodson to adjourn at 10:30 AM. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Signed By:



Johnathon Ross, MD, President
Lucas County Regional Health District Board



Date

Attested By:



Eric J. Zgodzinski, DrPH, MPH, RS, CPH
Secretary to the Board of Health



Date