

LUCAS COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
Board of Health Meeting
Zoom Virtual Meeting
May 27, 2021 – 8:30 AM.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Johnathon Ross, President, called the meeting to order at 8:32 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

II. 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

III. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

No changes to the Agenda

IV. Approval of Board Minutes from March 25, 2021

The April 22, 2021 Board Minutes were presented for approval.

(Resolution 2021.05.063) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Paul Komisarek to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2021 Board Meeting as presented carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

V. Legal Update

Kevin Pituch reported that one of the three lawsuits that were in the courts has been dropped. The other two are still active and expected to be decided upon soon.

VI. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session required.

VII. Medical Director Report – Dr. Daniel Cadigan

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

- The Physician Advisory Committee had its first meeting this week. There was discussion of the purpose of the group. Monthly meetings are set and the physicians are excited to be involved in public health in Lucas County.
- Worked with staff regarding COVID related questions.
- Attended the Child Fatality Review meeting.
- Working on Vaccine promotion with a photo shoot for Area Office on Aging
- Will be attending the VProject forum on June 14th.
- Attended Reproductive Health monthly meeting which was very positive.
- Lab manuals have been updated and reviews have gone well.

- Dr. Woodson thanked Dr. Cadigan for being part of the forum and requested that minutes or reports from the Physician Advisory Group be provided to the physicians on the Board of Health.

VIII. Committee Reports

A) Audit/Finance Report – Ted Kaczorowski

The Audit/Finance Committee met virtually on Monday, May 17, 2021.

1. Payment of the March 2021 Vouchers

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

(Resolution 2021.05.064) A motion was made by Dr. Woodson and seconded by Dr. Fernandez to approve the payment of the April 2021 vouchers. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

New Grant

The Health Department has applied for the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund Early Childhood Safety grant was applied for. The grant’s award is \$40,000 and needs board approval with the approval of the Audit/Finance report. This is for safety equipment such as cribs, etc.

2. Transfer of Appropriations

A transfer reallocates funds from one cost object to another. Board of Health Resolution is required to approve Transfers of Appropriations performed in the month of April 2021 in the ordinary course of business. Total transfer is \$3,555.00 consisting of changes in various expense categories.

(Resolution 2021.05.065) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Sue Postal to approve the Transfer of Appropriations of \$3,555.00. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

3. Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations:

Board of Health Resolution is required to approve changes in Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations for the month of April 2021 in the amount of \$3,423,312.77 for Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations.

(Resolution 2021.05.066) A motion was made by Dr. Woodson seconded by Barb Sarantou to approve the Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations of \$3,423,312.77. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Earned Revenue

A Board of Health Resolution is required to authorize the Fiscal Director to transfer residual funds from the Special Revenue – Grant Fund in the amount of \$178,755.01 to the Administration Department of the General Fund, and to classify the transferred funds as unrestricted.

Tina Stokes explained that earned revenue from some grants results when final reports are submitted and the grant work completed for less than the full award amount. These leftover funds are then transferred into the general fund as unrestricted funds.

(Resolution 2021. 05.067) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Dr. Fernandez to approve the Earned Revenue of \$178,755.01. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Eric discussed cost methodology for the fee programs. We were told early on in the pandemic that State would figure out how to make us whole for the following year due to the pandemic. Multiple associations are lobbying for some sort of fix for local health departments.

The Vacation Buy-out Program has been in effect for the past few years. There are many staff members who have not been able to take vacation time due to the pandemic this year. Those who have requested a buy-out for this year will be paid with the next pay period. Staff are allowed to carry over yearly vacation accruals up to 320 hours. Staff are encouraged to take their vacation, but with the pandemic, that has not happened. We will be looking into a possible second buy out this year if the budget will support it.

(Resolution 2021.05.068) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded Paul Komisarek 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, May 17, 2021. There are no items requiring Board approval.

- 1) The Contact Tracers we have employed will be moved to a contracting group ODH has hired. They will use this professional group as a larger group throughout the state. The state will be doing the tracing. We will give the names to this group and they will do the contact tracing. Reports will come back to us from ODH.
- 2) Monica Thompson will be promoted to the position of Payroll and Finance Officer effective June 14, 2021. This position was created along with the HR Officer when Terri Frank moved to the Grants Coordinator position.
- 3) Deanna Zaciek's contract extension for six months was provided through the Audit/Finance Report contracts.
- 4) Other open positions which we are recruiting for were discussed.
- 5) We are looking at some incentives for the staff who have been vaccinated for COVID-19. One thing is to add a half day off on December 31st. The staff have the afternoon off already and we will be adding the rest of the day. We are formulating a policy regarding what happens with mask use if you are vaccinated, etc. in the building as we move forward. If vaccinated or not, we will follow the CDC guidelines. We are not mandating vacations for staff.

(Resolution 2021.05.069) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by David Karmol to approve the Personnel Committee Report. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays.

C) Environmental Health Committee – Donald Murray

The Committee met on Wednesday, May 19, 2021.

- 1) A variance request has been received for the property at 920 N Lathrop Road, Swanton (Spencer Twp.) to keep the existing well which is not the required 10 feet from the foundation. The following steps will be required:
 - a. Replace existing cap with a new state approved cap.
 - b. Have an inspection conducted by a registered well contractor and report findings to TLCHD.

- c. Have a water sample taken once all work is completed. A safe result must be obtained for final approval.
- d. Construct a physical barrier around well casing for protection, specifically along driveway side.

(Resolution 2021.05.070) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Paul Komisarek to approve keeping the well as stated above. Motion carried. 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

- 2) A variance request has been received for the property at 8205 Cedar Point Road, Jerusalem Twp. for to allow the replacement leach field to be less than 10 feet from the garage.

(Resolution 2021.05.071) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Dr. Woodson to approve the installation of a new septic tank as indicated above. Motion carried. 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

- 3) Steak 'N Shake on Monroe Street was reopened as a franchise store after being closed last year. Conditions were found to be poor by our inspectors at the inspection this month. The restaurant has been closed now for about a week. When re-inspected the facility was in a very clean condition. The owners will keep the store closed for a couple more weeks until the staff is retrained.

(Resolution 2021.05.072) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Dr. Fernandez to approve the Environmental Health Report. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

IX. Bylaws and Governance Committee

The meeting was held on May 17, 2021.

- 1) Mid Term Election: ORC indicates there is only one election that occurs in January. Kevin Pituch stated that we can have an additional election, if needed. In the interim the Vice President (President Pro Tempore) would serve as President until there is an official election.
- 2) Consent Agenda: The question of whether the Consent Agenda would be part of the Bylaws or as a Policy was discussed. The consensus of the Committee is that it could remain as a policy. If any member wants to pull an item from the Consent Agenda that would be done for further discussion. For this to be effective, the reports need to be read prior to getting to the meeting.
- 3) Discussion about the Executive Committee. The concern is that the name Executive Committee has the connotation that this Committee makes decisions outside the board. The terminology should be an Advisory Committee to avoid any misunderstanding. This could be set up as an Ad Hoc committee. No restrictions are in our Bylaws to do this.
- 4) Dave Karmol went through the Bylaws and made suggestions to clean up some of the verbiage. There are places where there are different references to the same governmental agency. This is in the packet for you to look over and make any suggestions. It will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

(Resolution 2021.05.073) A motion was made by Dr. Fernandez and seconded by Paul Komisarek to approve the Bylaws and Governance Committee Report. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

X. New Business/Points for Consideration

COVID-19 Workplace Policy. The policy regards the standard workplace procedure that we are getting into place and working with the Unions. The procedure will include how we mask and vaccination status.

Brandon Palinski went through the policy. Because the health orders from the State of Ohio will be rescinded on June 2, 2021, this policy stated that when there is the absence of a health order, employees are required to follow the COVID-19 Workplace Procedure.

- CDC changed the masking guidance for masks vaccinated individuals and has said the chance for those vaccinated to be infected or be able to infect others is very low.
- Fully vaccinated may go without masks in most areas, except health care facilities.
- Unvaccinated should still mask and social distance themselves.
- Fully vaccinated individuals no longer need to quarantine when exposed to COVID-19 as long as they remain symptom free. If symptoms do develop, then they must still follow isolation and testing protocols. There have been slight breakthroughs with those vaccinated.
- Travel is allowed by if vaccinated.
- Vaccines are very effective and those fully vaccinated have very little to worry about with COVID.

A COVID Policy for the Community is being also developed. The board discussed what needs to go into the policy. Key points were:

- Follow CDC guidelines.
- Don't discourage mask use.
- Personal health as a true concern inside any recommendation.

SB 22: Eric discussed SB 22 and how it limits the Governor's and Public Health's ability to enact orders in a timely fashion that are in effect for a long period because there is oversight from legislation. It limits abilities for public health to quarantine individuals and the ability to close schools as a group, it has to be done singularly.

(Resolution 2021.05.074) A motion was made by Susan Postal and seconded by Paul Komisarek to approve the COVID-19 Workplace Policy. Motion carried, 12 Yeas, 0 Nays

House Bill 248 is looking at limiting the need for individual to be vaccinated. It seeks to provide greater ability to decline vaccines and the ability to deny a company's requirement to vaccinate. We know what a non-vaccinated individual can do to affect others.

XI. Prior Business – Eric Zgodzinski

1. COVID-19 Update

- In Ohio, 44.74% are vaccinated. Lucas County is at 44.01% vaccinated. Most NW Ohio counties are about the same. Northeast Ohio Counties are closer to 50%
- Current case count is 101.72 per 100,000.
- The 14 day running average was 50 per day, today around 20 per day.
- TARTA Bus has gotten a number of people we would not have gotten at the PODs. We partner with anyone who wants us to come out and vaccinate
- Incentive programs are coming from private industry.
- Working with managed care companies and how to partner with them.

- Looking for ways to break down hesitancy of citizens to getting the vaccine.
- Since the Vax-a-million campaign began the vaccinations have increased the number of vaccines.
- Will probably have an uptick at the end of June and first of July. We have been messaging that the pandemic is not over yet.
- We are starting to demobilize and shift resources and looking at producing after action reports. Planning a Community-wide After-Action report to see the good and bad things and where to improve. We will work with UT to help with the report.

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

- Dr. Ross had nothing to add.
- A study is being done in Cincinnati for children 6 months and older for the COVID vaccine.

(Resolution 2021. 05.075) A motion was made by Don Murray and seconded by Dr. Woodson to adjourn at 11:24 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