

LUCAS COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
Board of Health Meeting
Zoom Virtual Meeting
June 24, 2021 – 8:30 AM.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Johnathon Ross, President, called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM.

A roll call was taken of Board Members for attendance:

Present: Amr Elaskary, Richard Fernandez, DPT, Ted Kaczorowski, David Karmol, Donald Murray, Richard Munk, MD, Johnathon Ross, MD, Barbara Sarantou, Donna Woodson, MD

Excused: Paul Komisarek, Susan Postal, and Michelle Schultz

II. Introduction of Guests

Cathy Nearhood, ONA, Nate Fries & Gillian Wilke, AFSCME and Kevin Pituch, Legal Counsel

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

III. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

No changes to the Agenda

IV. Approval of Board Minutes from May 27, 2021

The May 27, 2021 Board Minutes were presented for approval.

(Resolution 2021.06.076) A motion was made by Dr. Munk and seconded by Dave Karmol to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 Board Meeting as presented carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

V. Legal Update – Kevin Pituch

There is nothing to report this month.

VI. Executive Session

No Executive Session required.

VII. Medical Director Report – Dr. Daniel Cadigan

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

- Meeting with ODH regarding the RHWC. Clinical Protocols are completed and in place.
- Quarterly chart reviews for Nurse Practitioners.
- Participated in the VProject live provider forum last week.
- Answered about COVID vaccination.
- Met with Mahj Steffin and Shannon Lands regarding naloxone distribution and protocols.
- Started the Bi-annual chart reviews.
- Medical Group meeting went well.

Eric stated there will be reports given to the rest of the board as the meetings continue. There was conversation about Childhood Wellness program. Initial discussions with the group were profitable. Dr. Ross discussed prescribing outside activities for kids. We will getting advice

from the community through the physicians in the group. Additional advisory groups will be developed with Government, non-profit organizations, and the community.
Dr. Woodson asked that members and reports of these meetings be shared with the official board.

VIII. Committee Reports

A) Audit/Finance Committee Report – Ted Kaczorowski

The Audit/Finance Committee met virtually on Monday, June 14, 2021.

1. Payment of the March 2021 Vouchers

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

(Resolution 2021.06.077) A motion was made by Dr. Woodson and seconded by Dr. Fernandez to approve the payment of the May 2021 vouchers. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

2. Grant Approval

A grant for the Cribs 4 Kids and Safe Sleep program has been awarded in the amount of \$49,000. A motion is required to accept this grant.

(Resolution 2021.06.078) Motion to accept the Cribs 4 Kids and Safe Sleep grant in the amount of \$49,000 was made by Dr. Woodson and seconded by Dr. Munk.

3. 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 May 2021 in the ordinary course of business. Total transfer is \$6,400.00 consisting of changes in various expense categories.

(Resolution 2021.006.079) A motion was made by Dr. Fernandez and seconded by Dave Karmol to approve the Transfer of Appropriations of \$6,400.00. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

4. Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations:

Board of Health Resolution is required to approve changes in Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations for the month of May 2021 in the amount of \$313,996.33 for Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations.

(Resolution 2021.06.080) A motion was made by Dr. Munk seconded by Dr. Woodson to approve the Revenue Estimates and Expense Appropriations of \$313,996.33. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

5. Tina Stokes provided information of the audits which take place annually. Auditors are selected every five years. The Charles E. Harris & Associates firm will be the company that will audit our books for the next five years. The State of Ohio has a list of six companies and selects who will perform the audits for the 5 year period.

6. Parking lot issues: The federal courthouse annex is being built in the space behind the health department building. In the past supervisors and others were given passes to park in the lot owned by the City of Toledo. Like the rest of the staff we are looking to either provide a stipend or secure parking spots

7. Dr. Cadigan has been spending more than his contracted five hours a week on TLCHD activities. This will be further discussed during Personnel Committee Report to increase the compensated hours to ten per week. This was discussed at the Audit/Finance Committee meeting and funds are available.
8. The Committee discussed incentives for employees to be vaccinated. This will be further discussed and brought back to the full board for consideration. We are also looking to celebrate our employees to have recognition for all the staff has done during COVID-19 response.

(Resolution 2021.06.081) A motion was made by David Karmol seconded by Dr. Munk to approve the Audit Finance Report as presented. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

B) Personnel Committee Report – Barb Sarantou

The Personnel Committee met on Monday, June 14, 2021.

- 1) The Personnel Committee recommends hiring Ashley Wright to the position of Human Resource Officer. This person would work directly under Josie Smith, HR Director.

(Resolution 2021.06.082) A motion was made by Dr. Fernandez and seconded by Don Murray to approve the hiring of Ashley Wright. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

- 2) The Personnel Committee is recommending increasing Dr. Daniel Cadigan's hours from 5 to 10 hours a week. After discussion it was decided to table this recommendation until an accountability system was developed to report the hours. Once in place and approved the payment would be retroactive to today's date (June 24, 2021).

- 3) The Personnel Committee is recommending the layoff of Victoria Simpson (July 23, 2021) and Joseph Wood (July 9, 2021). These are Project Coordinators hired to work in COVID-19 Response. It was understood upon hire that these were short-term, temporary positions.

(Resolution 2021.06.083) A motion was made by Don Murray and seconded by Dr. Munk to approve the layoff of Victoria Simpson and Joseph Wood as outlined above. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

- 4) Juneteenth Holiday: The Federal observance of Juneteenth was announced late Thursday, June 17, 2021 which did not give the opportunity to make arrangements for our staff to observe the holiday on Friday, June 19, 2021. The Committee recommends allowing staff to be off on July 2, 2021 in place of that day. In subsequent years, the holiday will be observed on its regular date. Some staff are required to work on July 2nd because of scheduled vaccination clinics. Those staff members will be given the opportunity to take off on July 6, 2021 or be paid overtime.

(Resolution 2021.06.084) A motion was made by Dave Karmol and seconded by Don Murray to approve the observance of Juneteenth as outlined above. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 2021.06.085) A motion was made by Don Murray and seconded by Ted Kaczorowski to approve the Personnel Committee Report. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.

C) Environmental Health Committee – Donald Murray

The Committee met did not meet in June, 2021.

Eric reported a couple of restaurants were closed for various reasons. These are being closely monitored for safe re-opening. When a facility is closed the Board President and Environmental Health Committee Chair is notified

D) Bylaws and Governance Committee – Donald Murray

The meeting was held on June 14, 2021.

- 1) The committee discussed changes to the Bylaws & Governance document to address Midterm Elections when a vacancy occurs. The committee presented the following changes to the Article X, Section 2 the President and Vice President elections. These will be discussed and voted on at a future meeting.

Article X.

Section 2. Board of Health Officers: ~~The~~ Board of Health shall elect a President and a Vice President at the first public meeting of the calendar year. In the event of the resignation of the President before the end of his term, the Board shall elect a President and Vice President in the same manner, at the next regular meeting of the Board.

- 2) A document was distributed to reflect changes in the agency's name in the Bylaws and Governance Document to be consistent throughout the document. This will be presented at a future meeting for consideration.

(Resolution 2021.06.086) A motion was made by Dr. Fernandez and seconded by Dr. Munk to approve the Bylaws and Governance Committee Report. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays

E) Health Services Committee Meeting – Dr. Fernandez

The Health Service Committee met on Thursday, June 17, 2021 and again this morning to finish their meeting.

- Eric Zgodzinski gave an update on the department getting back to our new normal operations since COVID activities are slowing down.
- Clark Allen, WIC Director gave an overview of the program and how the staff worked through COVID.
- Duane Herron, Maternal and Childhood Health Supervisor provided an overview of the programs and his philosophy of leadership and co-leadership of his staff. This gave the Health Services Committee an opportunity to know more from supervisors about what things look like on the ground.
- Eric provided an update on the framework for Childhood Health Promotion. This has been a topic that was introduced two years ago. This is the beginning of a large conversation. We are trying to shift thinking about all the factors of childhood health. It is not just medical care, school, environmental, home, social and other factors beyo9nd the Health Department's walls

- Next meeting will be August 18, 2021 AT 8:00 AM.

(Resolution 2021.06.087) A motion was made by Don Murray and seconded by Dave Karmol to approve the Health Services Committee Report. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays

IX. New Business/Points for Consideration – Eric Zgodzinski

Academic Public Health (APH): TLCHD is an Academic Public Health or an Academic Learning Institution. As an APH we work with higher education institutions to bring in students to obtain experience in public health. This is the bare minimum that most health departments do. We are looking at enlarging the process and program. Coming out of COVID and 2020 as our lost year, we are reengaging academics. The idea is not just to bring in an intern and have them do a project, it is to help improve public health. When dealing with childhood health, there are so many entities in our community and things to be done.

There are issues in our community we have not been able to focus on. That may be because of funding issues or research abilities. The idea of an APH on steroids is to partner with the University of Toledo which has medical and Masters of Public Health programs.

There are many areas within public health such as Human Resources, Finance, 501c3, Environmental Health and others which could link with academic programs. This is not just bringing in a doctor, nurse or sanitarian. We have a lot to offer in training the next generation of public health employees. We could have projects to bring interns in to work on doing research and gathering data. This could foster interest more on public health as a career and possibly become future employees.

Lucas County has health issues: gun violence, food deserts, health inequities and many more. Why don't we become leaders in research in our own backyard and use this to acquire additional funding from the feds or foundations.

The idea for APH became reenergized a few months ago. Dr. Dake from University of Toledo Masters of PH program is our contact. There is a commitment from UT to explore and move this process forward. Over the next several weeks a task force between TLCHD and UT will be developed to explore these possibilities. There are unique opportunities in this community to mold into the APH program. This becomes a win for us, the University and community by using local individuals to study issues, look at fixes and figure how to gain influence with legislation. Data is important. We can provide the research to seek help with funding, additional programs, etc.

Some issues we have had in the past regarding our APH Program has been oversight. We will look at funding sources to have someone who will have oversight of multiple projects and research. As this comes together over the next couple years we could have a very robust program for APH and the ability to understand what is happening in our community and hopefully adjust those issues to improve the community's health. We will be waiting until the classes are back in session to move forward on topics with Dr. Dake on vacation for the next 3 to 4 weeks.

Dr. Woodson since there is a timeline of 3 to 4 weeks setting up a task force, would like to remind the board members that we have had an excellent elective for senior medical students. It is a wonderful program with our health department. We look at this as a part of academic medicine. Discussed for years, has students and people at HD. We put it on hold and discussed to come back after COVID. We had two medical students last year. It was worthwhile for them to know about PH when they go out. As a professor in academic medicine hopes it will be included.

Dr. Ross stated that there are a lot of levels it can happen. We could develop academic connections with public health, business management, and medical school with medical students, interns and residents who are heading for a career in public health. Another advantage is we get to know people here in the community who might want to stay in the community and we have the pick of the litter for new employees in areas of common interest. We have good relationships with the university.

X. Prior Business – Eric Zgodzinski

1. COVID-19 Update


- The Coronavirus dashboard is available online. Currently 199,123 or 46.49% people in Lucas County have either completed or started their vaccines. The 60-64 age group is over the 70% vaccinated. The younger age groups 30 to 39 are lower around 25%.
- We are doing vaccinated clinic being set up around the community.
- TARTA bus sets up almost every day.
- ODH has brought in a mobile unit that has been brought into the community. Getting into underserved areas with the mobile units and will continue doing this for the next couple of months.
- Will be contacting schools in the next month or so to see if they are interested in setting up additional clinics.
- Additional concerns are variants coming in the next 60 days. We have the New York, UK, and California variants. The next one coming is the Delta variant. The vaccine it more infectious but is taken care of by the vaccine. It affects the younger population more. The vaccinations may not be as effective on the Gamma variant.
- Lucas County Rec Center has been a fabulous site for us. Thank you to the County for extending our lease. We are starting to demobilize the site by the first of July. We are shifting to other vaccination sites with smaller crowds getting vaccinated.
- David Karmol suggested to focus on the younger group to get them vaccinated in the schools. The 20 – 35 year olds as more risk takers and they think are invincible and we might be more successful focusing on the high school population vaccinated.
- Dr. Ross gave a report about myocarditis. The myocarditis is caused by COVID. The rate is 1000 times more dangerous for those who get COVID to get the disease than those who get the vaccination.
- Teenagers are more likely to get COVID if they are using E-cigarettes.
- We have had a positive mosquito pool for West Nile Virus in the county. It is tick season and the reports are that they are out there. We use the media to get this information out to the community.
- Eric is doing Coffee with the Commissioners to meet with some of the newer employees who we have not had the opportunity with COVID. The plan is to have everyone in the department go through this and re-engage and assess where we are.
- SWOT has started with staff for our Strategic Plan. This will be used to make needed changes in the department.

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

- Dave Karmol asked about the legislation that would outlaw requirements for vaccinations has been put on pause for now. Eric will have more information after his meeting tomorrow with the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners (AOHC). Dr. Ross sent his personal opinion to the State on this issue.

(Resolution 2021. 06.088) A motion was made by Don Murray and seconded by Dr. Munk to adjourn at 10:37 AM. Motion carried, 9 Yeas, 0 Nays.


Signed By:



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

07/27/21
Date

Attested By:



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

07-26-21
Date