

LUCAS COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
Board of Health Meeting on June 25, 2026
New Building, 1933 Spielbusch Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43604, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order and Roll Call – Amr Elaskary

Amr Elaskary, President, called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. A Roll Call was taken of Board Members for attendance:

Present: Amr Elaskary, David Karmol, Ted Kaczorowski, Dr. Johnathon Ross, Richard Munk, MD, Cheryl Crowder, Susan Postal, Dr. Donna Woodson, and Barbara Sarantou, Sonia Flunder-McNair, and Paul Komisarek

Excused: Matthew Sapara

II. Introduction of Guests – Karim Baroudi

Staff and Visitors: Karim Baroudi, , Kevin A. Pituch (LC Prosecutor), Angie Bauman, Wendy Davis, Tina Stokes, Brandon Palinski, Kendra Sivilie, Scott Francis, Jen Gottschalk, Nathan Fries (AFSCME), Jessica Steinman, and Adrienne Briner.

III. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Karim reported that Dr. Whitman was unavailable to provide the educational presentation. In her place, Jada Barnette and Letcher Jones, Community Health Workers (CHWs) with the Childhood Wellness Program, delivered the presentation.

IV. Approval of Board of Health Meeting Minutes

(Resolution 106-26) A motion was made by Dr. Richard Munk and seconded by Dr. Johnathon Ross to Approve the Minutes of May 28, 2026, Regular Board of Health Meeting. Motion carried; 10 Yeas, 0 Nays.

V. Prior Business/New Business/Health Commissioner's Update – Karim Baroudi

(Resolution 107-26) A motion was made by Paul Komisarek and seconded by Dr. Donna Woodson to rescind the resolution authorizing bonus compensation to the Health Commissioner, at his request. Motion carried; 10 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Legislative Update

- **Update on Bills We've Been Following:**
 - HB 692 – Household Sewage Treatment Systems
 - HB 134 – Microenterprise Home Kitchen
 - HB 314 – Public Records
 - HB 549 – Cigar Bars

- HB 820 – Radon Testing
- SB 230 – Authorize pharmacists to test and treat certain health conditions
- HB 472 – Waive fees for birth certificates for people experiencing homelessness
- **Bills’ Reviewed:**
 - SB 434 – Opioid Consumer Education
 - HB 841 – Healthy Homes Programs
 - HB 849 – Electronic Smoking, Tobacco, Nicotine, Vapor Products
 - HB 856 – Require Health Plans, Medicaid Cover Mental Health Well Checks
 - HB 885 – Enact the Family Home Visits Act

See full Legislative Update attached at the end of the meeting minutes.

- **Board of Health Bylaw’s Revisions**
 - Karim reported that the Board of Health Bylaws will be modernized over the next few weeks to address virtual meetings and update the overall document. The proposed revisions will be presented for discussion at the July 23, 2026, Board of Health meeting.

Dr. Johnathon Ross arrived at 9:11 a.m.

VI. Open Forum Discussion

A. Health Services Committee Discussion – Cheryl Crowder, presented by Dr. Donna Woodson
Dr. Donna Woodson reported that the HIV grant funding has been officially approved.

B. Facilities and Fleet Committee Discussion – Paul Komisarek

Paul reported that the Fleet & Facilities project continues to progress on schedule, with an October move-in anticipated. LED lighting was removed from the project due to cost, all construction permits have been obtained, the guaranteed maximum price is set at \$2.3 million, and progress continues on the generator relocation, fiber loop installation, Erie Street demolition, and weekly project monitoring.

C. Personnel Committee – Barbara Sarantou

The Personnel Committee met on Thursday, June 18, 2026. The following items require Board of Health action:

(Resolution 108-26) On behalf of the committee, a motion to Approve the hiring of Health Communication Specialist, Sarah Velliquette, part-time, classified position, Non-Bargaining Unit, pay rate of \$28.50 per hour has been moved and seconded. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 109-26) On behalf of the committee, the motion to adopt the revised Hours of Work policy has been moved and seconded. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 110-26) A motion was made to Approve the Personnel committee report. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

D. Environmental Health Committee – David Karmol

The Environmental Health Committee met on Thursday, June 18, 2026. The following items require Board of Health action:

(Resolution 111-26) On behalf of the committee, the motion to Approve the variance for 2415 W. Stateline Road, Toledo, Ohio 43612 to the full board of Health has been moved and seconded. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. **Roll call vote.** Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 112-26) On behalf of the committee, the motion to Approve the variance for 5713 Rudyard, Sylvania, Ohio 43560 to the full Board of Health has been moved and seconded. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. **Roll call vote.** Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 113-26) A motion was made to approve the Environmental Health committee report. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

E. Audit and Finance Committee – Amr Elaskary

The Audit and Finance Committee met on Thursday, June 18, 2026. The following items require Board of Health action:

(Resolution 114-26) On behalf of the committee, a motion to Approve the payment of the May 2026 vouchers has been moved and seconded. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 115-26) On behalf of the committee, a motion to Approve the changes in revenue estimates and expense appropriations of \$85,000.00 for May 2026 has been moved and seconded. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Grants

- \$200,000.00, new grant from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill WIC Maternal Health Center for WIC.
- \$350,000.00, continuation grant from Ohio Department of Health for Regional Prevention and Linkage to Care Collaborative.

- \$4,000.00, continuation grant from Ohio Commission on Minority Health for Minority Health Month 2027.
- \$25,000.00 from Ohio Department of Health for Regional Prevention and Linkage to Care Collaborative.
- \$64,945.00 from Lucas County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board for NOSS Support Services.
- \$173,027.00 from the University of Toledo Medical Center for the UT Syringe Access Program.
- \$732,380.00 from Department of Health and Human Services for Healthy Start FY27.

(Resolution 116-26) On behalf of the committee, a motion was made to apply and accept all grants listed above. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Contracts, Agreements, and/or MOU's

- Pathway Inc – Brothers and Sisters United \$90,345.50 to provide 2 full-time CHWs for case management and to provide group services to 100 parents.
- Huey-Shys Chen \$7,000.00 to provide REEP Evaluation services for Minority Health Grant.
- \$64,945.00 from Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County to fund NOSS supplies.
- University of Toledo Medical Center to allow select TLCHD staff access to the UTMCMC Epic HER System.
- The Healing Place of Supportive Partnership to decrease payment by \$55,000.00 (new contract of \$135,000.00 from \$190,000.00) to provide integrated behavioral health services to the Healthy Start Home Visitation Program.
- Lucas County Sheriff's Office to pay additional \$2,500.00 (new contract of \$7,500.00 from \$5,000.00) for naloxone expansion and a peer lead project.
- Resolution #052-26: Laibe Electrical Technology for \$15,680.00 for directional boring and fiber network.

(Resolution 117-26) On behalf of the committee, a motion was made to Approve the above listed contracts, agreements, and/or MOUs listed above in May 2026 Audit Finance committee report. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 118-26) A motion was made to Approve the write-off of uncollectable amounts that are for dates of service at least 180 days or older. Total amount as amended \$692.08 for the month of May 2026. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 119-26) A motion was made to approve the Audit and Finance committee report. If there is no objection, will take a voice vote. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

VII. Legal Update – Kevin Pituch

Legal report to be discussed in Executive Session.

VIII. Executive Session – Kevin Pituch

(Resolution 120-26) A motion was made by Paul Komisarek and seconded by Dr. Richard Munk to enter into Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22 section (G)(3). Conferences with an attorney of the public body as well as section (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official at 10:01 a.m. **Roll Call vote.** Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

(Resolution 121-26) A motion was made Dr. Richard Munk and seconded by Susan Postal to return to Regular Session of the Board of Health Meeting at 11:01 a.m. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Following Executive Session, the Board returned to open session and considered the following resolutions in response to the Local 7 AFSCME grievance filed on May 21, 2026, at the Fourth Step pursuant to Article 9, Section D of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Resolution 122-26: Mr. Elaskary moved to deny the employee's request to be made whole through payment of one week's interest at a rate of four percent (4%). Seconded by Dr. Munk. Motion carried, 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Resolution 123-26: Dr. Richard Munk moved to deny the employee's request for a \$100 reimbursement for alleged poor treatment, stress, and lack of training. Seconded by Mr. Karmol. Motion carried, 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Resolution 124-26: Mr. Karmol moved to grant the employee's request directing management to provide training to employees and supervisors on the proper assignment of account codes for mileage reimbursement entries. Seconded by Mr. Komisarek. Motion carried, 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Resolution 125-26: Ms. Sonia Flunder McNair moved to request that management and staff continue working collaboratively to streamline the agency's mileage reimbursement process and ensure employees are reimbursed as efficiently as possible while maintaining the documentation, internal controls, and accountability standards required of a publicly funded agency. The resolution further recognized that modernization of the process remains ongoing and encouraged all parties to extend professionalism, patience, and mutual respect as improvements are implemented. The Board reaffirmed its expectation that all employees conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of public service. Seconded by Mr. Kaczorowski. Motion carried, 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Upcoming Meetings:

August 27, 2026 – 1933 Spielbusch (New building)

September 24, 2026 – 1933 Spielbusch (New building)

October 22, 2026 – 1933 Spielbusch (New building)

(Resolution 126-26) A motion was made by Susan Postal and seconded by Dr. Donna Woodson to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m. Motion carried; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Signed By:



Amr Elaskary, CPA, CFE, President
Lucas County Regional Board of Health



Karim Baroudi, MPH, REHS
Secretary to the Board of Health

Date: 7/23/2026

Date: 7/23/2026

Board of Health Legislative Update

June 25th, 2026

The General Assembly concluded its spring work last week and recessed for the summer.

Ohio Ax the Tax Campaign and Coalition to Protect Essential Services update.

Ax Ohio Tax, the organization leading the effort to place a constitutional amendment to eliminate property taxes on the ballot, announced last Friday that it was pivoting from trying to put it on the ballot this year to instead place it on the November 2027 ballot. The campaign was clear that they will continue to collect signatures for 2027.

The Coalition to Protect Essential Services will continue its work to raise awareness about the impact of the loss of property tax.

Update on Bills we've been following

HB 692—Household Sewage Treatment Systems

On June 3, the House Health Committee accepted a substitute version of HB 692.

The substitute bill is a significant improvement over the introduced version. In brief, the substitute bill:

- Retains a soil analysis requirement for the primary system while removing that requirement for a replacement area and many newly created lots;
- Changes the 12-month post-installation inspection requirement to an educational assessment;
- Makes local operation and maintenance programs optional rather than mandatory;
- Allows a more practical approach to repairs, reducing the likelihood of unnecessary costly upgrades;
- Creates a statewide ODH registration process for installers, service providers, and septage haulers, with 75% of fee revenue supporting local health departments; and
- Revises the appeals process by shifting appeals to the Sewage Treatment System Technical Advisory Committee.

This week, the bill was amended to change terminology (soil analysis to soil evaluation) and restore current law's process regarding sewage treatment system appeals. By unanimous vote, the Health Committee favorably reported HB 692. The bill passed the House on Wednesday by a vote of 89-2.

HB 134—Microenterprise Home Kitchens:

HB 134 was not scheduled for any hearings. No update.

HB 314—Public Records

The House Judiciary Committee adopted a substitute version of HB 314, which is intended to help local governments manage large public records requests. Key changes include:

- **Use of Private Contractors:** Public offices may still hire private contractors to assist with large requests, but contractors must destroy records after use, cannot profit from records reviewed, and cannot disclose redacted information.
- **Alternative Fee Structure:** Political subdivisions may adopt a new fee schedule based on staff or contractor time spent fulfilling requests. Requests requiring 10 hours or less must be provided at no charge. Fees may range from up to \$25 for 11–20 hours of work to up to \$200 for requests requiring more than 40 hours. Agencies may combine multiple requests if they reasonably believe they were split to avoid fees.
- **Restrictions on Abusive Requesters:** Courts may suspend individuals from making public records requests for up to five years if requests are found to be intended to harass or disrupt a public office. Violations can result in additional suspensions and fines. Requesters who successfully defend against such claims may recover attorney fees and court costs.
- **Exemptions:** Journalists, certain litigants, state agencies, public universities, and public defenders/government attorneys remain exempt from court-imposed request restrictions and are also exempt from the new fee structure. The substitute bill was favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee and passed the House this week.

HB 549—Cigar Bars

HB 549 had its first hearing on June 3 before the Ways and Means Committee. To amend sections of ORC to regulate and exempt cigars smoked on the premises from sales and use tax. It is unlikely this bill will receive further consideration.

HB 820—Radon Testing:

HB 820 had its first hearing in the House Health Committee on May 27, 2026. To require Radon Testing in schools, create home radon mitigation income and commercial activities tax credits.

SB 230—Authorize pharmacists to test and treat certain health conditions.

The Senate Health Committee accepted an amendment that removes the authority for pharmacists to provide treatment for respiratory syncytial virus. The bill was favorably reported by Senate Health Committee and passed by the Senate.

HB 472—Waive fees for birth certificates for people experiencing homelessness.

Changes were made to Ohio House Bill 472 this week during the Ohio Senate General Government Committee. The bill originally started as a bill that would waive fees for birth certificate copies for people experiencing homelessness. Under the bill, absentee voters would be required to show their ID either when they request an absentee ballot or if they submit their ballot in-person. It requires the Ohio Secretary of State, the board of elections, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, and public libraries to provide free copies of electors' photo IDs. The Ohio Senate passed the bill 23-10. The Ohio House voted 60-34 to concur with changes made to the bill. The provisions related to birth certificates:

The bill requires the fees for certain personal documents to be waived for individuals experiencing homelessness. For the fee to be waived, one of the following must verify that the individual is experiencing homelessness:

1. a director or person designated by the director of a government or nonprofit agency that receives funding to provide services to individuals experiencing homelessness,
2. a school social worker, school counselor, or local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths,
3. a director or person designated by a director of either a federal TRIO program or Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Program (GEAR UP), or
4. a financial aid administrator for an institution of higher education.

The fee for each type of document may be waived only once in a 12-month period. H.B. 472 require the Director of Health to waive all fees for a certified copy of a birth record (full birth record), a certification of birth (condensed birth record), or replacement of a birth record if the individual requesting the document is experiencing homelessness. The bill's provisions will become effective 90 days after the Governor's signature.

Bills' Reviewed

- **SB 434—Opioid Consumer Education**, (Senator Reynolds) To require that addiction-related educational materials be provided when dispensing opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines. – Our position will be in “Support”.
- **HB 841—Healthy Homes Program**, (Reps. Salvo, and J. Miller) To require the Director of Health to establish an information and awareness program for mold, lead, radon, and carbon monoxide and to name this act the Healthy Homes Program Act. While supportive of the awareness program, this bill does not address concerns around lack of funding or support for families who may find hazards in their homes. – Our position will be of “an Interested party with concerns”.
- **HB 849—Electronic Smoking, tobacco, nicotine, vapor products**, (Reps. Plummer, and Salvo) Regarding the regulation, registration, licensure, inspection, and enforcement of electronic smoking, tobacco, nicotine, and vapor products retailers. Public Health concerns about specific provisions of the bill, particularly whether it could unintentionally preempt stronger local controls or create loopholes that benefit certain segments of the industry. And, the need for more information regarding the approach to the bill and whether it will reduce youth access. Our position would be to Support the intent of HB 849 to strengthen regulation, licensing, inspection, and enforcement of tobacco and vapor product retailers, while advocating for amendments that preserve local public health authority and ensure strong protections against youth access to nicotine products. (“Support with Amendments”)
- **HB 856—Require health plans, Medicaid cover mental health well checks**, (Reps. Brownlee, and Sigrist). – Our position will be in “Support”.
- **HB 885—Enact the Family Home Visits Act**, (Reps. Brennan, and Humphrey) To require the Children and Youth Advisory Council to develop a plan to establish a universal home visiting program for parents and caregivers of children. While supporting the goal of universal home visiting, concerns with the multiple entities involved in home visiting programs and that the bill does not directly establish the program or appropriate funding. – Our position would be of “an interested Party”.