



# MEETING MINUTES

**Board of Health Meeting**  
**Video Teleconference**  
**March 8, 2021**  
**5:45 p.m.**


	<p><b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</b> Ms. Allen-Bryant, Mr. Cornett, Dr. Dossett, Commissioner Ford, Mr. Friesen, Dr. Hood, Mr. Jabbour, Dr. Jackson, Dr. Jasinski, Dr. Mason, Dr. Moore, and Councilmember Reynolds.</p> <p><b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b> Dr. Humbaugh, LFCHD Staff, LFCHD Council.</p>
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Friesen called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.</li> </ul>
Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Foley called the roll. Dr. Zimmerman was excused. All other Board of Health (BOH) members were present. A quorum was declared.</li> </ul>
Request for Approval of the February 8, 2021 Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Friesen welcomed Dr. Gregory Hood to the Board of Health and offered congratulations to Dr. Jasinski.</li> <li>Dr. Jackson made a motion to approve the February 8, 2021 minutes. Ms. Allen-Bryant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul>
Presentation of Nomination for the 2021 Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Moore reported we received nominations for the Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero Award. Ms. Allen-Bryant, Mr. Hall, and Dr. Moore reviewed the nominations and shared their recommendation that Pastor Richard Gaines and Consolidated Baptist Church receive the award. The nominator noted that Pastor Gaines and the church opened their facility to the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) in 2016 and 2017 for flu shot clinics. Beginning in 2020, Pastor Gaines and Consolidated Baptist Church opened their facility for use during another flu shot clinic, COVID-19 testing clinics, and COVID-19 vaccination clinics. This partnership was offered at no cost to the health department. Pastor Gaines and Consolidated Baptist Church have been supportive of our public health efforts for many years now, and we appreciate them very much.</li> <li>Mr. Friesen thanked the committee for evaluating the nominations and presenting the candidate. Dr. Jackson made a motion to select Pastor Gaines and Consolidated Baptist Church for the 2021 Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero Award. Dr. Hood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul>
Presentation of the First Quarter 2021 CARES Award Winner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Humbaugh congratulated and recognized Erin Perry, one of LFCHD's exemplary school health nurses, as the winner of the first quarter 2021 LFCHD CARES Award. The CARES award is presented quarterly to an employee who demonstrates one or more of our CARES</li> </ul>

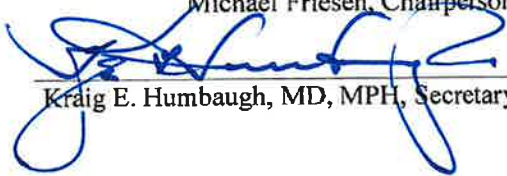
	<p>values (Caring, Accountability, Respect, Equity, and Service) and is selected by a committee of LFCHD staff, who are chosen at random.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Perry’s nominator said they had worked with her more than three years and that she has been caring, kind, professional, and patient since day one. She serves as an approachable and humble mentor for school health nurses, participates fully in staff meetings, and assists new hires, even after onboarding is complete. Ms. Perry has worked closely with response staff during the pandemic, and has served as department point-person with local colleges and universities. She is also the nurse at Bryan Station High School. Dr. Humbaugh congratulated Ms. Perry.</li> <li>• Ms. Perry offered gracious thanks and said it was an honor to receive this award. She has enjoyed the opportunity to work more closely with staff all around the health department during the pandemic.</li> </ul>
<p>Commissioner’s Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Humbaugh presented the Commissioner’s Report. Dr. Humbaugh also welcomed Dr. Gregory Hood to the Board of Health (BOH). Dr. Hood’s background and experience will be invaluable in helping us achieve our mission of “helping Lexington be well”. We are looking forward to working together. Dr. Hood said he was pleased to join us. Dr. Humbaugh also congratulated Dr. Jasinski.</li> <li>• Dr. Humbaugh shared the floor with Dr. Moore, who announced she would be resigning from the BOH after April. She has enjoyed working with the board. Dr. Humbaugh said we have appreciated her time on the BOH, particularly in her work with the LFCHD Communications team. All wished her the best going forward.</li> <li>• Terms expire for eight BOH members at the end of June 2021. Ms. Foley will be reaching out to those members regarding the process to apply for an additional term. Dr. Humbaugh hopes all will continue their good work as Board of Health members.</li> <li>• March 6 marked one-year since the first COVID-19 case was identified in Lexington. We have appreciated the additional support the BOH has given LFCHD and the community. Challenges over this year have included contact tracing, case investigations, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) shortages, quarantines, testing, at-home testing, compliance with the governor’s COVID-related orders, mask wearing, social distancing, and, now, vaccinations. Dr. Humbaugh said he was grateful to the LFCHD team for their good work over this year. He was grateful for the hidden talents of staff that were revealed as many had their roles modified during the response. He said we are also grateful for the many volunteers who have assisted since the beginning of the response. Our call center has received more than 35,000 phone calls. We have had more than 32,000 COVID-19 cases and over 230 deaths in Fayette County. We mourn these losses. We appreciate that local businesses and entities cooperated to help “flatten the curve” in the early stages of the response and continued to cooperate as the response continued.</li> <li>• Over the past eight weeks, we have seen a decrease in daily case counts, the positivity rate, and hospitalizations. We are seeing 50-60</li> </ul>

	<p>cases a day now. We are now vaccinating the phase 1C population, which is the largest group yet in Fayette County. At this time, vaccine supply continues to be limited. We received a small amount of the one-dose Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, which we shared with local Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the detention center, in order to vaccinate their high-risk populations. We continue to receive around 800 Moderna doses each week. Today, the CDC updated their guidance on mask-wearing and social distancing for those who have been vaccinated. In the summer, as we move toward a “new normal”, we will have an opportunity to examine how LFCHD should operate moving forward. COVID-19 leave for employees expires at the end of March. Around two-thirds of LFCHD staff have received at least the first dose of vaccine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) reaccredited LFCHD for another five years. We are very excited to receive reaccreditation, following a challenging process made more difficult by the pandemic. Dr. Humbaugh thanked Katrina Howard, who led our reaccreditation efforts, and all staff who were involved. Ms. Howard said she held an activity with staff that illustrated how all LFCHD teams are impacted by reaccreditation. She said our department serves as a model in Kentucky and that she also hears from agencies outside the state for guidance in the PHAB reaccreditation process.</li> <li>• First floor renovations will be completed in the next ten days. A few items will remain, but will be resolved by the contractor in evenings or over weekends.</li> <li>• Mr. Cornett said LFCHD has maintained credibility in achieving its vision of “moving Lexington toward being one of the healthiest communities in the nation” throughout the COVID-19 response. Councilmember Reynolds agreed and said she has been very impressed by Dr. Humbaugh’s leadership and the department’s response to the pandemic. She said LFCHD staff and Dr. Humbaugh have done a great job.</li> <li>• Environmental Health continued to seek overdue fees from foodservice establishments, which were due December 31, 2020. The grace period has now ended. We are directly contacting foodservice businesses who have not paid. Those who have not paid their fees by March 10 will be closed the following day.</li> <li>• Dr. Humbaugh said school health staff have returned to their schools. It is a different classroom environment now. We are signing an addendum to the contract with Fayette County Public Schools so nurses can administer rapid COVID-19 tests. School Health nurses have been very helpful throughout the response.</li> </ul>
Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive: Mr. Friesen thanked Katrina Howard and LFCHD staff for their work on PHAB reaccreditation and congratulated the team on achieving the goal. Mr. Friesen said all board members are welcome and encouraged to serve on committees. Those interested may reach out to him or Ms. Foley to learn more.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance: Mr. Cornett asked Ms. Kay to present the Finance Committee report. Ms. Kay reported a surplus of \$7.59 million compared to a budgeted surplus of \$2.23 million. Year-to-date revenues were 116% of plan while operating expenses were 76% of plan. Current cash account balances of \$29.49 million were up from \$22.66 million the same time last year. Response contractor expenses were being paid by LFCHD as of February 1. Previously, the Department for Public Health (DPH) had been paying these expenses. This change will begin being reflected in the next finance report. Response-to-date, we are at a deficit of around \$500 thousand. Ms. Kay is pleased with the level of reimbursements we have received from the state and federal government.</li> <li>• The state legislature is considering several bills that would impact LFCHD. House Bill 8, the level-dollar funding bill, would define the amount we would need to contribute to the Kentucky Employee Retirement System (KERS) each year. Having these numbers remain consistent would help us be more thoughtful in planning, especially in terms of hiring. House Bill 8 was passed back from the state Senate to the House for final changes and review.</li> <li>• At last review, the state budget had increased funding to offset the increased contribution rate to KERS. The Senate recommended any decrease in subsidy be matched by a decrease in the contribution rate.</li> <li>• The Finance Committee approved liability tail coverage for Dr. Humbaugh for the first five years after he has left the agency.</li> <li>• Marketing and Branding: No report.</li> <li>• Nominating/Bylaws: No report.</li> <li>• Program Outcomes/Evaluation: No report.</li> <li>• Policy Policy/Protocol: No report.</li> <li>• Ad Hoc: Mr. Friesen said we are talking with candidates for Commissioner of Health, but remain early in the recruitment process.</li> </ul>
Communications Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Hall presented the Communications Report. He thanked the board for selecting the Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero award winner. We are moving forward with completing the mural project. The current mural will not be replaced, but simply covered over. The new mural will be placed on panels installed in front of the current mural. Funds from the LFCHD Communications budget will support the project.</li> <li>• Last week was our first vaccine clinic for those in phase 1C. A link to register was placed on our website. If you know someone who needs to sign up, but does not have computer access, you may refer them to our call center. The 700 appointment spots for vaccinations available today were filled in less than seven hours.</li> <li>• We continue outreach to African-American and Hispanic communities to provide information about and opportunities for vaccination.</li> <li>• Kentucky Sports Radio will be broadcasting live from 10:00 a.m. to noon during our March 10 vaccination clinic at Consolidated Baptist Church.</li> </ul>
Open Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Cornett made a motion that the Board of Health enter into and conduct a closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c), specifically, to</li> </ul>

	<p>discuss proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the Board of Health and/or the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Health Department. This discussion will be limited to claims against LFCHD by a non-employee related to services provided to LFCHD during the pandemic, and the settlement discussions regarding the same. Mr. Jabbour seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board entered closed session at 7:03 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Mason made a motion to exit the board closed session. Mr. Jabbour seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board exited the closed session at 7:08 p.m.</li> </ul>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Friesen requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jabbour made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.</li> </ul>

  
 Michael Friesen, Chairperson

  
 Craig E. Humbaugh, MD, MPH, Secretary