



# MEETING MINUTES

**Board of Health Meeting  
Video Teleconference  
January 10, 2022  
5:45 p.m.**

	<p><b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</b> Commissioner Allen-Bryant, Mr. Cornett, Dr. Dossett, Dr. Feld, Mr. Friesen, Dr. Gomez, Dr. Hood, Mr. Jabbour, Dr. Jackson, Councilmember Reynolds, and Dr. Riley.</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 5:45 p.m.</li> </ul>
Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Foley called the roll. A quorum was declared. Dr. Mason was absent.</li> </ul>
Request for Approval of the December 13, 2021, Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The December 13, 2021 Board of Health (BOH) meeting minutes were considered. Dr. Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Gomez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul>
LFCHD School Health Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yolanda Loveless, school health manager, presented a report on the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) school health program. She introduced school health team leaders Carol Jung and Erin Perry. She introduced Jill Keys, our clinical services officer. She listed the staff that make up the school health team:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 35 registered nurses (RNs)</li> <li>➢ 2 team leaders</li> <li>➢ 1 nurse manager</li> <li>➢ 1 licensed practical nurse (LPN)</li> <li>➢ 1 administrative assistant</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The school health program provides full-time coordination of the nursing program for Fayette County Public Schools (FCPS). Services are provided in 31 elementary, 11 middle, and 9 high schools, as well as in 7 academic and alternative programs.</li> <li>• School health services include acute and chronic illness assessment and monitoring, prevention and surveillance services, teacher and staff medical consults, health education and training, and field trip prep.</li> <li>• Student sick visits are mostly for injuries and illness. In the 2020-2021 school year (including summer school), LFCHD nurses had more than 13,000 health visits. 81.4% of students were sent back to class following the visit, 17% were sent home, and a very small number were sent to another FCPS staff member or to the hospital.</li> <li>• LFCHD school health nurses provided assessment and monitoring of</li> </ul>

diabetes, nutrition, catheters, seizures, and asthma, while also providing medication management and behavioral management.

- The Kentucky Oral Health Program provided funding for nurses to provide fluoride varnishing. From 2017-2020, nearly 3,000 students received varnishing services.
- LFCHD is represented by nurses on the FCPS Health and Wellness committee. LFCHD staff also attend Individual Education Plan (IEP) and 504 plan meetings, as well as school-based committee meetings. Staff assist with Individualized Health Plans (IHPs) and Emergency Action Plans (EAPs).
- School health nurses provide medication and medical procedures training for FCPS employees, school staff, cafeteria workers, and bus drivers/monitors.
- Nurses provide surveillance and screenings services for immunization, vision, dental screens, and infection control, as well as data entry for physicals and other screens/exams.
- Nurses provide BinaxNOW COVID-19 rapid tests and guidance for isolation and quarantine.
- During the pandemic, nurses have seen increased student and staff sick visits, increased workloads, and additional meetings. Nurses assisted with mass vaccination clinics and Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR) entry.
- Amendments to the school health contract provided summer school nurses coverage and full-time nurses in middle schools.
- In 2022, school health will continue to develop strategies to meet the challenge of recruiting and retaining nurses, will develop a schedule for fluoride varnish training, and will phase in full-time nurses in elementary schools, per FCPS requests. Staff are also working to extend the contract with FCPS for an additional two years after June 30, 2022.
- Mr. Cornett said our school health program provides valuable services to the community, though many may not realize all that the nurses do. Dr. Hood asked if we know how many ambulance runs are due to chronic, rather than acute issues. Ms. Loveless said most cases leading to transport to hospital are related to injuries. Dr. Jackson asked if schools place nurses, or if we have a rubric we use to place them. Ms. Loveless said FCPS coordinates with us to plan nurse placement, based on data from previous school years. Dr. Humbaugh said nurses who serve more than one school are, when possible, placed in schools that are near each other. Dr. Zimmerman asked if EpiPens are kept in a standard location. Ms. Loveless said all schools have them in the cafeteria and many have them in nurse offices, as well. Dr. Humbaugh thanked Ms. Loveless for her presentation and noted that about a quarter of all LFCHD staff work in the school health program. Healthy children grow up to be healthier adults, so this program is important. LFCHD is one of only a few health departments in Kentucky that offer this program. Mr. Friesen thanked Ms. Loveless for the presentation.

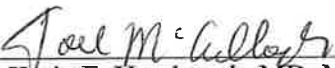
<p>Future Board of Health Meeting Logistics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Friesen said that, due to the large number of new COVID-19 cases, he recommends the Board of Health meet virtually-only in February and to continue to meet virtually until the positivity rate and case numbers decline.</li> </ul>
<p>Commissioner's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Humbaugh presented the commissioner's report. We are seeing more COVID-19 cases now than at any other time during the pandemic. It has been challenging since the holidays to keep up with cases. Before the holidays, we were seeing 200 cases per day, which was a high number. Now, however, we are seeing around 750 cases per day, though the true number is even higher, due to the backlog in cases we are experiencing. This is the first time we have had a backlog. It appears the Omicron variant is less severe in terms of illness, but since there are so many cases overall, hospitalization numbers have increased. 80% of hospitalizations are in the unvaccinated. We have streamlined interviews and established a mechanism for positive COVID-19 cases to contact us.</li> <li>• The CDC has updated the recommendation for asymptomatic cases to isolate for five days, rather than the previous ten day recommendation. Our epidemiologists are working with IT on an electronic survey that can be sent to positive cases to capture data. Cases in vulnerable populations and settings continue to be a focus. Our data will not be as good this year, due to the backlog and due to at-home test results not being reported to us. At-home tests can help families respond to cases within their families.</li> <li>• We have seen 480 COVID-19-related deaths over the course of the pandemic. We are working to hire ten (10) contractors each week to help respond to the high number of cases.</li> <li>• The CDC has released new guidance, including boosters being available to children ages 12-17 and to those who received mRNA vaccinations five months or more ago. We continue to work with Fayette County Public Schools to share guidance.</li> <li>• Fayette County continues to have the highest vaccination rate in the state of Kentucky, with 75% of our population having had at least one dose. 63% are fully vaccinated. We are seeing higher numbers in the 5-11 age group.</li> <li>• We continue to see high numbers of tuberculosis (TB) cases. We currently have 12 cases, but saw 10 or more cases across the entire year.</li> <li>• Councilmember Reynolds asked how quarantine days are counted. Dr. Humbaugh said day zero is either the day you tested or the day you developed symptoms. On the sixth day following day zero, you are out of isolation, unless you have symptoms. Isolation should continue until you have had at least 24 hours symptom-free without the use of fever reducers. Dr. Hood reported internal medicine guidance indicates home tests are notably less accurate for the Omicron variant. Dr. Humbaugh said the virus may be more concentrated in the throat area, rather than the nasal cavities, which could a factor in the accuracy of the tests.</li> </ul>

	<p>Dr. Feld asked if our syphilis numbers are increasing. Dr. Humbaugh said they are, as well as rates for other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). Harm reduction services also continue to be in high demand. Dr. Gomez asked about data not being captured for at-home tests. Dr. Humbaugh said data has been accurate for the past two years because we received notice of all cases. Since at-home tests are not being counted going forward, databases will be less reliable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Friesen thanked Dr. Humbaugh for his presentation.</li> </ul>
<p>Interim Chief Administrative Officer Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica Cobb presented the interim chief administrative officer report. Ms. Cobb said LFCHD had weather-related closures last week. We closed early, but some staff were stuck on the interstate for hours. We were closed all day on Friday. The response continued on Friday, via telework. We have put measures in place to catch up on case data entry. We are assisting those who need paperwork to return to work or school. We are coordinating with community partners to prioritize cases. The LFCHD call center has been very busy. There is a lot of confusion regarding isolation and quarantine guidance. We have many LFCHD staff who are assisting in the call center. They've seen more than 175 calls each day. Today, they had 229 calls.</li> <li>• IT successfully upgraded our firewall and our REDCap server, which has improved the system.</li> <li>• Dr. Steve Davis is contracted to provide physician services until Dr. McCullough is in place. We are sending Dr. Davis meeting invites so he will have situational awareness for the response.</li> <li>• We continue to work on a salary survey to boost retention for nurses, social workers, health educators, and others. Ron Horseman is working with Hannah Resource Group to accurately evaluate our positions compared to the market.</li> <li>• The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) annual report is due soon. Katrina Howard is working to submit documentation so we may complete the process by the end of January.</li> <li>• The new generator, located at 650 Newtown Pike, is capable of powering the entire building, which is a capacity we have not enjoyed before. During the generator inspection process, a water line that needs to be moved was noted. The fence around the chiller unit needs to be replaced. We will go out to bid for that project.</li> <li>• The Board of Health retreat will be held Friday, March 18, 2022. We will continue to look at in-person or virtual options as the meeting date nears. We are going to recommend hosting the event at the health department, which will allow board members who have not yet seen the facility to do so. Tours would be available. Staff are working on the agenda and will provide more details, when available. Mr. Friesen thanked Ms. Cobb for the report. Dr. Humbaugh thanked Ms. Cobb and said she has done an excellent job in this role.</li> </ul>
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive: Mr. Friesen said Dr. Humbaugh covered everything the committee had discussed in its meeting during his report. He welcomed Dr. McCullough to the meeting.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance: Mr. Cornett, committee chair, introduced Cara Kay, to present the report. Ms. Kay reported November is when we receive tax appropriations from the city. Year-to-date, our local income line item is at \$7.1 million. This put us in a year-to-date surplus position of \$4.1 million. We are in a nearly \$32 million cash position in our “rainy day” fund. Funding for response expenses are uncertain to a degree at this time, though we do anticipate continuing to receive reimbursements for response expenses.</li> <li>• We finalized moving to ADP for payroll services. We are awaiting a project manager to be assigned so we can continue preparations for the transition to ADP from the Vibe payroll system. We will put out an RFP for a payroll system once the emergency situation has resolved. A number of fraudulent checks were presented to our bank over the holidays. All funds were recovered and we have a plan in place with the bank to mitigate this risk.</li> <li>• The finance committee approved a \$150 dollar pre-tax incentive for staff to receive a COVID-19 booster shot. We believe being boosted is a great way to keep our staff healthier and in the office. The finance committee moved to cancel the line of credit we had with our bank over the last decade, since it is unlikely to be needed over the next several years. Mr. Cornett asked how many LFCHD employees remain unvaccinated. Dr. Humbaugh said around 70% of employees took advantage of the incentive that was offered for proof of initial vaccination, though we cannot confirm the exact number who remain unvaccinated. Mr. Friesen thanked Ms. Kay for her presentation.</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: No report.</li> </ul>
Communications Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kevin Hall presented the communications report. Misinformation on the topic of COVID-19 continues to be a challenge. He encouraged board members to help share the information we are sharing and to reach out to him if board members need resources to help spread the facts.</li> <li>• Due to the case entry backlog, we have changed how daily numbers are presented on our public website. We had seen a lot of interest in how people can help us with reporting cases. Individuals can contact the health department directly to report a positive COVID-19 case. We encourage people to visit our website at <a href="http://www.lfchd.org">www.lfchd.org</a>.</li> <li>• For contact tracing, if the case occurs outside high-risk settings, such as long-term care facilities, we are not doing contact tracing at this time. Other counties have adopted similar plans.</li> <li>• Flu continues to be seen in Fayette County. The LFCHD Public Health Clinic offers both flu and COVID-19 vaccinations, mainly through same-day appointments. We are encouraging those who come in for one to consider receiving the other, as flu and COVID-19 vaccination</li> </ul>

	<p>guidance allows both shots in the same visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have additional Health Access Nurturing Development Services (HANDS) billboards going up in Lexington. They will be in place over the next four months.</li> <li>• The Herald-Leader had a nice farewell interview with Dr. Humbaugh. Board members may contact Kevin Hall if they would like the link to the interview. Mr. Friesen thanked Mr. Hall for his presentation.</li> </ul>
Open Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Foley said she wanted to say thank you, as we enter a new year, to the Board of Health and to all the staff of the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department for their dedication, endurance, and commitment to the mission of “helping Lexington be well”. Board members also expressed appreciation to Dr. Humbaugh for his tenure as LFCHD Commissioner of Health. All affirmed gratitude to Dr. Humbaugh for his leadership.</li> </ul>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Friesen requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jabbour made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.</li> </ul>

  
 Michael Friesen, Chairperson

  
 Kraig E. Humbaugh, MD, MPH, Secretary