

MEETING MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting 650 Newtown Pike March 13, 2023 5:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Kacy Allen-Bryant, Jack Cornett, Dr. Lee Dossett, Dr. Hartley Feld, Dr. Maria Gomez, Dr. Gregory Hood, Dr. Rodney Jackson, Councilmember Jennifer Reynolds, and Dr. Elizabeth Riley. OTHERS PRESENT: LFCHD Staff, LFCHD Counsel.
TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	Dr. Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.
Roll Call	Ms. Foley called the roll. Attendance was as recorded above. A quorum was declared. Mr. Friesen, Mr. Jabbour, Dr. Mason, and Dr. Zimmerman were excused.
Request for Approval: February 13, 2022 Minutes	• The February 13, 2023 Board of Health (BOH) meeting minutes were considered. Mr. Cornett made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Hood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Commissioner of Health Report	 Dr. Owens-Collins presented the commissioner's report. She noted the infectious disease report was included in the meeting materials. Changes to Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) organizational structure were presented and discussed. J. Cobb said we would like to make changes to the Community Health division and we are requesting to make Executive Assistant positions Coordinator positions, since they were not reviewed in the salary survey and are below market. We would like to add an infectious disease team leader to take some of the supervisory load. The epidemiology coordinator position would be replaced by a data analytics position. Dr. Owens-Collins said Matthew Bone has accepted the technology officer position. Dr. Owens-Collins is interested in hiring a marketing manager who would help evaluate our services, including feasibility studies such as for a potential telehealth model and ROI analysis for program evaluation. The marketing manager would work closely with the communications officer and technology officer. Public relations work would continue to be performed by the communications officer. Dr. Owens-Collins said the marketing manager would do marketing for LFCHD, and also market analysis for the potential telehealth program. These potential changes will be discussed in the executive committee.

- Dr. Dossett asked about the recent measles case. J. Cobb said there is one confirmed case. The cases we were monitoring have passed the 21-day mark, which is good news since no further cases were identified. Mr. Cornett said that before we start interviewing for the compliance officer, the executive committee should have an opportunity to discuss. If the compliance officer is going to report directly to the Board of Health, board bylaws will need to be revised. Mr. Cornett said the board may also wish to participate in interviews for all officer positions. Dr. Feld asked about the telehealth program that was mentioned. Dr. Owens-Collins said we are looking at setting up a school health telehealth program. We could rent a provider network, which would allow lower level nurses to serve in schools. Dr. Hood said we don't want to send the message that adequate care can be provided by lower level nurses. Dr. Owens-Collins said she and some of the officers are going to a three-day regional conference which will have sessions on school telehealth. She said we would be going to schools that do not have an existing clinic and that we would try a pilot before fully launching the program. J. Keys said Health First Bluegrass lets FCPS know in which schools they would like to place clinics. There are currently ten such clinics. LCHD covers around 56 schools and special programs, and any school that does not have a clinic has an LFCHD nurse. Dr. Owens-Collins said there is an epidemic of children with type-1 diabetes in our community and she would like our school health employees to help them manage their diabetes.
- J. Cobb, Community Health Officer, and Kala Adams, Infectious Disease and Preparedness Manager, presented information on the LFCHD public health preparedness program.
- An executive order signed by Mayor Gorton approves our Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). LFCHD is the coordinating agency for Emergency Support Function (ESF) number eight. Depending on the nature of the emergency, ESF #8 supports monitoring hospital bed availability and diversion for over-capacity hospitals. We may operate a functional access needs shelter if a general shelter is opened. We can distribute Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) and vaccines. We also share public health and safety information and identify available resources.

Public Health Preparedness

- LFCHD preparedness staff coordinate EOC coverage and are trained to respond to phone calls directed to ESF #8. A list of local health and medical facilities was shared, which listed hospitals and behavioral health centers. Long-term care facilities and the regional blood center are among numerous other medical care facilities.
- There have been 16 significant events since 1978, including winter and ice storms, high wind events, tornadoes, and a train derailment in Georgetown in 2018. COVID-19 began status as a public health emergency in 2020. That emergency continues as of this date. Public health emergencies are often declared federal emergencies, which may appropriate funds and resources, especially in the case of an emerging infectious disease threat.
- The phases of emergency management were sharing, including preparedness, prevention, response, recovery, and mitigation. Emergency

- plans developed and used include a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP), the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), a disease outbreak support plan, a biohazard detection system, and a medical needs shelter plan.
- LFCHD has an emergency phone number (859-335-7071), which is available 24/7. After business hours, an answering service contacts on-call staff. In addition, the *ReadyOp* system serves as our emergency notification system for staff. LFCHD receives emergency notifications from the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH). LFCHD leadership is notified and we have an on-call schedule to identify staff who respond after hours. Preparedness staff are also notified. After notification, an Incident Command Structure (ICS) is set up and key community partners are identified. The ICS is built based on the event or situation. During the pandemic, the ICS included expanded operation areas, including epidemiology, clinical services, environmental and community health, and logistics. COVID-19 vaccination clinics required additional leads for areas including volunteers, traffic control, IT, and facilities. Operational meetings are set. Frequency of the meetings is based on need. We have found, especially during the pandemic, the ability to be flexible and to quickly pivot is key to operational success.
- We did not open a medical needs shelter following the recent wind storm. Councilmember Reynolds said her community was asking for these shelters to be set up. J. Cobb said the Red Cross has historically been the agency to setup such shelters. Commissioner Allen-Bryant said the Red Cross will not setup a shelter until people are unhoused. J. Cobb said if we setup when the Red Cross has not yet done so, we would have to assume many functions that the health department does not normally perform.
- We are looking at working with local churches to see if we can coordinate service missions in the community. Dr. Riley asked what the capacity is for other providers. J. Cobb said we do not know at this time, but the LFUCG Division of Emergency Management (DEM) would be the lead on a general shelter. Councilmember Reynolds said the city council will conduct an after-action meeting on the effects of the wind storm. Commissioner Allen-Bryant asked how may calls we received following the wind storm. J. Cobb said we can check with Ralph McCracken, our Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, for an exact number. Dr. Hood would like Board of Health members to receive emails with the details in situations such as the recent wind storm. Dr. Owens-Collins would like us to participate with the EOC and the city for an after-action review of the storm. L. Foley will email board members the list of ESF functions.

Committee Reports

- Executive: Dr. Jackson reported Dr. Owens-Collins covered committee topics in her report. Several board members have terms expiring June 30, 2023. L. Foley will send the link to reapply to those members.
- Finance: Mr. Cornett invited Cara Kay to present the committee report. Ms. Kay reported January financials. We had a year-to-date surplus of \$5.28 million compared to a budgeted surplus of \$3.13 million. Year-to-date revenues were 99% of plan, while operating expenses were 84% of plan. The current cash account balance was \$39.46 million, up from \$33.11 million this time last year. We have around \$2.4 million in the capital

- budget. We continue to draw down funds for the COVID-19 response. Pandemic funding will continue through the end of FY24.
- The LFCHD investment policy was approved internally. We have a resolution for the board that will give Dr. Owens-Collins and Cara Kay the ability to invest, with committee approval, on behalf of the finance committee. The first market purchases should be made in coming weeks. Investments will be reported on a quarterly basis, at a minimum.
- Two dozen air scrubbers were placed in the building at 650 Newtown Pike today by ServPro. ServPro will change filters in the scrubbers at least every three days. In coming weeks, contractors will clean the building's two air handlers over two long weekends. Testing indicates the air handlers are mold hotspots. After major cleaning is complete, we will re-test air quality. Phase 2 of the remediation project will require an RFP to replace ceiling tiles and cleaning or replacing floors, as well as some cosmetic items. A WIC grant may help fund some work on the first floor.
- J. Cornett made a motion that the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Board of Health pass and agree to the terms set forth in the master resolution and authorization between the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Health Department and PNC Bank, as presented, and to authorize the Commissioner of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Health Department, as Secretary for the Board of Health, to execute and deliver the master resolution and authorization on behalf of the board. Dr. Feld seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Drs. Jackson and Owens-Collins signed the approved resolution.
- Marketing and Branding: Dr. Gomez said the five-member subcommittee met to review candidates for the Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero Award last week. Three strong candidates were nominated. The subcommittee voted unanimously to select Dr. Kraig Humbaugh as the recipient of the award. Dr. Humbaugh is a pediatrician and public health expert who served at the Louisville Metro Health Department and as the epidemiologist for the state of Kentucky at the Department for Public Health, Dr. Humbaugh also served as Senior Deputy Commissioner of Health for Kentucky. He came to Lexington to begin serving as Commissioner of Health in 2016 and made a huge positive impact in the community. He worked with a myriad of community and public health partners. Kevin Hall noted the award is in its 20th year and that the award has a strong tradition of presenting candidates that have made a huge contribution to Lexington. Dr. Gomez made a motion to select Dr. Kraig Humbaugh as the 2023 Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero Award winner. Dr. Hood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. K. Hall will contact Dr. Humbaugh to let him know. The winner will be recognized during the April Board of Health meeting. We will announce the winner publicly on April 3. The city council also recognizes and honors the award winners each year.
- Program Outcomes/Evaluation: J. Cobb said we have been talking with Dr. Owens-Collins about making this committee more active. Jeanette Hart was introduced as the new LFCHD Quality Manager and congratulations were shared.

Public Comment	None presented.
Adjournment	 Dr. Jackson requested a motion to adjourn. Dr. Dossett made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Cornett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7.29 p.m.

Rodney A. Jackson, Chairperson

Leah on behef-Sheila Owens-Collins, Secretary Mason