



Hancock Public Health

Board of Health

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 20th, 2023, 7:30 a.m.



BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

- X Brian Edler, Board President
- X William Alge, Esq.
- X Karen Jones, MSN, RN
- X Michael Lindamood, M.D.
- X Nancy Moody-Russo, RN, JD
- X Barbara J. Pasztor, MSN, RN (arrived 7:45am)
- X Robin Spoons

STAFF:

- X Shannon Chamberlin, Nursing Director
- X Alexa Heacock, Help Me Grow (HMG) Director
- X Chad Masters, Health P&P Director
- X Cheryl Miller, PR/Marketing Coordinator
- X Craig Niese, IT/Data Manager
- X Laura Reinhart, Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) Coordinator
- X Lindsay Summit, Environmental Health (EH) Director

- X Karim Baroudi, MPH, Health Commissioner
- X William Kose, M.D., Medical Director

1.0 CONVENTION

1.1 Call to Order

President Edler called the Regular BOH meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

President Edler asked for clarification on the reasoning for the 10/20/23 BOH meeting being held in the HPH Large Conference Room rather than Board Room. Mr. Niese reported he is testing out a new conference meeting recording audio device received through a grant from Wood County HD, who purchased such recording devices for all health departments in the region via grant. Mr. Niese stated the new device has more specialized camera/sound differentiating detection.

1.2 Introduction of Public, Guests, and Staff

1.2.1 Kalynn Sommers, HPH Peer Support Specialist; New hire, introduction to the Board.

1.2.2 Lindsay Summit, MPH, REHS, EH Director, Assistant Health Commissioner. Ms. Summit briefed the Board on the “2023 Mosquito Program” activities from May through August of 2023 via slide presentation. The HPH Mosquito Program is funded via a grant from the Ohio EPA, and HPH will be applying for same grant for the 2024 season. Mr. Alge asked how staff determine location of mosquito catch basins; Ms. Summit stated the Vector Control Intern reaches out to the mayors of each village/city to determine what areas of each region might be showing high mosquito counts. Mr. Alge asked if mosquito catch basins are set on private properties; Ms. Summit answered no, this may create liability issues. Mr. Alge asked for a definition of “mosquito dunk.” Ms. Summit stated a dunk is a pellet that can be placed in any water source (safe for animals) that helps to kill mosquito larvae, thus controlling the adult mosquito population in any given area. Ms. Jones asked why there are increased catch basins in Blanchard Township. Ms. Summit stated each township sets

traps based on perceived need, often related to large water sources drawing social events (i.e., river, kayaking, park events). West Nile virus cases in Hancock Co. have decreased significantly from 2012 to 2023, based on HPH mosquito program collection data. Ms. Summit emphasized to the Board the importance of educating the public on why HPH sprays for mosquitos, as residents sometimes believe spraying is randomly determined. Rather, Ms. Summit stated mosquito spraying is solely based on prevention, dependent on disease collection data (i.e., West Nile virus positive results in any given region), also spraying at large public gatherings, and sometimes spraying in private neighborhoods secondary to complaints of higher mosquito activity (private regional spraying is discussed between HPH and Mayor's office for best public prevention outcome). Ms. Summit encouraged the Board to educate the public on the preventative reasons for HPH mosquito spraying.

2.0 BOARD MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Approval of 10/20/23 Agenda Items

2.2 Approval of 9/15/23 Board Meeting Minutes

2.3 Approval of September 2023 Bill Schedule

2.4 Staff Reports

2.4.1 Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) Services – Laura Reinhart, CNP, Coordinator/Provider

2.4.2 Health Planning & Promotion – Chad Masters, MPH, Director

2.4.3 Community Health Services – Shannon Chamberlin, RN, Nursing Director

2.4.4 Help Me Grow (HMG) Home Visiting Program – Alexa Heacock, RN, Program Manager

2.4.5 Environmental Health (EH) Services – Lindsay Summit, MPH, EH Director

2.4.6 IT/Data Management Services – Craig Niese, BS, Manager

2.4.7 Health Commissioner's Report – Karim Baroudi, MPH, HC

Regarding Item 2.3 above, September 2023 Bill Schedule: President Edler noted the Pfizer vaccination budget line appeared significantly higher than normal compared to past years. Ms. Chamberlin explained HPH has not yet been required to purchase COVID vaccines due to State provisions in the past, thus the Pfizer vaccine (which is considered expensive - \$120.00 per shot) was not initially included in the 2023 vaccination budget. Commissioner Baroudi stated he has spoken with other Health Commissioners in the region who report similar situations with unexpected budget needs for pre-purchased COVID vaccine. Mr. Alge asked if cost is expected to be a deterrent to residents getting COVID boosters. Mr. Baroudi stated customers with insurance will have coverage for vaccines and, for customers with no insurance, there are many helping programs that will offer voucher payments. However, Mr. Baroudi opined that the Board of Health may need to consider providing COVID vaccines to customers who have no insurance AND who do not qualify for helping programs.

Ms. Jones asked if HPH planned on purchasing Moderna vaccine. Ms. Chamberlin stated there are no plans to purchase Moderna yet, waiting to "see where Moderna sits," as it has been rumored that Moderna may not continue vaccine production and also that larger vaccine corporations have lesser capacity to cater to smaller health agencies who require smaller batches. Ms. Pasztor asked if HPH will offer Novavax; Ms. Chamberlin stated not at this time. Mr. Baroudi stated no clients have asked for Novavax and that HPH currently needs to be

watchful of vaccine inventory related to budget. Mr. Alge stated he read an article indicating Pfizer vax cost has doubled.

Dr. Kose stated there is no evidence contraindicating patients receiving different brands of vaccines, however, Dr. Kose opined there will be decreased COVID vaccine administration in 2023 due to cost concerns.

Regarding Item 2.3 above, September 2023 Bill Schedule: President Edler asked if HPH tracks mileage and potential overuse of company vehicles; Commissioner Baroudi answered yes.

Regarding Item 2.3 above, September 2023 Bill Schedule: Mr. Alge asked if the Dexcom program has a method of receiving expense leverage for the A1c cartridges. Ms. Reinhart answered that Dexcom Corporation has provided HPH with some reimbursement, but she was not sure of exact reimbursement amounts. Mr. Alge asked if HPH is tracking all Dexcom-incurred expenses; Ms. Reinhart answered that she is tracking all Dexcom stock and Mobile Health Clinic stock as separate expenses.

Regarding Item 2.4, Subitem 2.4.1 above, Mobile Health Clinic: Mr. Alge asked if the Dexcom program staff are keeping track of why patients drop out of the study. Ms. Reinhart answered she does not conduct formal exit interviews; however, she cited the two most common drop-out reasons have been time constraints and technological inconveniences.

Regarding Item 2.4, Subitem 2.4.2 above, Health Planning & Promotion: Dr. Lindamood asked for clarification on report of 636 cases of hepatitis C in Hancock County in 2023. Mr. Masters reported this number was a typo; Mr. Masters confirmed with Brittney Nye (Fatality Review) that there were 636 Project Dawn Kits distributed and only 56 hepatitic C cases (numbers were accidentally reversed). The cited 56 hepatitis C cases is actually a reduction from the typical approximate 100 cases compared to previous years, per verbal report of Mr. Masters.

Regarding Item 2.4, Subitem 2.4.4 above, Help Me Grow: Ms. Heacock announced one item that was not included in her Board report; HMG Program was recently approved for an expansion grant from the State, thus allowing for the hiring of an additional home visitor.

Regarding Item 2.4, Subitem 2.4.6 above, IT/Data Management: Mr. Niese announced that the Nursing Clinic remodel project will probably not have final funding until 11/2023, however, HPH is on a time completion deadline to have the remodel spent and finished by 07/2024. Meetings with architect are commencing.

President Edler requested motion to approve Section 2.0, Consent Agenda, including all Items and Subitems, as written in the pre-prepared Board reports provided earlier in the week to the Hancock County Board of Health members and as detailed above. **Ms. Pasztor moved to approve Section 2.0.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 7-0.**

3.0 BOARD ACTIONS/REGULATIONS/VARIANCES/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

3.1 Board of Health to **APPROVE APPROPRIATION INCREASE** for Fiscal Year ending 12/31/23:

3.1.1 General Fund, Vaccine Line Item, in the amount of **\$104,000.00**

President Edler requested motion to approve Item 3.1, including Subitem 3.1.1, as detailed.

Ms. Jones moved to approve Item 3.1, as above. Seconded by Dr. Lindamood. **Motion carried 7-0.**

3.2 Board of Health to **APPROVE FIRST READING** of Proposed 2024 Environmental Health Fee Schedule (attached).

Ms. Summit summarized the Environmental Health Fee Schedule in detail to the Board and provided explanations for cost increases related to 2024 food licensing and food safety training fees. President Edler stated food-related fees are projected to increase in almost all Ohio county health departments for 2024. President Edler further explained to the Board that, although there are increases in HPH food-related fees proposed for 2024, even the increases in Hancock County are less than many other current license fees among other county health departments in the region. Mr. Alge asked for clarification of the different risk levels assigned to food facilities in determining licensing fees; Ms. Summit defined Risk Levels I-IV and verbalized examples for Mr. Alge.

Ms. Summit requested that the Board consider reducing the State-recommended cost-analysis-based 2024 fee for combined tattoo/piercing establishments, as the 2024 State-recommended fee would more than double from the 2023 fee (with the 2023 fee being \$210.00 and proposed 2024 fee being \$463.00). Ms. Summit emphasized her goal is to prioritize safety of body art establishments as opposed to prioritizing significant fee increases. Ms. Summit's proposed 2024 fee request for combined tattoo/piercing establishments is \$350.00 versus \$463.00.

President Edler requested motion to approve Item 3.2, as detailed. **Dr. Lindamood moved to approve Item 3.2 with all listed 2024 Proposed Environmental Health Fees, as above, with the exception of changing the 2024 Fee for Combined Tattoo/Piercing Establishments from \$463.00 to \$350.00.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Commissioner Baroudi conducted roll call related to Item 3.2 above:

Roll Call: **Mr. Alge (Bill): YES**

Ms. Moody-Russo (Nancy): YES

Mr. Edler (Brian): YES

Ms. Pasztor (BJ): YES

Ms. Jones (Karen): YES

Ms. Spoor (Robin): YES

Dr. Lindamood: YES

3.3 Board of Health to **APPROVE SECOND READING** of Proposed \$175.00 Heplisav-B Vaccine Fee
Notes: Previously our clinics only offered Engerix-B; the difference between the two vaccines is Heplisav-B contains an adjuvant, an agent that can help boost the immune response to the vaccine. Engerix-B (vaccine we previously used) does not contain an adjuvant. Heplisav is administered in two doses over one month compared to Engerix-B that is administered in

three doses over a six-month schedule. Hepelisav-B demonstrated a statistically significantly higher rate of protection at 95% after one month when compared with Engerix-B at 81% after six months.

President Edler requested motion to approve Item 3.3, as detailed. **Ms. Jones moved to approve Item 3.3, as above.** Seconded by Ms. Spoons. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Commissioner Baroudi conducted roll call related to Item 3.3 above:

Roll Call: Mr. Alge (Bill): YES Ms. Moody-Russo (Nancy): YES
Mr. Edler (Brian): YES Ms. Pasztor (BJ): YES
Ms. Jones (Karen): YES Ms. Spoons (Robin): YES
Dr. Lindamood: YES

3.4 Board of Health to APPROVE SECOND READING of COVID Vaccine Proposed Fees:

3.4.1 Vaccination Fee of \$150.00, including Pfizer brand for patients 12 years of age and older and \$150.00 for Moderna brand administered to adult and pediatric patients.

3.4.2 Vaccination Fee of \$100.00 for Pfizer brand administered to patients 6 months of age through 11 years of age.

President Edler requested motion to approve Item 3.4, including Subitems 3.4.1 and 3.4.2, as detailed. **Dr. Lindamood to approve Item 3.4, as above.** Seconded by Ms. Jones. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Commissioner Baroudi conducted roll call related to Item 3.4 above:

Roll Call: Mr. Alge (Bill): YES Ms. Moody-Russo (Nancy): YES
Mr. Edler (Brian): YES Ms. Pasztor (BJ): YES
Ms. Jones (Karen): YES Ms. Spoons (Robin): YES
Dr. Lindamood: YES

4.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4.1 September 2023 Financial Report and Analysis – Karim Baroudi

Commissioner Baroudi summarized 2023 revenue trends, referencing detailed information from the Board packet provided to BOH members earlier in the week for pre-meeting review. Mr. Baroudi stated revenue is consistent with previous years. No questions or concerns voiced by the Board regarding the September 2023 Financial Report.

Ms. Summit reported to the Board that the Supply Line (listed as the third highest expense for 2023) is slightly skewed due to funds spent on said Supply Line coming primarily from grant monies that needed to be spent down on allowable office supply items.

President Edler recommended to Commissioner Baroudi that at least a five-year budget comparison be included in future financial reports, going back to 2019 through present for an informative comparison of pre- and post-COVID financing. Commissioner Baroudi agreed.

President Edler initiated discussion on consideration of HPH using some revenue to collect interest that might contribute to future rainy-day funds. Commissioner Baroudi stated the County Commissioners are merely administrators of the HPH budget, but that Hancock County Board of Health is the governing body assigned to make decisions regarding HPH day-to-day budget operations. However, Mr. Baroudi stated he would not want to lock a significant portion of funds in the event of an emergency arising with need for immediate access of funds (i.e., such as pre-purchasing vaccinations that are unexpectedly higher than anticipated). President Edler suggested putting some money in liquid funds which currently are receiving 4.85-5.12% interest from daily in and out monies; annually, this amount of interest could potentially pay for a future emergency expense such as the recent purchase of the Pfizer vaccine. President Edler stated he is unsure of the daily budget flexibility but recommended that it might be worth someone on the Board of Health looking into this matter. Commissioner Baroudi stated the Board of Health has complete control of finances and if the Board of Health wishes to go in that direction, that would be entirely possible. Ms. Summit stated HPH would not be permitted to use any grant monies in interest-based accounts. President Edler hypothesized that with even \$500,000.00 in an interest-based account with current in/out daily monies, the return could be as much as \$24,000.00 in extra funds annually. Casual verbalizations of agreement were made by various Board members. No other formal discussion ensued.

4.2 Medical Director – Dr. William Kose

Immigration Population: Dr. Kose briefly discussed the importance of community collaboration in working with the increasing immigrant population in Hancock County. He stated he had spoken with Cheryl Miller about a physician from Venezuela who may be interested in helping; Dr. Kose will follow up with Ms. Miller and the State Medical Board on this issue.

Addiction Task Force: Mr. Masters and Dr. Kose are involved with the Addiction Task Force of Hancock County, which recently passed a resolution in opposition to Issue 2 – legalization of the recreational use of marijuana. Dr. Kose stated the reasoning for opposition from a public health stance is lack of consistent research in support of recreational use.

Health Fair: Dr. Kose reported eight pre-diabetic individuals were identified at the recent University of Findlay Health Fair, and the fair was attended by 500 folks expressing interest in nutritional education. Dr. Kose initiated a brief discussion about the best way to educate the public on any public health issues – he opined one of the best ways is to identify individuals not covered by health insurance and referenced that Dexcom was going to be the “biggest project anyone has done anywhere.”

Community Health Improvement Plan: Reports should be submitted soon, report to Board should be by the end of 2023. Dr. Kose and Commissioner Baroudi are in the process of discussing CHIP goals for 2024.

Mosquito Commentary: In reference to Ms. Summit’s Mosquito Program Inservice, Dr. Kose stated there are suspicions throughout the general population that pesticides may contribute to the development of Parkinson’s disease; however, he emphasized that there are risks and benefits to all issues, but the most important action to take is careful follow-up data to any program implementation.

RSV: Mr. Alge asked for an update on RSV and RSV vaccinations. Dr. Kose stated RSV vaccines are currently available in the community and HPH is following the recommendations of State

regarding RSV vaccinations. In the past, testing for RSV was not done; however, due to increased awareness of positive RSV cases during the COVID pandemic and due to fourteen people dying of RSV in 2022, RSV testing and vaccinations are now increasingly recommended. Ms. Chamberlin stated more people are asking about RSV vaccinations, but one challenge is the rollout/availability of the vaccine. Ms. Chamberlin reported HPH is preparing to order the pediatric RSV vaccine, but there has been debate about whether or not HPH should offer adult RSV vaccines, due to anticipated availability of the RSV vaccine at other agencies county wide and also due to poor insurance reimbursement of the RSV vaccine. Ms. Jones asked about RSV vaccine individual cost; Ms. Chamberlin stated she was not sure; Dr. Kose stated he heard it was \$350.00 per vaccine. Ms. Heacock reported an increased number of senior citizens asking about RSV vaccine availability at 50 North as of the weekend before the current Board meeting. Ms. Pasztor stated that most RSV cases have been fairly mild so far with minimal to no hospitalizations.

COVID: Commissioner Baroudi updated the Board on COVID trends, reporting the spread of the most recent COVID outbreak continues to be in control in Hancock County, with Mr. Baroudi opining that herd immunity may be beginning; however, there is no seasonal COVID outbreak pattern identified yet. COVID test kits are being offered at no charge through HPH currently, with the State providing an increased number of free test kits starting 08/2023.

5.0 OLD/NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Personnel: Kalynn Sommers, Peer Support Specialist, to join Harm Reduction Team 10/16/23

6.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

6.1 A request to the Board of Health to recess into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee. Pursuant to (G)(1) of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Commissioner Baroudi requested motion to move the 10/20/23 Regular Board of Health Meeting into Executive Session at 8:49 a.m. **Dr. Lindamood moved to approve the Executive Session of the BOH on 10/20/23 for the above-detailed issues.** Seconded by Ms. Spoons. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Commissioner Baroudi conducted roll call related to Item 6.1:

Roll Call: Mr. Alge (Bill): YES	Ms. Moody-Russo (Nancy): YES
Mr. Edler (Brian): YES	Ms. Pasztor (BJ): YES
Ms. Jones (Karen): YES	Ms. Spoons (Robin): YES
Dr. Lindamood: YES	

Ms. Moody-Russo motioned for the Board to move out of Executive Session at 9:50 a.m. Seconded by Ms. Pasztor. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Exiting Executive Session, The Board of Health did not consider taking any action.

7.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION

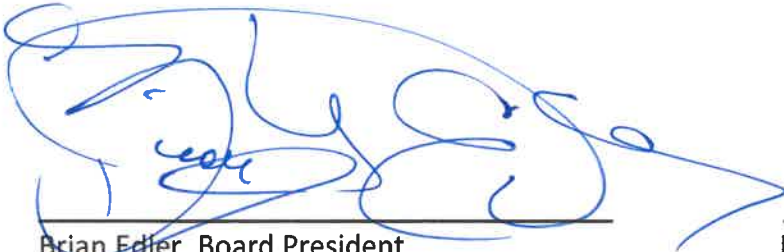
7.1 Board Continuing Education 0.25 Units will be offered for participating in the “2023 Mosquito Control” Presentation.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

8.1 Friday, 11/17/23, 7:30 a.m., Hancock Public Health, 2225 Keith Parkway, Findlay, Ohio.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Edler requested motion for adjournment of the Regular 10/20/2023 Board of Health meeting. **Ms. Spors motioned the Board of Health to adjourn the Regular Meeting of 10/20/2023 at 9:53 a.m.** Seconded by Mr. Alge. **Motion carried 7-0.**



Brian Edler, Board President



Karim Baroudi, MPH, Board Secretary