

COLUMBUS BOARD OF HEALTH  
Meeting Minutes  
District Administration Conference Room / MS Teams Hybrid Meeting

**Date:** March 22, 2023

<p><b>Presiding:</b> James Lopez, DDS</p> <p><b>Attending Board Members:</b> Sylvester McRae, MD, Joy Adegbile, MD; Danielle Frazier (City Mgr. office), Yasmin Cathright</p> <p><b>Not Present:</b> Devica Alappan, MD, Rebecca Covington (Mayor’s Office)</p> <p><b>Others Present:</b> Beverley Townsend, MD; Tori Endres; Joanne Strickland; Steve Gunby; Pam Kirkland; Michelle Crawford; Brandi Nelson, Kristi Ludy; Berta Cox; Jeananne Polhamus (MCSD), John Ellis, Jacqueline Knight</p>			
Agenda Topic	Discussion	Decision	Responsibility
<b>Call to order</b>	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.</li> <li>• Acknowledged a quorum was present.</li> </ul>	Roll call was done by Berta Cox. A quorum was present.	None
<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <p>Referred to the March meeting agenda as delivered to all board members. With no questions or discussion from the members, asked for a motion for approval of the agenda.</p>	Motioned by Dr. Adegbile to accept Agenda as written; seconded by Dr. McRae; approved by all members present.	None
<b>Discussion and Approval of Minutes</b>	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <p>Referred to minutes from February 22, 2023, meeting as delivered to all board members. Yasmin Cathright asked for one correction to the minutes. Remove M.D. from behind my name, I am not a physician. With no other questions or discussion from the members, asked for a motion for approval of the minutes.</p>	Motioned by Dr. Adegbile to accept minutes with noted changes; seconded by Dr. McRae approved by all members present.	Berta Cox will correct minutes as requested.
<b>Commissioner of Health Report</b>	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <p>Called for the Director’s report.</p> <p>Dr. Townsend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduced new HR Director John Ellis for our district.</li> </ul>	None	None

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduced new Administrative Assistant III Jacqueline Knight for District Administration,</li> <li>• Announced the 93rd GPHA Annual Meeting and Conference will be held May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at Jekyll Island. Berta Cox sent out information if you are interested please let her know.</li> <li>• Thanked the Board of Health for their continued support to Columbus Health Department.</li> </ul> <p>No further comments/questions</p>		
<b>Financial Report</b>	<p>Joanne Strickland, District Administrator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presented the FY23 financial overview as of February 28, 2023, emailed to all members and provided in notebooks for in-person members.</li> <li>• Our FY23 current budget is \$10,771,776. There have been three budget revisions during this period. Line 3 shows total expenses through the end of February are \$7,771,951.29 which is above target for 8 months of operations and is 72% of our budget. Line 4 shows the comparison of expenses to last year with an increased variance of \$3,272,058.93. This is due to the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) mentioned previously that all employees received, and we are also now centralized for payroll and accounting. Line 5 shows total fee income is \$727,938.77 and lines 6 through 17 shows the breakdown of fund sources and their comparison to the same time last year. Line 18 shows variance at a decrease of \$25,134.14 due mostly to less COVID19 vaccines being administered. Line 19 shows the prior year admin claiming income, which we received an increase of \$61,074.13.</li> </ul> <p>As always, we provide the backup spreadsheet by line item for expenses and revenue sources. Page 4 shows the total grants governed by the Columbus Board of Health (all are on target for 8 months of operation).</p> <p>No further comments/questions.</p>	The Financial Report is attached and made a part of these minutes.	None
<b>Excused Absences</b>	Dr. Devica Alappan.	None	None

<b>Old Business</b>	<p>Dr. Lopez: Status of sink hole in parking lot at Columbus Health Department Building on Veterans Parkway.</p> <p>Joanne Strickland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stated the city did make contact after our last BOH meeting to inform us that they are working with their Risk Management Division and the City Attorney’s office on the matter and are trying to get it resolved.</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asked the purpose of them seeking legal counsel concerning the sink hole.</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Townsend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explained that another entity was the cause of the sink hole so that is why the city has retained legal counsel.</li> </ul>	None	None
<b>New Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>		
<b>Program Reports</b>	<p><b>Epidemiology COVID 19 Update</b> – Brandi Nelson, Epidemiologist Supervisor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covid Indicators have shown a decrease in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.</li> <li>• Learning how to make it normal in day to day operations.</li> <li>• Monkey pox – no new cases reported since November 2023.</li> <li>• Notifiable disease condition reporting -all Georgia physicians, laboratories, and other health care providers are required by law to report patients with the following conditions. This was updated in March and some of the language has been updated. The link to review this information is <a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/disease-reporting">https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/disease-reporting</a>.</li> </ul> <p>No further comments/questions.</p>	Program reports are attached and made a part of these minutes.	None
<b>Program Reports Continued</b>	<p><b>Public Information</b> Pam Kirkland, Public Information Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two press releases for March about Childrens Health Fair and Georgia Preteen Vaccine Week.</li> <li>• We did 4 interviews about Fathers in the family reduce violence, Senior Spring Expo, Cure Violence, Children’s Health Fair.</li> <li>• Social Media Posts contained Public Health on Wheels Columbus and district; Georgia Strong Families Storytime event; Childrens Health Fair; Safe Kids Newsletter; Enrichment Services Registration; Senior Expo; Stewart County Community Yard sale; Upcoming Medicaid changes; Women’s Health-International</li> </ul>		3

Women's Day.

- TV/Radio/Print/Cable Specific/Social Media/Billboard Campaigns
- You Tube Channel – West Central Health District-TV commercials and videos, “This is Public Health.”

No further questions / comments.

**Environmental Health** – Kristi Ludy, Environmental Health Director

Referred members to the Environmental Health report of activities covering the month February 2023.

- The Food and Service program has 680 permitted establishments, and 65 permitted schools. For the period February 1<sup>st</sup> – February 28th we have conducted 0 temporary food service inspections, 75 routine inspections, 1 follow up inspections, 7 initial inspections and 7 plan reviews. There were 8 informal inspections and 6 complaints and 5 complaint investigations.
- Public Swimming Pools, Spas, & Recreational Water Parks Program has 27 permitted public pools, conducted 9 permitting/opening inspection, 1-re-inspection for permitting and investigated no complaints.
- Tourist accommodations have 56 permitted establishments. We conducted 6 routine inspections, 1 informal inspection, 0 plan reviews, investigated 1 complaint.
- Body Art Studios – 21 studios and 74 permitted body artists, no routine inspections at this time and conducted 0 permitting/opening studio inspection.
- Rabies Control - there were 26 humans only exposure investigations, 1 animal-only exposure investigations and 0 human/animal exposure investigations, 17 animals were confined, 1 animal tested for rabies and 9 lost animals.
- Vector Control Program investigated 16 complaints.
- On-Site Sewage Management Program issued 2 new system permits, 4 residential Installation Inspections, 2 repair permits, conducted 0 repair inspections, 0 sites were evaluated, 3 currently permitted sewage removal contractors, 0 septic pumper vehicle inspection and 2 complaints and 2 investigations.
- Pages 13 – 18 are the scores for all establishments that were inspected during the period.

- Page 19 is an addendum with links to the new State Body Art Rules and Regulations and GA DPH 2022 Mosquito Surveillance Report.

No further questions / comments.

**Nursing** – Michelle Crawford, County Nurse Manager

Referred to the FY23 Nursing report, emailed to all members and provided in notebooks for in-person members, representing services provided to patients for the time of July 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023.

- Total patients receiving services during the reporting period is 7,804 in comparison to 12,970 at the same time last year.
- Community awareness activities continue Muscogee County Attendance Panel (MCAP), via Zoom Monthly. Children in Needs of Service Panel (CHINS), via Zoom Monthly. Child Fatality Review (CFR), via Zoom Monthly, Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meeting monthly (face to face and via Zoom)
- Community collaborations continue with providing community education on COVID-19 as needed/requested.
- Activities for this time frame include continued COVID-19 drive through testing with LTS Monday – Friday from 9am – 2pm, COVID-19 vaccines Monday – Friday no appointment required, Monkey Pox Vaccination Clinic, Monday-Friday, Fast track clinic for STD testing and awareness, Covid-19 conference call with district staff and Nurse Managers each month, day care immunization Audits, MOU’s and MOA’s with several community partners for various services, such as PPD’s and immunizations, Scoliosis Screening for 6th & 8th grades.
- Strike Team Events for this time frame include St. Francis Flu Clinic, Columbus Dream Team, E.J. Knight, Clafin.
- Upcoming Activities include continue COVID-19 and vaccines with current schedule, Child Health Fair, Saturday March 18th, Public Health Week.

No other questions / comments.

<b>Adjourned</b>	Dr. Lopez adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.		
<b>Respectfully submitted by:</b> Berta Cox, District Admin Operations Liaison			
<b>NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING</b>			
<b>Date/Time:</b> April 26, 2023, at 1:00 PM		<b>Place:</b> In-person: Administration Conference Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, 2100 Comer Ave and via Teams Virtual Meeting (or phone)	