

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

Date: January 25, 2023

<p>Presiding: James Lopez, DDS</p> <p>Attending Board Members: Danielle Frazier (City Mgr. office) Rebecca Covington (Mayor’s Office), Devica Alappan, MD, Yasmin Cathright, Joy Adegbile, MD</p> <p>Not Present: Sylvester McRae, MD</p> <p>Others Present: Beverley Townsend, MD; Tori Endres; Joanne Strickland; Steve Gunby; Pam Kirkland; Michelle Crawford; Kristi Ludy; Brandi Nelson; Berta Cox; Dottie Hall</p>			
Agenda Topic	Discussion	Decision	Responsibility
Call to order	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Called the meeting to order at 1:01pm. • Acknowledged a quorum was present. 	Roll call was done by Berta Cox. A quorum was present.	None
Approval of Agenda	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <p>Referred to the January 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. Alappan; seconded by Dr. Adegbile; approved by all members present.	None
Discussion and Approval of Minutes	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <p>Referred to minutes from December 7, 2022 meeting as delivered to all board members. With no questions or discussion from the members, asked for a motion for approval of the minutes.</p>	Motioned by Yasmin Cathright; seconded by Dr. Adegbile approved by all members present.	None
Commissioner of Health Report	<p>Dr. Lopez:</p> <p>Called for the Director’s report.</p> <p>Dr. Townsend:</p>	None	None

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeted those present attending in the District Administration Conference Room and those attending via MS Teams. • Announced that our Program Manager Asante' Hilts has left the department to become the CEO of Valley Health Care. She was a huge asset during the pandemic, and she did a lot of good things in Public Health. • Informed Board we currently have position openings for a Program Manager and a Human Resources Director. Currently Lagrange District HR director is covering for that position, and I am covering the program manager position. • Announced and congratulated Kristi Ludy as our new District Environment Health Director. She previously held the position of Deputy Director of EH. • Announced that we are currently updating our strategic plan and have held one meeting already. We have sent out two surveys to Board of Health Members by email and really need them to be filled out and returned. We know where we have been and where we are now, but we need to know where we are going post Covid. 		
Financial Report	<p>Dr. Lopez: Called for financial report.</p> <p>Joanne Strickland, District Administrator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the FY23 financial overview as of December 31, 2022, emailed to all members and provided in notebooks for in-person members. • Our FY23 current budget is \$10,444,728. There has been two budget revisions during this period. Line 3 shows total expenses through the end of December are \$5,006,237.45 which is below target for 6 months of operations and is 48% of our budget. Line 4 shows the comparison of expenses to last year with an increased variance of \$1,904,056.62. This is due to the COLA mentioned previously, the cost-of-living adjustment that all employees received, and we are also now centralized for payroll and accounting. Line 5 shows total fee income is \$540,508.09 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 \$56,098.60 due mostly to less COVID19 vaccines being administered. Line 19 shows 	<p>The Financial Report is attached and made a part of these minutes.</p>	<p>None</p>

	<p>the prior year admin claiming income, which we received an increase of \$61,074.13.</p> <p>As always, we provide the backup excel 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 6 months of operation).</p> <p>No further comments/questions.</p>		
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Excused Absences	Sylvester McRae, MD	None	None
Old Business	<p>Dr. Lopez: Status of sink hole in parking lot at Columbus Health Department Building on Veterans Parkway.</p> <p>Dr. Townsend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informed Board the sinkhole in the parking lot is getting larger. The city did get us higher barriers however the sinkhole has still not been repaired. We have spoken directly to Ms. Goodwin at the city. We also had an employee ticketed by City police for parking in a space next to handicap parking place and she has a handicap placard but was following our direction due to limited parking spaces. I want the ticket to be voided because it is not the fault of employee. <p>Danielle Frazier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested to please email me and Isiah Hughley, City Manager so we can try to figure out what the plans are on getting lot repaired and assistance with ticket. 	None	None
New Business	<p>Joanne Strickland, District Administrator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FY22 Audit has been sent electronically to each of the Board of Health Members for your review. Let us know if you would like a paper copy and we would be happy to send you one. An Audit Summary of the report will be presented at the next board meeting. 	None	Joanne Strickland

<p>Program Reports</p>	<p>Epidemiology COVID 19 Update – Brandi Nelson, Epidemiologist:</p> <p>Monkey Pox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of January 22, 2023, there have been 30,000 confirmed Monkeypox/Orth poxvirus in the United States; 2,000 in Georgia. There has been estimate of 60 female cases, but the majority being male and 97% being African American men; 32 in our district with 97% males and 3% females.; age groups 0-17 there is one case; 18-25 there are six cases; 26-35 there are seventeen cases; 36-45 there is six cases; 45+ age group there is two cases. <p>COVID 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed cases 37,324 to date 14 days Confirmed cases per 100K is 130 cases COVID-19 probable antigen cases to date:7,751 14-day probable Ag cases per 100K:52 14-day PCR% Positivity rate: 17.3% 7-day PCR% Positivity rate: 15.8% Level of transmission: high Total hospitalizations:3,259 Total confirmed deaths:793 “Fully vaccinated” “47% Primary series breakthrough cases:18% <p>Influenza</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Widespread flu activity across the state of Georgia Promote vaccinations Remain at home if ill Practice prevention measures: proper handwashing, cover your cough, encourage masking, and cleaning/disinfecting. <p>Dr. Lopez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announced that David Reznik DDS/Chief, Dental Medicine Grady Health System and the President and founder of the HIV and Dental Alliance is also on the state board for Infection Control, and he recently sent him some information regarding the monitoring of water in dentist offices. He would like to see public health monitor this in the future. <p>No further comments/questions.</p>	<p>Program reports are attached and made a part of these minutes.</p>	<p>None</p>
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Program Reports Continued

Public Information Pam Kirkland, Public Information Officer:

- Two press releases for December and January about firework safety and starting the new year with healthy eating.
- January 11th, we talked about cervical cancer awareness and promoted our BCCP program.
- We did 3 interviews about the flu vaccines.
- Ledger Inquire did a story about a rabies case where a raccoon attacked a police officer and a citizen. It talked about what to do and how to prevent rabies.
- Interview about Covid vaccines and boosters and prevention.
- Social Media Posts contained Public Health on Wheels locations through out our district; severe weather updates; Covid updates; staying health through the winter; benefits of drinking water.
- Faith and health monthly meetings
- Video of Flu vaccine being administered.
- WIC campaign
- STD Campaign

No further questions / comments.

Environmental Health – Kristi Ludy, Environmental Health Director

Referred members to the Environmental Health report of activities covering the months of November and December and a copy of the new State of Georgia House Bill 1443 which was emailed to all members and provided in notebooks for in-person members.

- The Food and Service program has 678 permitted establishments, and 65 permitted schools. For the period November 1st – December 31st have conducted 0 temporary food service inspections, 139 routine inspections, 2 follow up inspection, 11 initial inspections and 4 plan reviews. There were 7 informal inspections and invested 6 complaints.
- Public Swimming Pools, Spas, & Recreational Water Parks Program has 41 permitted public pools, conducted 2 permitting/opening inspection, 0-re-inspection for permitting and investigated no complaints.
- Tourist accommodations has 55 permitted establishments. We conducted 14 routine inspections, 4 informal inspections, 0 plan

	<p>reviews, investigated 3 complaints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body Art Studios – 18 studios and 73 permitted body artists, no routine inspections at this time and conducted 0 permitting/opening studio inspection. • Rabies Control - there were 67 humans only exposure investigations, 1 animal-only exposure investigations and 1 human/animal exposure investigations, 37 animals were confined, 4 animals tested for rabies. • Vector Control Program investigated 35 complaints. • On-Site Sewage Management Program issued 8 new system permits, conducted 5 repair inspections, 2 sites were evaluated, and 3 complaints was investigated. • Pages 3 – 8 are the scores for all establishments that were inspected during the period. • State of Georgia House Bill 1443 came into effect on January 1, 2023. Previously all Mobile Food Units had to obtain a permit in each county of operation. The new bill states that if they have a valid permit for their base of operation and their mobile food unit they will no longer need a permit in each county that they operate their mobile unit. They will now be required to receive an “Authorization to Operate” approval from that county. The difference is that the authorizing county will not be required to inspect the mobile unit, however they will have the ability to perform an inspection if needed. <p>No further questions / comments.</p> <p>Nursing – Michelle Crawford, County Nurse Manager</p> <p>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 December 31, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total patients receiving services during the reporting period is 6,349 in comparison to 11,464 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. Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meeting monthly (face to face and via Zoom) 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, School based flu clinics and school immunization Audits. • Strike Team Events for this time frame include World AIDS Day, St. Francis Flu Clinic, Columbus Dream Team, and Still Mill Food Mart. • Upcoming Activities include continue COVID-19 drive through testing with LTS Monday – Friday from 9am – 2pm, continue administering COVID-19 vaccines Monday – Friday no appointment required. <p>No other questions / comments.</p>		
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Adjourned	Dr. Lopez adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.		
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Respectfully submitted by: Berta Cox, District Admin Operations Liaison

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING	
Date/Time: February 22, 2023, at 1:00 PM	Place: In-person: Administration Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 2100 Comer Ave and via Teams Virtual Meeting (or phone)