

Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
April 11, 2016
Minutes

1. Call to Order

At 6:30 p.m., President Tracey Puthoff, called to order the regular session of the Board of Health of Hamilton County General Health District, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Members

Members Present: Tracey Puthoff, President
Dr. Kenneth Amend
Jim Brett
Thomas Chatham
Mark Rippe

District Staff Present: Timothy Ingram, Health Commissioner
Greg Kesterman, Assistant Health Commissioner
Craig Davidson, Assistant Health Commissioner
Nee Fong Chin, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Mike Samet, Public Information Officer
John Teufel, Finance Officer
Dr. Stephen Bjornson, Medical Director

Guests: Kris Tracy, Loveland Schools, Clean Kitchen Award Winner
Ken Anton, Woodlawn Dairy Queen, Clean Kitchen Award Winner
Kristin Weinrich, Woodlawn Dairy Queen, Clean Kitchen Award Winner
Teresa Coile, Woodlawn Dairy Queen, Clean Kitchen Award Winner
Ryan Adcock, Cradle Cincinnati

3. Clean Kitchen Awards

Mr. Kesterman read the list of 16 Clean Kitchen Award recipients. One of the recipients, Loveland Schools, has received the award each year (six) since the award's inception. Ms. Tracy accepted the award on behalf of Loveland Schools, along with congratulations and thanks from the Board of Health members. Also, Ms. Weinrich accepted the award for Woodlawn Dairy Queen.

4. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Amend moved to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2016 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All aye.

5. Special Presentation: Cradle Cincinnati – Infant Mortality in Hamilton County, Ryan Adcock, Executive Director

In accordance with Public Health Accreditation Standard: 12.3.1 (Diseases and Health Equity), training for Board of Health members, Mr. Adcock presented a 15 minute session on year-end results for infant mortality and the Cradle Cincinnati initiative in Hamilton County. A total of 508 infants died in Hamilton County from 2011-2015, for a rate of 9.3 per 1,000 infants. That placed Hamilton County at 219 of 231 counties in the country with populations greater than 250,000.

Mr. Rippe asked how Hamilton County ranked within Ohio. Mr. Adcock responded that Ohio's rate is 6.8, above the U.S rate of 5.8. Cradle Cincinnati is focusing on three initiatives to reduce infant mortality: sleep position; father involvement and community involvement. In addition, he reported that the number of infants born to opioid-addicted mothers had doubled in the past few years. Finally, Mr. Adcock identified spacing between pregnancies and smoking as primary drivers of pre-term birth.

6. Health Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Ingram discussed upcoming changes in leadership at the Cincinnati Health Department.

In addition, he provided an update on potential shared services in medical gas inspection with the City of Cincinnati. The proposal has been presented to the appropriate committees and is awaiting a response.

Staff Reports

(a) Department of Community Health Services

Mr. Davidson reviewed progress on the agency plan of work, indicating that the Community Health Services Department had completed 156 of 192 metrics for the quarter. Mr. Rippe inquired as to location of accreditation on the plan of work dashboard. Mr. Davidson opened the tab under Administration to demonstrate progress.

Mr. Davidson reviewed a table providing data on percent positivity for syphilis tests by hospital system, requested by Mr. Rippe at the March Board of Health meeting.

He presented an update on implementation of the Bloodborne Infection Reduction Program in Colerain Township. Mr. Davidson served on a panel discussing addiction and possible remediation at a recent Township community forum.

Mr. Davidson reported on two grant applications currently in progress – one to address opioid overdoses and another for lead poisoning prevention.

The WeTHRIVE! community health assessment presentation for Lincoln Heights is scheduled for April 23, 2016.

There are currently three positions posted in Epidemiology and Assessment, two of which will be funded through the Ohio Department of Health Child and Family Services grant, and the other to replace a promoted position within the Division.

Ms. Puthoff inquired about progress toward the Bloodborne Infection Reduction Program for Colerain Township. Commissioner Ingram responded that Colerain has located a site and has decided on use of a mobile option for three hours per week of service. In addition, he has had discussions with Dr. Judith Feinberg under whose leadership the mobile program resides. Dr. Feinberg has requested additional staff to implement the program. Current discussion involves program budget and where additional staff might be housed. Township officials are gathering consensus to begin the program, as demonstrated by the previously mentioned community forum at which the program was unveiled.

Commissioner Ingram also provided statistics for overdoses and fatalities in Hamilton County for the months of February and March.

Dr. Bjornson provided an update on communicable disease in the County. He reviewed Hepatitis case numbers. Influenza numbers are demonstrating a late onset flu season. Shigellosis, which has been an issue in school and daycare environments, while elevated, has leveled off.

(b) Department of Environmental Health Services

Mr. Kesterman reported that the Department of Environmental Health Services has achieved 20 of 42 performance measures for the first quarter, 2016.

Mr. Kesterman reviewed a table of housing condemnations and condemnations by community for 2012 thru March 31, 2016. He noted that Hamilton County Public Health is often called in by jurisdictions to deal with blighted and vacant properties. Of the homes condemned, 36 percent were vacant at the time of condemnation.

Mr. Kesterman reported that he and Lisa Humble, Director of Plumbing, recently attended a hearing on Ohio Plumbing Code regulation changes, to which the agency is opposed. Included in the proposed changes is a clause eliminating the final air test that currently occurs on all new drain and vent plumbing installations. The change replaces standard pressure testing with a visual inspection, which leaves much vulnerability for homeowners, plumbing installers and contractors. Board members engaged in an active discussion of the changes and will look into writing letters recommending against the changes and enlisting others in the homebuilding, plumbing and potentially, insurance industries to add to the recommendations.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

8. Finances

a) Monthly Disbursements Report

Mr. Chatham moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

Dr. Amend seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – Dr. Amend, Mr. Chatham, Ms. Puthoff and Mr. Rippe – Aye; Mr. Brett abstained.

b) First Quarter Financial Results

Mr. Teufel provided a financial review for the first quarter ended March 31, 2016. A series of slides highlighted quarterly results compared with the budget.

Mr. Teufel discussed revenue performance of the General Fund, which exceeded budget by five percent and the Restricted Funds, which were two percent less than budget. Mr. Teufel highlighted two restricted funds with revenue less than budget in the first quarter, 2016. The Septic Treatment Systems Fund revenues and Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps Fund revenues were less than budget by 11 percent and 40 percent, respectively. Mr. Teufel indicated that both shortfalls are due to personnel openings, which will be filled in the near future.

Mr. Teufel also discussed expenditures. Actual personnel costs were one percent favorable to budget. A review of several personnel changes and openings as of the end of the first quarter was made. Mr. Teufel noted that 85 percent of other expenditures and capital budgets had been committed through the purchase order process as of March 31, 2016.

Mr. Teufel presented a results summary for the first quarter of 2016, and related fund balances for the General and Restricted Funds, noting that there were favorable variances when compared to the 2016 budget. The primary reason for the favorable variances in the General Fund is due to revenues in excess of budget. The primary reason for favorable variances in the Restricted Funds is due to favorable expenditure variances compared to budget.

Lastly, Mr. Teufel reviewed grant awards and receipts for the first quarter of 2016.

9. New Business

a) Resolution D-2016 – Resolution To Approve Transfer of 2016 Budgeted Funds, Effective April 11, 2016.

Mr. Chatham moved To Approve Resolution to Approve Transfer of 2016 Budgeted Funds, Effective April 11, 2016.

Dr. Amend seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

b) Health Commissioner Travel Request – May 9-12 – Mercy Health Governance Meeting, Asheville, NC

Mr. Chatham moved to approve Health Commissioner Travel Request.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

c) The Board of Health discussed and agreed to join the Ohio Association of Boards of Health.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Rippe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

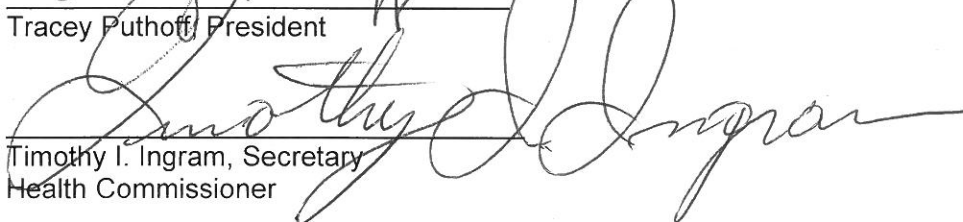
Mr. Brett seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Next Board of Health meeting: Wednesday, May 18, 2016.



Tracey Puthoff, President



Timothy I. Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner