

**Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
March 11, 2019 – 6:30 p.m.
Minutes**

1. Call to Order

At 6:30 p.m., James Brett, President, 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: James Brett, President
Mark A. Rippe, Vice President
Kenneth G. Amend, M.D.

District Staff Present: Tim Ingram, Health Commissioner
Craig Davidson, Assistant Health Commissioner
Greg Kesterman, Assistant Health Commissioner
Dr. Steve Feagins, Medical Director
Nee Fong Chin, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

Guests: Nana Asmah, Kristie Bain, and Tracy Marshall from Cincinnati State
Becky Huber and Debbie Schmidt from Panera Bread

3. Clean Kitchen Awards

Greg Kesterman read the list of 20 Clean Kitchen Award recipients and congratulated them for their efforts to maintain a high level of sanitation and staff education. Representatives from the Colerain Avenue Panera Bread location were present to receive their award.

4. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Amend moved to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2019 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

5. Health Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Ingram is pleased to report the District Advisory Council (DAC) met earlier today and that Mark Rippe was appointed by the DAC to serve another five-year term on the Board of Health. Commissioner Ingram thanked Mr. Rippe for his continued service.

The 2018 Annual Report is in the Board packet. Commissioner Ingram called attention to the accomplishments listed in the report. This report will be submitted to the Ohio Department of Health as required by law.

Resolution B-2019, Water Pollution Control Fund Agreement is on tonight's agenda. Commissioner Ingram stated a revised copy is on the table which removes the paragraph on Page 2 regarding three-fourths vote requirement as that requirement does not apply to

Resolutions. Commissioner Ingram recommends approval of this Resolution to continue to receive funds to assist Hamilton County citizens upgrade their household sewage treatment system (HSTS).

The Medical Director's Contract to secure Medical Director Services from Steve Feagins, MD through Mercy Health is on tonight's agenda. This one-year contract has the same scope of services and cost as last year's contract. Dates of service are the only changes. Legal Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract to form and Mercy has already signed.

Commissioner Ingram shared highlights from his readings of the Board of Health Minutes from 1921 in preparation for our 100th year anniversary.

Dr. Elizabeth Kelly was recently featured by University of Cincinnati-College of Medicine in the Business Courier. Commissioner Ingram was pleased it called attention to her service on the Hamilton County Board of Health "...protects and promotes healthier living for all age groups." A copy of the article is in the Board packet and Commissioner Ingram acknowledged Dr. Kelly for all her great health care and public health service to this Board.

Staff Reports

(a) Medical Director's Report

Dr. Steve Feagins, Medical Director, explained that Hamilton County syphilis rates are on the rise again resulting in a re-declaration of the syphilis epidemic. Full details are in the Board packet.

Dr. Feagins brought up a syphilis treatment order question in Epic (electronic medical record system) that helps medical professionals treat more efficiently. Our community is unique in the nation in that all systems use Epic and also with a regional data repository through The Health Collaborative. Aggregated data from this repository helps medical professionals to identify specific challenges and opportunities in our community. Because of our critical mass, we are also able to influence Epic's developer to make changes in response to our region's requests.

Dr. Feagins called attention to his report in the Board packet on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) impact on adult behavioral health elaborating that health systems are becoming more aware of the impact of a high correlation between "adverse childhood experiences" and adult behavioral health including HIV and syphilis, IV drug use, and overdose deaths. An ACE score is a tally of different types of abuse, neglect, and other hallmarks of a rough childhood. We have been successful in the addition of "screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment" or SBIRT in emergency department triage navigators. The addition of the ACE score can complement the SBIRT in a better overall assessment of the Social Determinants of Health - why individuals are having health related issues in the first place, such as access to transportation, food insecurities, and social isolation.

Due to the ongoing outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has sent a reminder for U.S. healthcare facilities. A patient was recently hospitalized in Pittsburgh until Ebola could be

ruled out. The U.S. regional treatment network for Ebola and other special pathogens remains active, including Hamilton County.

Dr. Feagins shared a Care Everywhere update reporting that the Regional Care Everywhere group is currently gathering current state for baby naming and homeless patient conventions. It is necessary for epidemiology studies that we include undocumented foreign nationals.

Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OHMHAS), in partnership with American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), is conducting a Buprenorphine DATA Waiver training at 1701 Mercy Health Place on March 25-26.

The monthly Communicable Diseases Epi report was provided in the Board packet.

(b) Department of Community Health Services

Assistant Health Commissioner Craig Davidson highlighted from his report that The Exchange Project activity is increasing and that we are now asking about Veteran status. Narcan distribution is on track. Our allotment was increased therefore our allocation has been increased and we have successfully used the full allotment the last three months. Full details are in the Board packet.

Mr. Davidson spoke to the recent community events, reporting van tours were and Narcan distribution were offered by staff at the Tri-State Opioid Symposium at the University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy on March 2, 2019. HCPH's presentation on "Harm Reduction and Hamilton County Public Health's Response to the Opioid Epidemic" and the van tours were well received with over 200 doses of Narcan distributed among the approximately 250 attendees.

Mr. Rippe asked about the slower needle exchange increase. Mr. Davidson explained prior restraints on needle limits have been lifted and that they do come in waves with some clients bringing in needles to exchange for friends, family, etc.

Mr. Davidson reviewed the overdose death cluster data analysis project. Based on these results, no changes to naloxone distribution have been made as no significant patterns were discovered. Staff will continue to monitor these and other surveillance data closely and provide recommendations for changes to naloxone distribution as indicated by changes in the data.

(c) Department of Environmental Health Services

Assistant Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman explained Resolution B-2019 and the grant opportunity from the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) that is on tonight's agenda. This resolution authorizes the Health Commissioner to apply and accept WPCLF funding from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. HCPH was awarded \$150,000 in grant funds in 2019 that will help income qualified residents with the replacement and repair of their sewage treatment system. In addition, up to 50 percent of the funds can be used for connection to the sanitary sewer.

Mr. Kesterman reported that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency budget process to acquire funding for remediation of the Farwick Fields lead remediation project has taken

longer than anticipated. The current estimate being provided is that remediation of Field 5 should occur in mid-summer. Field 5 remains closed until the cleanup is completed.

Mr. Kesterman was pleased to share a success story at 8759 Reading Rd. stating this was the fastest turn around staff has ever seen as the result of a condemnation. Full details and photos are provided in the Board packet.

6. Unfinished Business: None.

7. Finances

The February 2019 Disbursement Reports are included in the Board packet.

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

Dr. Amend seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye; - Mr. Brett abstained on White Water expenditures.

8. New Business:

Dr. Amend moved to approve Resolution B-2019, to accept and authorize the execution of a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) on behalf of Hamilton County General Health District for the repair and/or replacement of household sewage treatment systems.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Dr. Amend moved to approve the Agreement between the Hamilton General Health District and Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC for the Medical Director Contract.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

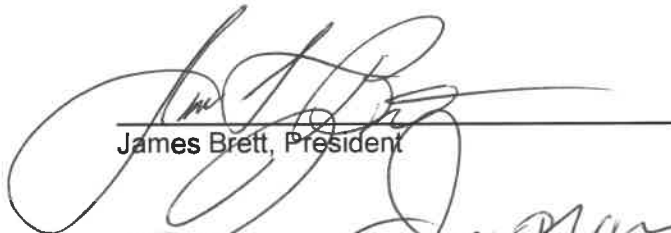
9. Adjournment

Mr. Rippe moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Dr. Amend seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Next Board of Health meeting: April 8, 2019.



James Brett, President



Tim Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner