

**Hamilton County General Health District  
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH  
June 11, 2018 – 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  
Kenneth G. Amend, M.D  
Elizabeth A. Kelly, M.D.

District Staff Present: Tim Ingram, Health Commissioner  
Craig Davidson, Assistant Health Commissioner  
Greg Kesterman, Assistant Health Commissioner  
Dr. Steve Feagins, Medical Director

**3. Clean Kitchen Awards**

Greg Kesterman read the list of twenty-seven Clean Kitchen Award recipients and congratulated them for their efforts to maintain a high level of sanitation and staff education.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**Dr. Amend** moved to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2018 Board of Health meeting.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**5. Health Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Ingram is working with Finance Officer Greg Varner on the 2017 audit. A smooth audit is expected concluding with a final report in mid-September. The audit fee did go up this year.

HCPH's Accreditation status is paying for itself in more ways than one. We received from Ohio Department of Health an additional subsidy awarded to accredited health departments. That additional/unplanned revenue increase of \$150,000.00 helps offset accreditation costs incurred in 2016 and 2017.

With the addition of the Westwood site this week, our Exchange Project now serves six sites-four in Hamilton County and one each in Butler and Clermont Counties. Commissioner Ingram thanked all parties for making this happen. We are seeing amazing results with the volume of traffic to the van and the services being provided. Commissioner Ingram shared a recent success story of a client that came to the clinic seeking help and we were able to get him placed into treatment right away. We had to issue a health alert this past weekend due to increased overdoses; possibly due to a bad/different product on the street. Dr. Amend inquired if the overdoses can be traced back to the source product that may be

driving an increase in activity. With past alerts, it was found the amount and potency of fentanyl-like substances on the street increase.

The HIV infection rates should go down with the Exchange Project in place and expanding, but it will take time. Northern Kentucky also has a needle exchange program. Dr. Feagins reported that we have found the Exchange Project to be points of entry for citizens to get help and healthcare providers have greater access to the homeless population.

## **Staff Reports**

### **(a) Medical Director's Report**

Dr. Steve Feagins, Medical Director, called attention to his report in the Board packet the increased tuberculosis (TB) cases year-to-date in 2018 compared with 2017. Dr. Feagins also explained improvements in treatment and testing. Even though we are a low incident area, we needed to update our procedures.

All infection control practitioners are participating on a monthly call that will help disseminate information and best practice information. Commissioner Ingram is working with State Representatives to advocate for mandating childcare staff TB testing - citing challenges with a recent exposure episode that could have been prevented.

The monthly Communicable Diseases Epi report was provided the Board packets.

### **(b) Department of Community Health Services**

Assistant Health Commissioner Craig Davidson reviewed the Harm Reduction Project in his report in the Board packet. The Exchange Project May statistics showed a record number of 149 new clients.

Lindsay Fletcher, Clinical Distribution Coordinator for the Narcan Distribution Collaborative team, was congratulated for receiving her Chemical Dependence Counseling Assistant (CDCA I) certification and other education to better serve the Harm Reduction clients and other HCPH programs. She will be eligible for her CDCA II in early 2019.

Mr. Davidson spoke to the Research Grant for the Primary or Secondary Prevention of Opioid Overdose, the HIV and STD Grant changes, and the Racial & Ethnic Approaches to Community Health Grant in his report in the Board packet. He also discussed changes to the 2019 HIV/STD grants which will expand the region we would be required to cover. Additional staffing will be required; particularly DIS. We would also explore opportunities to partner with other local health departments to open satellite offices.

WeTHRIVE! released a notice to its communities to apply for funding to support alcohol, tobacco, and other drug education/awareness and environmental prevention strategy efforts within Hamilton County. Applications will be accepted through July 31. Green Township was welcomed as the newest member and the twenty-third community of the WeTHRIVE! program.

### **(c) Department of Environmental Health Services**

Assistant Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman called attention to the Mobile Food Unit Plan Review (food trucks) in his report in the Board packet. With the expanded services

they are providing and new complexity in their operations, we are updating our review process to ensure safe dining and fire department approval of the unit.

Mr. Kesterman also shared that staff presented at the Ohio Stormwater Conference on recent successes. Per the EPA, storm water runoff remains the largest source of pollution to our nation's rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, and reservoirs. Photos in the Board packet show some examples of reoccurring storm water pollution sources. HCPH's Storm Water Team works to track down and eliminate pollution sources. They have become viewed as the leader for Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) in the State of Ohio. Dr. Amend inquired how staff finds out about new stormwater complaints. Mr. Kesterman shared that staff provide training to our jurisdictions that are members of the Stormwater District. Many of our jurisdictions reach out to staff directly when they see issues.

**6. Unfinished Business: None**

**7. Finances**

The May 2018 Disbursement Reports are included in the Board packet.

**Dr. Amend** moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye; - Mr. Brett abstained on Whitewater Township expenditures.**

**8. New Business:**

Commissioner Ingram requested an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

**Dr. Amend** moved to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 7:15 p.m.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. where no decisions were made.

**9. Adjournment**

**Dr. Amend** moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

Next Board of Health meeting: July 9, 2018



James Brett, President



Tim Ingram, Secretary  
Health Commissioner

