

**Hamilton County General Health District**  
**REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**February 10, 2020 – 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  
Elizabeth A. Kelly, M.D.  
Tracey A. Puthoff, Esq.

District Staff Present: Greg Kesterman, Interim Health Commissioner  
Dr. Jennifer Mooney, Assistant Health Commissioner  
Dr. Steve Feagins, Medical Director  
Nee Fong Chin, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney  
Chris Griffith, Director of Water Quality

Guests: Kris Tracy, Loveland County School District

**3. Clean Kitchen Awards**

Interim Commissioner Greg Kesterman read the list of 14 Clean Kitchen Award recipients and congratulated them for their efforts to maintain a high level of sanitation and staff education. Kris Tracy was present to receive five awards on behalf of the Loveland County School District that is a distinguished 10-time winner.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2020 Board of Health meeting.

**Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2020 Board of Health Special meeting.

**Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**5. Interim Health Commissioner's Report and Environmental Health Services Report**

Interim Commissioner Kesterman thanked the Board for allowing him the opportunity to serve as the Interim Commissioner. It has been a very challenging and busy first week with staff preparations for the Coronavirus and a very difficult Tuberculosis case. Special thanks to Ms. Chin for her assistance with this case by helping HCPH staff keep our citizens safe. Dr. Feagins will present tonight on the Coronavirus, and for Executive Session, Dr. Feagins would like to share with the Board additional protected medical information.

Interim Commissioner Kesterman explained that the first two resolutions for tonight are related to the Ohio Department of Health's audit of HCPH's food program. The state audit was excellent, compliments to HCPH staff. Only two minor changes were recommended: to add "non-emergency" statement and to add "food service operator." Ms. Chin has reviewed and is comfortable with the two proposed changes. The third Resolution is to recognize Dr. Kenneth G. Amend who is completing 25 years on the HCPH Board. Dr. Amend will be presented with an engraved clock as a token of appreciation for his service.

Staff are actively working on the three-year Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and the plan will be presented to the Board in April or May.

Three Rivers School had 18 percent of the school's population out sick. HCPH made the recommendation to close for two days to stop the spread of the influenza as well as to clean and sanitize. The Superintendent agreed and already had plans underway to close the school.

There will be a District Advisory Council (DAC) meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> at noon. All Board Members are invited to attend, and we will be seeking to appoint a new member in place of Dr. Amend. Ms. Puthoff asked about the appointment process. Anyone who expresses interest in being a member will go into the candidate packet with their resume. The DAC will make the final selection. In March the HCPH Board will set their meeting schedule and roles for the new year.

## **Staff Reports**

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

Dr. Steve Feagins, Medical Director shared that the current outbreak of novel Coronavirus, now known as COVID-2019, is the first quarantine in the United States since smallpox. Dr. Feagins explained COVID-2019 includes different types, how it is spread, and where it originated. The top five infectious diseases in the world are Hepatitis B, Malaria, Hepatitis C, Dengue (from mosquitoes), and Tuberculosis. Mr. Rippe asked which are the most common for deaths. Malaria and Tuberculosis are the most common cause of death of these five. COVID-2019 is similar to the common cold and Dr. Feagins explained the graph comparing infectious diseases and (RO) average number of people infected by each sick person. COVID-2019 numbers are estimated and are changing every day. Epic (electronic medical records) screenings were immediately updated to trigger interventions. The CDC will determine if testing is warranted. Mr. Rippe inquired about treatment for the Coronavirus. Dr. Feagins explained there is no treatment, other than supportive care. Isolation is key, as well as fluids and possibly acetaminophen. China is doing incredible with quarantine and isolation; it is currently a closed country.

The HCPH Board received 40 minutes of continuing education credit for Dr. Feagins' presentation.

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

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

Assistant Health Commissioner Dr. Jennifer Mooney reported staff have been very busy with COVID-2019, Tuberculosis case, and influenza season. Dr. Mooney credited the staff teams for working so well together on the outbreak. Mr. Rippe asked that Dr. Mooney thank the staff on behalf of the Board as well.

Dr. Mooney addressed a question from Mr. Rippe regarding HCPH's Peer Support Project. This is part of the OD2A funding to build a workforce. This aspect is for data collection in collaboration with Vesta which many agencies already use for the homeless population.

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

Interim Commissioner Kesterman asked if the Board would be willing to allow the Department of Environmental Health Services to condemn rentals with failing sewage treatment systems to increase compliance success. He explained that it would be another tool to address water quality/failing sewage systems. HCPH sees approximately five of these cases per year. The current process is not as successful with rental properties. Mr. Rippe asked about the timing of the current process and the health risk. After discussion, Ms. Chin will investigate possible solutions to the current procedure used to notify building owners of sewage issues. Mr. Rippe mentioned a software that is very sophisticated for commercial real estate that identifies the real owner behind LLCs.

**6. Unfinished Business: None.**

**7. Finances**

The January 2020 Disbursement Reports are included in the Board packet.

**Mr. Rippe** moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

**Ms. Puthoff** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**8. New Business:**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to approve Resolution A-2020, Establishing Procedures for the Tagging and Embargo of Articles and Foods Per Ohio Administrative Code.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**Mr. Rippe** moved to approve Resolution B-2020, Authorizing the Health Commissioner to Suspend or Revoke a Food Service Operation and Retail Food Establishment License.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**Mr. Rippe** moved to approve Resolution C-2020, expressing appreciation for the outstanding and dedicated public service of Kenneth G. Amend, M.D.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**9. Executive Session:**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to go to Executive Session to discuss personnel and private medical matters at 7:27 p.m.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to come out of Executive Session at 8:35.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved the motion for Jim Brett to sign the contract for Greg Kesterman to be Interim Health Commissioner.

**Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved that the Health District may enter into contract with the Wineinger Company for leadership development not to exceed \$15,000.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

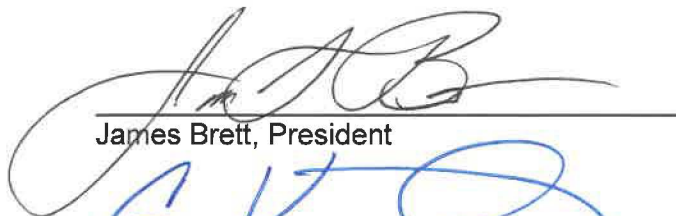
#### **10. Adjournment**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

**Dr. Kelly** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

Next Board of Health meeting: March 9, 2020.



James Brett, President



Greg Kesterman, Secretary  
Interim Health Commissioner