

Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
February 12, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

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

Guests: Mrs. Bjornson

3. Clean Kitchen Awards

Greg Kesterman read the list of 16 Clean Kitchen Award recipients and congratulated them for their efforts to maintain a high level of sanitation and staff education.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2018 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Chatham seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

5. Health Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Ingram reported on the anticipation of Dr. Bjornson's retirement as Medical Director for HCPH. A contract is drafted for Dr. Feagins to assume the role of Medical Director, effective March 1. This contract has been signed by Mercy Health, reviewed by our legal counsel, and is on the agenda for consideration. Dr. Bjornson has agreed to serve as a part time Assistant Medical Director to provide clinical coverage when Dr. Feagins is not available. The Assistant Medical Director's Contract is also on the agenda for consideration.

The District Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 12th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. It was reported that Mr. Thomas Chatham will be stepping down after 25 years

of service. His public service has been truly appreciated. Mr. Chatham will be recognized at the March 12th meeting.

Dr. Elizabeth Kelly, a physician and professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, has expressed an interest in serving on the Board of Health. Her resume is included in the Board packet. Dr. Kelly is felt to be a practical choice as she has been working with the staff for several years. She has been involved with Cradle Cincinnati Infant Mortality project and has participated in meetings with healthcare partners concerning congenital syphilis.

Commissioner Ingram also reported on the Hamilton County 2017 HIV and syphilis case counts – Blood borne Infectious Disease Prevention Program. He and Dr. Feagins presented to the community of Anderson Township at three forums. Vicky Earhart, Anderson Township Administrator did a great job coordinating the meetings.

At one of the meetings, Ken James, President of Anderson Mercy, gave a statement at the on January 30 community meeting about this problem from his perspective. He also offered Anderson Hospital as a place to locate the mobile unit. The feeling is that most people are not concerned about the program itself but the location and this may have alleviated that concern.

Dr. Feagins provided feedback that it was a tough meeting but people appreciated HCPH promoting and supporting the program. The meeting was very well done, people signed in at the meeting and minutes were taken. There were many advocates for the program and there were very emotional pleas for the program from people who lost a loved one to opiate overdose.

Board of Health member Ms. Puthoff attended the meeting and spoke as an advocate for the program. The three meetings were attended by over 200 people in total. Should the trustees approve the program in Anderson Township, the van is only to be set up a half day a week. The program is already operating in several communities and has not increased crime, as some have suggested. This is a program that will provide an important service to the residents of Anderson.

Staff Reports

(a) Department of Community Health Services

Assistant Health Commissioner Craig Davidson reported on the 2017 HIV/syphilis cases and Action Plan. He worked with Disease Prevention staff to provide a preliminary listing of proposed interventions aimed at limiting the increase of new syphilis and HIV infections.

Mr. Davidson provided thirty minutes of Board of Health education in the form of a communicable disease presentation with questions and answers. The presentation gave an update on the Exchange Project and Narcan Distribution Collaborative.

The fourth quarter 2018 newsletter and Community Health Improvement Plan progress report were each recently sent to the Public Health Advisory Council.

Cheviot was welcomed to the WeTHRIVE! community and the Child Care initiative updates are in the Board packet.

Mr. Davidson also spoke to the Emergency Preparedness mass dispensing exercise in Loveland.

Mr. Rippe asked how we are getting the HIV and syphilis data. Mr. Davidson stated that the data goes in to the Ohio Disease Reporting System. Ohio Department of Health locks down HIV and syphilis for outside of Hamilton County so they had to ask for these preliminary counts for 2017 comparison data.

Mr. Rippe asked if we are getting data from the hospitals. Physicians, primary care doctors, and laboratories report data and that is where we obtain the information. We also collect syphilis testing numbers conducted in the emergency departments each quarter. Some information also comes out of the Justice Center, particularly for HIV cases as one staff member typically visits this site several times per week for case follow up.

Mr. Rippe inquired how long the current timeframe is before cases are closed as "infected not treated" or "unable to locate". Mr. Davidson indicated he did not have the answer, but will provide it at the next Board meeting and his March report. Commissioner Ingram mentioned that the data is coming in routinely. Mr. Chatham asked what we can do differently. Commissioner Ingram suggested that the preliminary interventions are aimed at increasing follow up that is needed on the cases of syphilis and HIV. It was mentioned that we cannot force individuals to accept treatment.

(b) Department of Environmental Health Services

Assistant Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman reported on the Manufactured Home Park Program. As of January 21, 2018, the Department of Commerce has taken the program from the Ohio Manufactured Homes Commission. It is our understanding that there will be no changes in the rules of regulations at least initially. HCPH has expressed interest and intent to continue inspecting manufactured home park inspections under the Department of Commerce.

We are currently conducting inspections at 86 manufactured home parks in a three-county region that includes Hamilton, Butler, and Brown Counties

Mr. Kesterman gave an update on Hamilton County Public Health's Division of Plumbing which completes plumbing and medical gas inspections within Brown County. Both Brown County and Hamilton County are satisfied with the contractual arrangement. Commissioner Ingram mentioned a citizen's compliment about Mr. Sean Moore. Sean is spending one full day in Brown County.

The Terrace Park community is exploring options for addressing their drywells throughout their community. One option that has been the most favorable would be the installation of a sanitary sewer throughout the community. For this option to proceed, there has to be a Board of County Commissioners Policy to bring Terrace Park into the sewer district and then extend sewers to Terrace Park. It was requested that this be completed within six months and this will be monitored closely.

Mr. Kesterman provided an update on an issue regarding Private Water Systems and the requirement for an Electric Permits and inspections. Mr. Kesterman

indicated that staff is working with the State to ensure that permits are required when electric is run to a private water system. Registered Sanitarians have no electrical training or rules that would apply when electric is run. The electric permit and inspection safeguards staff and homeowners against safety issues that would result from improperly installed electric.

There were two housing condemnations this month. There was discussion involving Lucy's Diner on Reading which has been reported on for the last several months. They are in the middle of a twelve-day closure and are looking to hear back this Friday. Board members mentioned that last time they were forced to close, they had gone out to inspect and they were operating as normal. Mr. Kesterman stated education is the primary goal and focus and we will enforce when necessary.

Mr. Rippe asked how many educational sessions we have had for safety. It was reported the fee is \$150 per class and the revenue last year was \$160,000. The revenue is not necessarily an accurate reflection of how many classes were held as we do offer free classes for schools and nonprofit organizations. It was stated that when classes are held they are always full.

6. Unfinished Business: None

7. Finances

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

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

Mr. Chatham seconded the motion.

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

8. New Business:

Resolution A-2018 Expressing Appreciation for the Outstanding and Dedicated Service of Henry Stephen Bjornson, M.D., Ph.D.

Mr. Rippe moved to approve Resolution A-2018.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Medical Director Contract – Agreement between the Hamilton General Health District and Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC. A correction was made to bottom of Page 3 "...not to exceed eight (8) hours per week."

Mr. Chatham moved to approve the Medical Director Contract as corrected.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye


Assistant Medical Director Contract – Hamilton County General health District Contract for Assistant Medical Director Services from March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2019.

Mr. Chatham moved to approve the Assistant Medical Director Contract.
Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote – All Aye

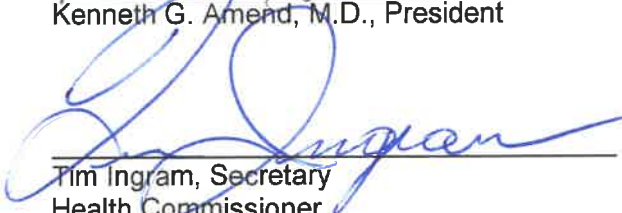
9. Adjournment

Mr. Rippe moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m.
Mr. Brett seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Next Board of Health meeting: March 12, 2018.



Kenneth G. Amend, M.D., President



Tim Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner