

**Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
September 11, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.
Minutes**

1. Call to Order

After a moment of silence in remembrance of 9/11, at 6:32 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

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: Tracy Phipps, student at Mount St. Joseph

3. Clean Kitchen Awards

Greg Kesterman read the list of 9 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 August 14, 2017 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Chatham seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

5. Health Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Ingram called attention to Resolution F-2017 on tonight's agenda. This revision of health department budgets will allow the staff to operationalize the Narcan Distribution Collaborative project and the Harm Reduction Program. Also, there is a need to change the appropriations in the Food Service Fund to accommodate the demand for the ServSafe food safety classes.

Also on the agenda is the proposed license suspension of Thierno Mouhamadou Samassa facility. If you agree with the hearing officer's findings, the order to suspend the license for 14 days is included for your action.

The September 7 Hamilton County Public Health press conference announcing The Narcan Distribution Collaborative project received significant local and national coverage. Commissioner Ingram reported he is very pleased with the hiring of a new member to his

staff, Ed Moser, Information Technology (IT) Manager. Ed previously worked for the last 17 years at Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services (HCDOES). Commissioner Ingram executed a shared service agreement with DOES, located on the first floor of our building. Assistant Commissioner Greg Kesterman was instrumental with executing the contract. The Board inquired about the time demands of the new contract. Commissioner Ingram explained it is estimated based on maintenance of current systems and general information technology support. Custom database work and design is not included and would be charged at an agreed upon hourly rate. Full details are in the Board packet.

With the two major hurricanes in one month, Commissioner Ingram reached out to Houston, Texas. The Board commented the staff testimonial correspondence reflects the excellent customer service they are providing to our community.

Staff Reports

(a) Department of Community Health Services

Assistant Commissioner Craig Davidson stated WeTHRIVE! received local media attention in August by way of a story featuring Montgomery City Council Member Mike Cappel, who has planned a 750-mile bike trip to Montgomery's sister city Montgomery, NY. His stated purpose for the trip is to promote healthy living. The Board commended the example he is setting.

The second quarter 2017 newsletter and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) progress report were each recently sent to the Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC). Each of these documents is attached to the Board packet.

On August 7, Ohio Department of Health staff and their partners from hcvadvocate.org conducted the training for a group of nearly 30 participants for the Hepatitis Prevention Program. Mr. Davidson reported the training was well attended representing a diversity of public health and health care services agencies.

Mr. Davidson is a member of the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners (AOHC) Opioid Subcommittee. The stated purpose of the group is to draft a position paper to outline local health department's (LHD) roles and/or areas of involvement with respect to the opioid epidemic. The group has had good participation representing both large and small and urban and rural LHDs. A position paper is expected to be finalized by early Fall 2017.

The new Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant funding cycle commenced July 1. Planning to meet new deliverables is underway which includes a regional exercise that will tentatively occur in the first two weeks of February. More project details are provided in the Board packet.

The monthly Communicable Diseases Epi report was provided in the Board packets. Dr. Bjornson reported no major communicable disease problems. The Board inquired about the slight increase in Q1 syphilis and targeted outreach efforts. Dr. Bjornson encourages his patients to tell their friends. Commissioner Ingram acknowledged the challenge of effectively reaching the target group—black, men who have sex with men (MSM). Other communities throughout Ohio and nationally are also experiencing increases among this demographic and there is still more work to do locally. This group (black, MSM) is at high risk for HIV too. The Board also inquired about the recent increase in tuberculosis (TB) activity. Mr. Davidson stated the uptick in TB is not related. Those impacted have included recent immigrants who were likely exposed prior to arrival in the United States and individuals among the homeless

population. The Board inquired how the recent \$80,000 cut to the TB budget as a result of changes to the Hamilton County Indigent Care Levy will impact services. Commissioner Ingram was happy to report the current numbers from the county are showing only a \$43,000 cut. The carry over dollars in this fund will help with the loss so we are okay for now. The Board discussed The Enquirer's "Seven days of Heroin." Mr. Davidson stated HCPH provided the statistical data and the documentary is available in video and print.

(b) Department of Environmental Health Services

Assistant Commissioner Greg Kesterman reported that Hamilton County Public Health has provided ServSafe training since 2010. Each year, we have seen a steady increase in the number of students in the course. A change in state law, requiring advanced food safety training between 2016 and 2017, resulted in a significant increase of participants during the same period. To help handle the increased demand, the number of scheduled courses also increased from 6 to 12 for 2017. In addition to scheduled courses at our office, staff saw an increased in requests from restaurant chains and franchises as well. Commissioner Ingram explained the revenue from the training covers the expense of the ServSafe books. The increase in the trainings necessitated the need to purchase more books and is included in the appropriation changes in Resolution F-2017.

Hamilton County Public Health has received notification that there have been 10 samples or pools of positive mosquitos with West Nile Virus submitted to the Ohio Department of Health laboratory in 2017. Two human cases of West Nile Virus reported locally. Mr. Kesterman explained that surveillance teams work the reported areas with remediation and public education.

Mr. Kesterman pointed out in the Board packet the recent condemnation in Lockland. He was pleased to report that the woman who should not have been released to her home is now getting proper care. Staff worked hard to provide hospital social workers the needed details to prevent her from being released to her condemned home.

Nee Fong Chin recommended the Board accept the hearing officer's decision to close for 14 days Thierno Mouhamadou Samassa due to numerous failures to correct fundamental code violations. Ms. Chin reaffirmed the decision for the suspension explaining that every effort had been made to avoid getting to this point; however, the owner and staff have not complied. Ms. Chin reported that neither the Health District nor the Prosecutor's Office had received written or oral objections to the hearing officer's report. In addition, she indicated that the proposed BOH order would require the facility to reclose should they not be able to produce a passing Level 2 Food Safety Class certificate.

The Board inquired about the process timeline and staff's authority to suspend when there is "immediate danger." Mr. Kesterman explained staff is enforcing Ohio's Administrative Food Code. Staff is conscious of the fact these businesses are people's livelihood and will review current policy timeline. The Board inquired about cultural barriers. Commissioner Ingram explained that all staff receives culture competency training and there is continuous quality improvement in education materials when English is a second language and interpreters are provided. Mr. Kesterman provided several examples of staff efforts to ensure cultural competency. He provided an example of staff assisting Indian food facilities obtain the necessary HACCP plan allowing them to make yogurt in their facility. Hamilton County was the first approved HACCP of this kind. In addition, there is currently a continuous quality improvement project in which staff is working to reduce violations during enforcement cases when English is a second language.

6. Unfinished Business: None

7. Finances

The August 2017 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

8. New Business:

- A) Resolution F-2017—to approve revisions to the 2017 Budget. Mr. Rippe requested in the future a net-net summary for financial resolutions. Commissioner Ingram concurred and will provide the financial impact of the current resolution for the Board's review.

Mr. Rippe moved to approve Resolution F-2017.

Mr. Chatham seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

- B) Board of Health FSO Suspension Order for Thierno Mouhamadou Samassa—Based on continued noncompliance of the Ohio Administrative Food Code 3717-1 and in accordance with the Board of Health's Hearing Officer, Gary Goldman, Thierno Mouhamadou Samassa, located at 102 Mill Street in Lockland, Ohio, will be closed by Board of Health Order for fourteen days beginning on September 18 and ending on October 1. With a passing inspection, the facility may open on October 2, 2017. Furthermore, the facility is required to complete an Ohio Level Two certification course within 45 days of the date of the suspension. Failure to provide a certificate of completion by October 30, 2017, the Board of Health orders an immediate suspension of the facilities license until the passing certificate is furnished.

Mr. Chatham moved to approve the suspension order.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye


9. Adjournment

Mr. Rippe moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Mr. Chatham seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Next Board of Health meeting: October 9, 2017.


Kenneth G. Amend, M.D., President
Tim Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner