

**LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
October 3, 2023**

**Voting Members Present:** Dr. Emerald Echols, Paula Grisanti, Margaret Handmaker, Karyn Hascal, Heidi Margulis, Dr. Ed Miller, Dr. Anthony Zipple

**Advisory Board Members Present:** Deputy Mayor Nicole George, Dr. Bart Irwin, Delanor Manson, Dr. Paul McKinney, Connie Mendel, Natalie Johnson, Martha Sanchez, Ashley Shoemaker, Dr. Inder Singal, Dr. Ted Smith, Eva Stone

**Others Present:** Taylor Ingram, Arlana Glenn, Catalina Cordova, Kathy Turner, Stephanie Lokits

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. The meeting was held virtually.

**Approval of Minutes**

The September 6, 2023, minutes were approved as distributed.

**Board Discussion and Vote**

Family Health Centers (FHC) Board submitted one newly appointed board member and four reappointments to server on their board. At their September meeting the FHC Board approved the submissions and request the required approval from the Board of Health.

The Board of Health voted and approved the appointment of Christopher Roszman and the reappointment of Muriel Harris, Michele Heuglin, Laura Escobar-Ratliff, and Anthony Walker to the FHC Board.

**Perspectives Session:** *“Role of Metro’s Air Pollution Control District, including Emergency Response Management, Policies, and Collaborative Partnerships.” (follow-up to Applegate incident, Rhodia property, etc. to ensure/maintain high quality air/soil for all).* - Rachael Hamilton, Executive Director - CEO, Metro Louisville Air Pollution Control District

Rachael Hamilton discussed Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and their role in hazardous materials incidents. APCD has been around for almost 80 years and is comprised of 60 employees. The APCD Board is their regulatory and enforcement authority rather than Metro Council. However, Louisville Metro Government provides human resources, fiscal, and administrative support.

**APCD is able to operate more stringent than state or federal law. Resulting in:**

- The Strategic Toxic Air Reduction (STAR) Program that was passed in 2005 after a West Louisville air toxic study found unacceptably high exposures to air in the Louisville community. This program goes beyond the National Air Toxics program lead by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Risk Management Plan program.

The APCD delegated the Clean Air Act directly from the EPA. It is a health-based continuous improvement plan. Every five years EPA is required to go back and review the most recent health-based standards. They evaluate criteria pollutants - lead, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, ozone, and particulate matter. After the evaluation, they will strengthen standards based on their findings. When the standards are strengthened, APCD is then charged with developing the plan to reach or maintain that standard.

**Some services APCD provides**

- Air monitoring and sending air quality alerts,
- Providing an Air Sensor Lending Library to partner with community groups and agencies,
- Air Pollution permitting, and
  - Permits issued by the APCD set guidelines to ensure Louisville/Jefferson County makes steady progress toward meeting and maintaining federal and local air quality standards and provides a healthy environment for all citizens
- Administering the Risk Management Plan Program (RMP)
  - A prevention program that includes safety precautions and maintenance procedures, required monitoring, and employee training measures for preventing and reacting to potential releases.

### **How Louisville handles Hazardous Materials Incidents – Local Regulations and Planning**

- Louisville Metro Hazardous Materials Ordinance – MSD serves as the “Administering Agency”
  - Any time there is a hazardous material release facilities are required to report it through 911. This will activate the Hazardous Materials response process.
- Louisville Metro Emergency Management Emergency Operations Plan
  - APCD’s risk management plan is listed in this plan
- 2022 Louisville Metro Hazard Mitigation Plan
  - APCD’s role in this plan is to issue air quality alerts and their strategic air reduction program
- Louisville uses the Incident Command model when handling emergency response
  - Some local agencies that support
    - Urban or Suburban Fire Departments
      - Specially trained HazMat Technicians are on scene with First Responder tools
    - Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD)
      - Specially trained HazMat Technicians are on scene with First Responder tools
    - Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness (LMPHW)
      - Specially trained HazMat Technicians are on scene with First Responder tools
    - Emergency Management Agency (EMA)
      - Specially trained HazMat Technicians are on scene with First Responder tools
    - Air Pollution Control District (APCD)
    - Louisville Metro Police Department (LMDC)
    - Metro Public Works (MPW)

### **Hazardous Materials Incidents: Recent Examples**

- Allnex Styrene Monomer Release – March 11, 2022
  - Incident Commander
    - Ashland Station Fire Company
    - Responding Agencies
      - MSD
      - LMPHW
      - EMA
- Applegate Lane – July 2023
  - LMPD executed a search warrant at 6211 and 6213 Applegate Lane and found explosive substances, along with other substances that posed a potential risk to first responders.
  - The Incident Commander called
    - The Division for Waste Management
    - Emergency Response
    - The US EPA
    - APCD
      - To share their specialized air quality knowledge
      - To assist, if necessary, in the development of an air monitoring plan. If a burn were to take place.
- The Rhodia site – A remediation site used as a chemical manufacturing facility that left a brownfield.
  - Property history.

- 1919 to 1940s Dabney Jones Company made lacquers, varnishes, and enamels
- 1960 to 1980s made epoxy-based coatings
- After 1980 made water-based epoxies and acrylics until plant closure in 1994
- The Kentucky Division for Waste Management has required the site to be fully characterized.
- Current conditions
  - Groundwater monitoring every other year
  - PAH's slightly elevated in 5 of 10 monitors
  - Concentrations continue decreasing
  - Stabilized and not migrating
  - Soil contamination
  - Metals and VOCs
    - Capped to limit exposure

In 1956 APCD participated in a study that led to the 1970 Clean Air Act. A study they continue to reference. Ms. Hamilton stated they should soon know if APCD will receive a grant from the US EPA. This grant will allow them to work with the West Jefferson County Community Task Force and the University of Louisville Environme Institute to again do a full assessment for exposure to carcinogens.

APCD continues to work to monitor Louisville Metro/Jefferson County air quality. They are making steady progress toward meeting and maintaining federal and local air quality standards and providing a healthy environment for all citizens.

#### **Deputy Mayor Update: Nicole George**

- Deputy Mayor James and Deputy Mayor George attended a Fentanyl Summit in New York, City hosted by Mayor Eric Adams.
  - Some key takeaways from attending the Summit
    - Louisville is very fortunate to be supported by a robust health department that is doing tremendous innovative work.
      - Many of the innovative strategies that were presented are already being implemented here in Louisville.
    - There is an influx of extremely lethal doses of fentanyl.
      - In New York 7 out of 10 doses of fentanyl have a lethal dose.
      - If we do not put more resources into harm reduction, it will be difficult for us to forge forward with tackling the supply chain.
- Food accessibility
  - The administration is focused on better streamlining food accessibility within Louisville Metro/Jefferson County. We have several groups that are doing a good job with this, but they are kind of spread out.
  - Streamlining this process will focus on supporting growers to distribution channels and accessibility.
    - The administration has been working with Kroger to better understand mobile markets. With the long-term goal of community grocery.

#### **Chair's Update: Heidi Margulis**

- Chair Margulis encouraged everyone to get their preventative vaccinations.

#### **LMPHW Director's Report:**

- Please get your COVID-19 booter and flu shot.
- At-home test kits are available to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.
  - LMPHW and Metro Parks are partnering to make free test kits available across the county. Tests can be picked up at 14 community centers during operating hours, while supplies last.

- Beginning 9/25/23, you can order 4 free at-home tests and have them sent directly to your home. Please visit [covid.gov/tests](https://covid.gov/tests) to learn more.
- K-12 schools and homeless shelters may request test kits directly from the Kentucky Department for Public Health using the [resource request form](#). For more information, email [KYcovidTesting@ky.gov](mailto:KYcovidTesting@ky.gov).

### **Family Health Centers: Dr. Bart Irwin**

- The Board of Governors at FHC took several actions regarding board members at their September Board Meeting.
  - Four board members are up for reappointment to the Board. All four were approved by FHC Board.
    - Muriel Harris
    - Michele Heuglin
    - Laura Escobar-Ratliff
    - Anthony Walker
  - The Board voted to add a new member.
    - Christopher Roszman
- FHC was notified last week that it was successful in obtaining a HRSA \$350,000 school-based health services grant.
  - FHC will establish a health center site at Iroquois High School. Staff will include a full-time Nurse Practitioner, mental health provider, and related support staff.

### **JCPS Health: Eva Stone**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

### **GLMS: Dr. Lewis Hargett**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

### **Kentucky Nurses Association: Delanor Manson**

- They are focused on incentives with developing a stronger inventory of nurses to cover the need for healthcare workers.

### **Greater Louisville Inc.: Shelby Somervell**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

### **Committee Reports**

#### ***Immunizations: Dr. Emerald Echols/Dr. Patricia Bautista-Cervera***

- Will have two new Co-Chairs
  - Dr. Ruth Carrico
  - Dr. Anna Huang Shrader
- The committee strongly recommends:
  - Getting the flu shot
  - Anyone over 60 and women in their third trimester of pregnancy getting the new RSV vaccine or at the very least speaking with primary healthcare providers about the benefits of getting the vaccine.
- They are currently working creating a proposal for promoting provider education on one of the available RSV vaccines.
  - Administration of the vaccine is slightly different and may need so additional education on information on the process
  - If you or a community provider have questions or concerns, please reach out to Dr. Echols or Dr. Bautista-Cervera for materials or any additional information.

#### ***Health Care Coverage & Outreach Coalition: Ashley Shoemaker***

- The next outreach meeting will be on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00.
  - Discussing:

- Medicaid renewals
  - There have been more renewals and fewer terminations
- Open enrollment for qualified health plans

**Board Announcements**

- The next board meeting will be Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. and will be virtual.
  - **Perspectives speaker:** TBD

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED**

*Dr. Patricia Bautista-Cervera*

Dr. Patricia Bautista-Cervera, Vice-Chairperson