

LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 5, 2022

Voting Members Present: Dr. Patricia Bautista-Cervera, Dr. Emerald Echols, Dr. Paula Grisanti, Margaret Handmaker, Heidi Margulis, Dr. Tony Zipple

Advisory Board Members Present: Craig Blakely, Angela Hays, Delanor Manson, Ashley Shoemaker, Eva Stone

Others Present: Rebecca Hollenbach, Taylor Ingram, Arlana Glenn, Paul Kern, Connie Mendel, T. Gonzalez, Kathy Turner, Nicholas Hart, Natalie Johnson, Leanne French

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. This was an In-person meeting with a virtual option.

Approval of Minutes

The September 7, 2022 minutes were approved as distributed.

Board Action:

Sewer Variance/Exemption-Appeal for 5906 Cooper Chapel Road

Mr. John L. Fuchs, 5906 Cooper Chapel Road, has requested an appeal of the Health Department's denial of a variance request to be exempt from connecting to the public sewer. The LMPHW Environmental Health Committee denied the exemption request by letter dated 20 July 2020.

Based on similar cases in the past, the Board may elect to approve the exemption contingent on the homeowner's complying with the Department's exemption stipulation. Mr. Fuchs publicly attested to the stipulations contained in the following motion: Mr. Fuchs shall be required to sign a deed restriction that requires the property to connect to the public sewer when:

1. Sale or transfer of the home; or
2. The existing sewage disposal system begins to fail resulting in a sewage exposure; or
3. Refusal of LMPHW to conduct annual and or complaint-based inspections of the existing sewage disposal system; or
4. The need for replacement or significant repair of the existing sewage disposal system as determine through the LMPHW onsite sewage permit application process.

The Board amended the motion to include requiring that a backup generator be added to the new sewer system as part of the deed restriction.

The appeal was approved by the Board to grant an exemption to the code contingent on the homeowner's completion of/compliance with the stipulations, as amended. The homeowner positively attested to these actions/requirements as required by the Health Department and the Board of Health.

Note of advisement for the next Administration: This type of issue should be handled on a Metro-wide basis for the establishment of standardized policies/processes for these type cases. There should be a partnership by/between Metro agencies/administration with the homeowners and the entities that provide the services.

Perspectives Session: Kentucky Public Health Transformation – Jan Chamness, MPH, KDPH Director of Public Health Transformation

Kentucky's plan for Public Health Transformation emanated came from a need to change. The physical instability of the current system was the primary reason driving the need for change. If action wasn't taken, some local Health

Departments would close.

House Bill 129: Public Health Transformation Bill was introduced in 2019. LMPHW's current Interim Medical Director Jeffrey Howard played a major role in getting this bill introduced. It passed into law at the 2020 Legislative session and led to amendments in the Kentucky Revised Statutes which categorized public health programs (KRS 211.185), emphasized local needs assessments (KRS 211.187) and established a new funding formula for local health departments (KRS 211.186).

KDPH feels that House Bill 129 and its amendments will help them fulfill their mission, vision and goals for Public Health Transformation (PHT).

- Mission - To improve the health and safety of people in Kentucky through prevention, promotion and protection
- Vision - Healthier People, Healthier Communities
- Goals for Public Health Transformation

Amendments to Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) 211.185 and KRS 211.187, define and categorize public health programs and services as:

- Core Public Health
 - Comprised of foundational health programs and other programs where the local health department might be the sole provider
- Foundational Health
 - Mandated national set of programs
- Local Public Health Priorities
 - Comprised of the top three (3) to five (5) priorities the local health department wants to focus on after the core priorities have been established

The strategic map for PHT identifies four (4) strategic priorities - People, Quality, Efficiency and Effectiveness, and Building Public Health Capacity. These priorities help promote health equity in all they do to strengthen internal and external communications.

Jan Chamness explained the current status of PHT. She shared how PHT has some challenges like data management. This is one of the biggest challenges because many systems and programs cannot interact with each other. Despite the challenges, PHT will be an on-going process and not a fly by night concept. The plan is to incorporate PHT priorities into funding sources and PHT concepts in all decision making.

Ms. Chamness appreciates how LMPHW has adopted and utilized PHT ideas and concepts.

Chair's Update: Heidi Margulis

Chair Margulis wanted to clarify today's role of the Board of Health and the Health Department. She clarified that the role of the board is not operational, it is strategic public health policy and advocacy that will result in improved and equitable health care outcomes for all Louisvillians. Today, the Health Department has evolved from offering comprehensive clinical or related services to the community at large to offering direct services to those most vulnerable where there is no other health care access. The Department works to remove barriers to necessary care/services for specialized populations, as well as serves as a connector for community wide interventions, e.g. COVID, other immunizations, etc. It also sets strategic health policy for the Administration and ensures compliance with other state/local public health statutory/regulatory/code requirements for residents.

Chair Margulis asked Connie Mendel, Deputy Director of LMPHW to further elaborate on the Department's role. Ms. Mendel stated that the goal of LMPHW was to serve those with the least access including those who are underinsured or uninsured.

When looking at vaccinations, the Department strongly supports the CDC vaccination schedule. They offer vaccination clinics at two clinics by appointment where they follow the CDC schedule or provide catch up vaccinations. They also provide vaccinations for adults. The Dixie Health Center & Newburg locations provide these vaccines at a minimal cost.

Note: Family Health Centers (a federally qualified community health plan) can also provide vaccines for low- or no-income

individuals and are conveniently located in underserved areas.

Some of the Clinical services that the Department provides include:

- Regional TB Clinic
- Specialty Clinic for sexually transmitted infections
- Methadone Clinic
 - Has recently transitioned to providing services at the Corrections Department, and pregnant women in Volunteers of America as well as in areas least served

The Health Department also provides education to the public. This is mainly conveyed through social media.

Chair Shout Outs:

- JCPS for their superb job with vaccines and preventative immunizations
- Taylor Ingram and team for reconfiguring the Director's report that is now outcomes- and metric-focused

LMPHW Director's Report: Dr. Jeffrey Howard

Mayoral transition

- Dr Howard/Team submitted a high-level overview of the Department to both mayoral candidates. Some documents included were:
 - List of Grants and Charts
 - Strategic plan
 - LMPHW top five initiatives
 - LMPHW top three strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

Workforce development

- LMPHW hosted its first in-person, all staff meeting since 2019. 150 people joined in person and 80 people participated virtually.
 - Focused on relationship building
 - Celebrated employment anniversaries
 - Held a question-and-answer session with the Senior Directors' Team

Lead

- Local policies (rental registry and proactive inspections) aimed at addressing housing exposures to reduce negative impacts of lead poisoning have been tabled until after the election.
- Internally focused on strengthening data available from providers to allow for true surveillance of the tests performed and the number of people with elevated blood lead levels.

West Nile

- 4 people have tested positive for West Nile and 1 person has died.
- Mosquitos carrying West Nile are not unusual at this time of year. LMPHW continues to find mosquitoes with West Nile virus in several ZIP codes.
- LMPHW has advised residents to take precautions regardless of what ZIP code they live in.

Monkeypox

- 30 confirmed cases of monkeypox
- 17 people are in active isolation
- 12 people have recovered and been released.
- Jefferson County accounts for 58% of cases in Kentucky

COVID

- Vaccines continue to show protection against COVID
- They continue to work with U of L with wastewater testing to show variants
 - They are working to expand the testing to cover 25 other viruses

JCPS Health Update: Eva Stone & Angela Hayes

COVID related

- Community levels are low for COVID

- JCPS is preparing for the potential historical fall surge of COVID cases
- 33% of students are double vaccinated against COVID
 - The range of double vaccinated students in some schools is from about 4% up to 84%
- JCPS will be hosting their third vaccine clinic
- Over 200 COVID vaccines were administered to staff and students in the month of September.
- JCPS community action goal is to continue to have COVID vaccinations and move to offer regularly required school vaccinations

Additional JCPS actions

- Organizing staff Flu Clinics
- Recruiting community partners to help reach more staff and students with vaccinations
- JCPS added an epidemiologist to their team
- JCPS will continue to work to make sure their students have a medical home
- Outreach to provide health equity
 - Reaching out to ESL students with translator
 - Through phone outreach to ensure they understand the “ask” and any action required
 - Onsite for face-to-face communications

GLMS Update: Dr. Val Briones-Prvor

No Report

Kentucky Nurses Association: Delanor Manson

No Report

Greater Louisville Inc Update: Shelby Williams

No Report

Committee Reports:

Immunization: Dr. Bautista-Cervera

- The committee meetings have a change in schedule dates
 - Will now meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 2:00 p.m.
- They will continue to work with JCPS on immunization
- They have a new group of ULH adult medicine physicians who have joined the committee

Behavioral Health: Dr. Tony Zipple

- The committee will now be on hold. Dr. Zipple will revisit its need when warranted.

Health Care Coverage & Outreach Coalition: Ashley Shoemaker

- The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday October 10th at 4:00 p.m.
 - They will be discussing outreach strategies for upcoming open enrollment dates
 - Medicaid is October 17th - December 2nd
 - Medicare is October 15th - December 7th
 - Qualified Health Plans on kynect is November 1st - January 15th

Board Discussion

- Rental Registry has been tabled. Chair Margulis will get information to the Board once she receives the information
- All meetings will be virtual only going forward for the next several months
- The next Board meeting will be November 2nd at 8:00 am and will be virtual only. The Perspectives Session: Environmental Health - Dr. Natasha DeJarnett, PhD, MPH, BCES Assistant Professor of Environmental Medicine

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Heidi Margulis

Heidi Margulis, Chairperson