



Hancock Public Health

Board of Health

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 19th, 2022, 7:30 a.m.



BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

- X Brian Edler (President)
- X William Alge, Esq.
- A Karen Jones, MSN, RN
- X Michael Lindamood, M.D.
- X Nancy Moody-Russo, RN, JD
- X Barbara J. Pasztor, MSN, RN
- X Robin Spors

- X Karim Baroudi, MPH, Health Commissioner
- X William Kose, M.D., Medical Director

STAFF:

- X Shannon Chamberlin, Nursing Director
- X Alexa Heacock, Help Me Grow Director
- X Chad Masters, Health P&P Director
- X Craig Niese, IT/Data Manager
- X Lindsay Summit, Environmental Health Director

1.0 CONVENTION

1.1 Call to Order

President Edler called the Regular Board of Health meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Mr. Alge moved to call the 8/19/22 Regular Board of Health meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Seconded by Ms. Pasztor. **Motion carried 6-0.**

1.2 Introduction of Public, Guests, and Staff

Commissioner Baroudi announced the following guests for the 8/19/22 meeting:

1.2.1 Gary Bright, MPA, LSW – HPH Injury Prevention Team Lead

1.2.2 Brittany Nye, MSW – HPH Overdose Fatality Review Coordinator,
Introduced by Mr. Bright

1.2.3 Sara Arthurs – Journalist/Health Reporter, The Findlay Courier Newspaper

2.0 BOARD ACTIONS/REGULATIONS/VARIANCES/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

2.1 Approval of 8/19/22 Agenda Items

President Edler requested motion to approve the 8/19/22 meeting agenda as presented in the Board information packet distributed earlier in the week.

Ms. Moody-Russo moved to approve the agenda of the 8/19/22 Regular Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Ms. Spors. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.2 Approval of 7/15/22 Board Meeting Minutes

President Edler requested motion to approve the 7/15/22 meeting minutes.

Dr. Lindamood moved to approve the minutes of the 7/15/22 Board of Health meeting.
Seconded by Ms. Nancy Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.3 Approval of July 2022 Bill Schedule

President Edler noted the insurance line items nearly doubled compared to past insurance expenses. Commissioner Baroudi confirmed the insurance expense increases, stating these increases are due to many factors, among them including significant HPH program expansion, increase in HPH staff, building space changes, and the Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) operations and malpractice insurance needs for the new MHC staff.

Commissioner Baroudi reported higher-than-normal expenses on the July 2022 Bill Schedule for furniture. This new office furniture was funded by State monies and purchased for a major office space reorganization/remodeling project. Mr. Alge asked for clarification regarding the difference between the "Furniture" and "Grant Expenses" line items in the July 2022 Bill Schedule. Commissioner Baroudi explained the "Grant Expenses" line items are monies related solely to HPH grant-funded operations and programs. The separate "Furniture" line items are solely from State funding for COVID lost-revenue off-set that went into the HPH General Fund and were not associated with any HPH grant-funded program activities.

President Edler requested motion to approve the bill schedule as presented.

Ms. Moody-Russo moved to approve the bill schedule for July 2022. Seconded by Dr. Lindamood. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.4 Board of Health to **RECOGNIZE REVENUE** for Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/22

2.4.1 Children's Trust Fund Project in the amount of \$17,732.56

President Edler requested motion to approve recognition of Children's Trust Fund Project revenue (Item 2.4.1), as above. **Mr. Alge moved to approve recognition of Children's Trust Fund Project revenue, as above.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.5 Board of Health to **APPROVE APPROPRIATION INCREASE** for Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/22

2.5.1 Get Vaccinated Ohio FY'23 project in the amount of \$35,106.00

2.5.2 PHEP FY'23 project in the amount of \$36,456.58

2.5.3 Food Service project remittance line item in the amount of \$9,000.00

2.5.4 Sewage project remittance line item in the amount of \$8,000.00

2.5.5 PHEP FY'23 contract service line item in the amount of \$357.50

President Edler requested motion to approve appropriation increases (Item 2.5.1 through 2.5.5), as above. **Dr. Lindamood moved to approve the appropriate increases, as above.** Seconded by Ms. Spoons. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.6 Board of Health to **APPROVE APPROPRIATION DECREASE** for Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/22

2.6.1 Children's Trust Fund Project in the amount of \$46,154.24

President Edler requested motion to approve appropriation decrease (Item 2.6.1), as above. **Mr. Alge moved to approve the appropriation decrease, as above.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.7 Board of Health to APPROVE the THIRD AND FINAL READING of Proposed CPR Training/Certification Fees

2.7.1 American Heart Association HeartSaver® Training at \$40.00 (Book & E-card included)

2.7.2 AHA Basic Life Support® (BLS) Training at \$75.00 (Book & E-card included)

Mr. Alge asked for clarification of the difference between the two training methods in 2.7.1 and 2.7.2 above. Commissioner Baroudi explained the AHA HeartSaver® Training (2.7.1) is a basic training course for all general associates; the AHA BLS® Training (2.7.2) is a more in-depth course for health care workers and staff in more sensitive occupations who may require specialized life support training.

President Edler requested motion to approve the third and final reading of proposed CPR Training/Certification Fees, as above. **Ms. Spors moved to approve the Third and Final Reading of Proposed CPR Training/Certification fees.** Seconded by Dr. Lindamood. **Motion carried 6-0.**

Commissioner Baroudi conducted roll call related to Motion 2.7.1, above:

Roll Call: Mr. Alge (Bill): YES

Mr. Edler (Brian): YES

Ms. Jones (Karen): ABSENT

Dr. Lindamood: YES

Ms. Moody-Russo (Nancy): YES

Ms. Pasztor (BJ): YES

Ms. Spors (Robin): YES

Commissioner Baroudi conducted roll call related to Motion 2.7.2, above:

Roll Call: Mr. Alge (Bill): YES

Mr. Edler (Brian): YES

Ms. Jones (Karen): ABSENT

Dr. Lindamood: YES

Ms. Moody-Russo (Nancy): YES

Ms. Pasztor (BJ): YES

Ms. Spors (Robin): YES

3.0 STAFF REPORTS ON PROGRAMS & SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

3.1 July 2022 Financial Report and Analysis – Karim Baroudi

Commissioner Baroudi presented 2022 budget trends and a seven-year comparison analysis using slides and Board packet information distributed earlier in the week. He stated there is an expected revenue decrease in July due to seasonal slowdown in fee-for service activities for many HPH programs; however, the normal trend is for revenue to pick back up in the fall with immunization and school clinics. Commissioner Baroudi stated there are no unusual budget trends noted in 2022 compared to the past seven years, although he did make special note that the budget is approaching nearly double from 2016. President Edler asked how much of the budget increase is due to grant-funded and fee-for-service programs. Mr. Baroudi estimated that 85% of the HPH budget originates from grant sources, while taxpayer contribution comprises approximately 15% of the budget. Commissioner Baroudi added that our operations' budget doubling was the result of adding more services funded by various grants awarded by the State/Federal government to mitigate our response to the pandemic.

3.2 Medical Director – Dr. Kose

Community Health Needs Assessment Update: Dr. Kose discussed strategic planning and collaborative efforts related to the Community Health Needs Assessment survey results. HPH and Blanchard Valley Hospital (BVH) are currently involved in the Be Healthy Now Program, with a vision of helping Hancock County become the healthiest county in Ohio. Dr. Kose discussed what it means to be healthy; being healthy involves not only healthcare services and access, but also is dependent on many other social determinants of health (insurance rates, transportation, socioeconomic status/poverty, housing, and food - all factors contributing to a person's health/wellbeing). During COVID, our community discovered the positive outcomes of collaboration among different organizations to meet community health needs. To actualize the vision of Be Healthy Now, Dr. Kose and Commissioner Baroudi are searching for feedback from survey results, other community organizations, health providers and Hancock Co. residents to come up with a structure for deciding about community health priorities and how to allocate resources.

Mr. Alge asked how community health priorities and related services will be publicized. Commissioner Baroudi stated the dashboard tool developed by Jessica Shrake, CDC Foundation Epidemiologist, will provide more concrete data and practical value regarding community needs. Dr. Kose stated once needs are better identified, they will be available to community members on the dashboard site and further publicized in other electronic, journalistic, and interactive educational forms.

Mr. Alge asked if there has been data collected from Ohio counties considered to be the "healthiest" in terms of those best practices. Dr. Kose stated before useful data can be collected, it is priority to define who is responsible from a leadership perspective of the Be Healthy Now project. Dr. Kose opined that transportation may be identified as a significant factor affecting the health of Hancock Co. residents. Mr. Alge stated there is inherent subjectivity in determining best practices for healthy regions; Dr. Kose agreed, adding that much of the pertinent research is outdated, hence justifying the need for collecting data and organizing the structure of Be Healthy Now before publicizing and/or allocating resources.

COVID Update: Dr. Kose reported no currently worrisome increases in COVID hospitalizations/deaths, although there has been an increase in hospital staff off work with COVID currently. Current COVID strain symptoms still appear to be controllable, despite generally decreased mask wearing. Commissioner Baroudi corroborated, stating the current cases of COVID in Hancock Co. are manageable, the disease appears to be becoming milder, and hospitalizations/deaths continue to pose no imminent threat. Dr. Kose expressed he feels the medical community is not utilizing PAXLOVID to its potential in COVID treatment.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding COVID positive case reporting in hospitals, initiated by questions from Ms. Pasztor and Mr. Alge. Ms. Pasztor asked about reliability of COVID statistics given that many people are home testing and not reporting positive cases. Commissioner Baroudi stated an algorithm formula related to hospital admission rate and cases per capita is applied to confirmed cases to represent an estimate of all positive cases in any given region.

Ms. Pasztor asked if COVID data reflects a differentiation between people admitted to the hospital primarily due to COVID symptoms versus people admitted with a primary diagnosis unrelated to COVID but incidentally testing positive for COVID on admission (“incidentals”). Mr. Alge asked where these incidental COVID positives fit into the statistics. Commissioner Baroudi reported the data differentiating primary COVID positive cases and incidental COVID positives is accounted for, although on the HPH Dashboard the positive cases reported encompass all positively confirmed COVID cases, including incidentals.

Monkeypox Update: Currently there are no Hancock Co. Monkeypox cases; 90 cases are reported in Ohio. Epidemiologists are concerned about Monkeypox spread, though no significant preparation for a possible outbreak is occurring. Mr. Alge asked how the smallpox vaccination relates to Monkeypox virus. Dr. Kose reported there is data demonstrating the smallpox vaccine may provide Monkeypox-immunity protection. Per Sara Arthurs, routine administration of smallpox vaccine ceased in 1972, thus currently there are limited smallpox vaccines available. Dr. Kose noted there may be a large population of Hancock Co. residents with no Monkeypox immunity (people who did not receive smallpox vaccination) and stated the concern over potential epidemics in the future is really due to lack of smallpox vaccination availability and also due to an increase of people against vaccinations (“anti-vaxxers”).

Commissioner Baroudi corroborated that there is a significant shortage of vaccines which might protect against Monkeypox. He stated the main messaging for the public regarding Monkeypox currently is centered around education regarding viral spread and positive-case risk factors, which include close/intimate touch contact, risk in congregate situations, with low evidence that Monkeypox is spread by droplets. Mr. Baroudi stated people may believe Monkeypox is comparable to COVID, however, there is no evidence justifying a similarity in these viruses. Unlike at the beginning of the COVID pandemic where public health did not have any information regarding COVID transmission/risks/vaccinations, we do have information regarding all said factors related to Monkeypox – including a post-vaccination treatment.

Ms. Pasztor asked if there is information regarding a timeline for a widely available vaccine for Monkeypox; Commissioner Baroudi stated this is unknown, and that HPH will not be receiving a Monkeypox vaccination in house unless there are positive cases in Hancock Co. Further, the Monkeypox vaccination will be for post exposure, not pre-exposure. Because Hancock Co. is not considered high risk for Monkeypox at this time, no mass vaccinations are being provided.

Mr. Alge asked if there is concern with Monkeypox spread in nursing homes; Commissioner Baroudi answered yes, there is concern of Monkeypox transmission in all congregate settings where close touch contact occurs, including nursing homes, universities, missions/shelters, and other high-risk groups identified by the CDC. Due to the concern of Monkeypox transmission risk in congregate settings, HPH is re-establishing connections with local nursing homes, University of Findlay, the City Mission of Findlay, and other identified facilities in order to provide awareness education.

Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) Update: Dr. Kose stated the focus of the MHC for the last month has been infrastructure preparation, including organization of the MHC visitation schedule and determining best electronic health record system for MHC data collection, documentation, and billing. One significant future role of the MHC identified by Dr. Kose will be helping residents in need become connected with Medicaid coverage. Commissioner Baroudi thanked Sara

Arthurs, Findlay Courier, for her news coverage of the MHC and stated HPH staff are excited about the MHC presence at the upcoming Hancock Co. Fair. Mr. Baroudi referred Board members to a previously distributed detailed report of all MHC activity since the start of the project. Dr. Kose announced that Laura Reinhart, MHC Services Coordinator, will be present for the September 2022 Board meeting to provide a more detailed report.

Poliovirus Discussion: Ms. Pasztor initiated discussion regarding recent poliovirus cases in New York state. She asked if Hancock Co. has access to polio vaccination rates in the region. Ms. Chamberlin reported HPH is able to access school vaccination rates, but the State does not require all facilities to input data regarding vaccines into IMPACT (OH Impact Statewide Immunization Information System). The only providers required to use IMPACT are vaccines-for-children practices, and there are only two of those in Hancock Co. Ms. Chamberlin stated since COVID, more providers are submitting information to IMPACT, however, this would not provide relevant information on past polio vaccine rates. Discussion ensued between Ms. Chamberlin, Dr. Kose, Dr. Lindamood, Mr. Alge, and Commissioner Baroudi regarding future concern about people who are against vaccinations (“anti-vaxxers”). Ms. Chamberlin stated many families by verbal report appear to be pro-vaccination for regulated, required vaccines, even if those families were/are against the COVID vaccine. Commissioner Baroudi stated a good indicator of general vaccination statistics is from school system data, and currently Hancock Co. school system vaccination rates are over 80%. Despite school vaccination rates, there still is not enough poliovirus vaccination data from the past. Mr. Alge and Ms. Chamberlin expressed their concerns regarding the trend of homeschool families declining vaccinations and remote students not receiving regular vaccinations, which in turn may decrease immunization rates, eventually decreasing overall herd immunity. Dr. Lindamood opined there will always be a percentage of the population who will refuse vaccinations, citing that only 60% of people in the 1950s were polio vaccinated.

Ms. Pasztor asked how HPH could proactively get ahead of a potential poliovirus public health issue. Ms. Pasztor stated residents may not be aware of how they can get a polio vaccination. Ms. Moody-Russo added residents may not understand the dangerous consequences of contracting poliovirus. Commissioner Baroudi stated public health needs to promote becoming polio vaccinated. Dr. Kose advised health officials need to provide education about the potential risks of contracting the poliovirus and how to become vaccinated.

3.3 Health Planning & Promotion – Chad Masters

Mr. Masters summarized his printed Board report. No significant additions or changes.

3.4 Health Services – Shannon Chamberlin

Ms. Chamberlin summarized her printed Board report, providing special description of the electronic medical record system she has been researching for potential use at HPH – EMRWorks, a cloud-based system with versatile application in all Nursing Program areas, including the MHC. Ms. Chamberlin has consulted with Ottawa County Public Health, who uses EMRWorks, and has thus far received positive feedback on the usefulness of the system.

3.5 Help Me Grow (HMG) Program – Alexa Heacock

Ms. Heacock summarized her printed Board report, with special reports on two items: 1) Two Family Relaxation Stations at the upcoming Hancock Co. Fair organized by the HMG team – these stations will provide areas for families to bring their children in an air-conditioned environment, with changing and lactation stations; and 2) HMG Program conducting exploration of grants to help with transportation for HMG family participants in coordination with HATS (Hancock Area Transportation Services).

3.6 Environmental Health (EH) Services – Lindsay Summit

Ms. Summit thanked Sara Arthurs, Findlay Courier, for her recent article on the Vector Control Program EH student and announced an upcoming article on mobile food trucks highlighting Kurt Schroeder, Environmental Health Supervisor.

Ms. Summit reviewed her printed Board report, noting that food inspections are currently caught up. She initiated special discussion regarding the slowdown of sewage, water, and residential plumbing permits in the last year, stating this trend is continually monitored. She described a potential HPH collaboration with Hardin Co. Health Dept. for Eric Helms, HPH Plumbing Inspector, to conduct commercial plumbing inspections for Hardin Co (which are now being conducted by Erie Co. Plumbing Inspector, Wyatt Simons, who is soon retiring). Ms. Summit will provide further details regarding this collaboration after she reaches out to Erie and Hardin County Health Departments for approval and planning. Board members did not voice objection to an HPH collaboration with Hardin Co. for commercial plumbing inspections.

Mr. Alge asked if EH Services are responsible for conducting playground inspections. Ms. Summit answered yes, but only for indoor/outdoor school playgrounds. HPH EH Services are not involved with city park/playground inspections.

3.7 IT & Health Data Management Services – Craig Niese

Mr. Niese updated the Board on IT-related projects. Mr. Niese has been busy with finishing HPH new staff computer and data security upgrades and exploring the purchase of an intercom system to improve efficiency of supply deliveries to the garage.

The QI Fleet Vehicle Scheduling Project is in its final stages, with Jessica Halsey, Health Educator, and Shannon Chamberlin, Director of Nursing, soon to provide training for HPH staff on how to use the new time- and mileage-saving organizational schedule. Once the project is complete, Mr. Niese will provide a written report and share with the Board.

Regarding the paperless Document Management System, DocuScan, through Perry proTECH, Mr. Niese reported that progress with this project has been slower than anticipated mainly due to high staff turnover at Perry proTECH in recent months, with consequent unavailability for DocuScan problem solving and training for HPH staff. The Board will be continually updated.

3.8 Health Commissioner Remarks & Legislative Update – Karim Baroudi

Mobile Health Clinic Update: See Section 3.2, Mobile Health Clinic Update, above.

COVID Update: See Section 3.2, COVID Update, above.

Monkeypox Update: See Section 3.2, Monkeypox Update, above.

Polio Discussion: See Section 3.2, Polio Discussion, above.

Legislation Update: Legislation is in recess until after the November 2022 election. The Board will be apprised of any significant legislation affecting public health in the meantime.

Special Meeting Attendance Update: Commissioner Baroudi reported his attendance at separate meetings of the Township Trustees and City Council. He noted there were many new City Council People at the City Council meeting, who asked meaningful questions of Mr. Baroudi. Commissioner Baroudi stated the City Council meeting allowed for a significant opportunity to reconnect with council members, renewal of the new contract with HPH was discussed, and voting will occur at the next meeting.

Fiscal Audit Update: Due to the increase in federal grants during COVID, fiscal audits are being conducted on a more frequent/annual basis. No foreseeable problems were noted regarding the most recent audit. The Board will be continually informed on any new audit information.

4.0 OLD/NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Personnel: Brittany Nye, MSW – Overdose Fatality Review Coordinator, Hired 7/25/22

5.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION

5.1 No CEUs were offered at the current meeting of 8/19/22. Commissioner Baroudi proposed to the Board scheduling a CEU group session either in person or through link sharing in order to expedite completion of CEUs. No opposition by the Board was voiced.

6.0 NEXT MEETING

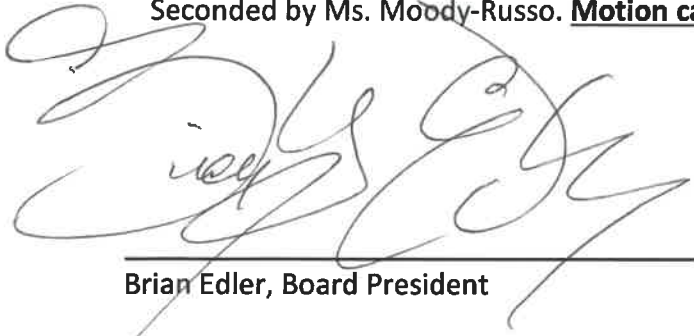
6.1 Friday, 9/16/22, 7:30 a.m., Hancock Public Health, 2225 Keith Parkway, Findlay, Ohio. Commissioner Baroudi announced the absence of Dr. Kose and himself from the Board meeting on 9/16/22 due to a Commissioners' Association Meeting in Columbus with Medical Director attendance. Ms. Pasztor announced her absence from the Board meeting on 9/16/22, as well.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Edler requested motion for adjournment of the Regular 8/19/22 Board of Health meeting.

Ms. Spoors motioned the Board of Health to adjourn the Regular Meeting of 8/19/22 at 9:08 a.m.

Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**



Brian Edler, Board President



Karim Baroudi, MPH, Board Secretary