



Hancock Public Health

Board of Health

Regular Meeting Minutes

December 16th, 2022, 7:30 a.m.



BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

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

STAFF:

- X Shannon Chamberlin, Nursing Director
- X Alexa Heacock, Help Me Grow (HMG) Director
- X Chad Masters, Health P&P Director
- X Cheryl Miller, PR/Marketing Coordinator
- A Craig Niese, IT/Data Manager
- X Laura Reinhart, Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) Coordinator
- X Lindsay Summit, Environmental Health (EH) Director

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

1.2 Introduction of Public, Guests, and Staff

Commissioner Baroudi announced the following guests for the 12/16/22 meeting:

1.2.1 Leah Alsept, Findlay Courier Reporter

1.2.2 Myron Lewis, President & CEO, Blanchard Valley Health System (arrived 9:00 a.m.)

2.0 BOARD ACTIONS/REGULATIONS/VARIANCES/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

2.1 Approval of 12/16/22 Agenda Items

President Edler requested motion to approve the 12/16/22 meeting agenda as presented in the Board information packet distributed earlier in the week.

Dr. Lindamood moved to approve the agenda of the 12/16/22 Regular Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.2 Approval of 11/18/22 Board Meeting Minutes

President Edler requested motion to approve the 11/28/22 BOH meeting minutes.

Mr. Alge moved to approve the minutes of the 11/28/22 Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Ms. Jones. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.3 Approval of November 2022 Bill Schedule

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

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

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

2.4.1 Mobile Health Clinic (Community Foundation Award for A1C analyzer) in the amount of **\$3,000.00**

2.4.2 Mobile Health Clinic (CF Award for Youth Diabetes Program) in the amount of **\$843.00**

2.4.3 COVID Enhanced Operations (EO) Project in the amount of **\$10,000.00**

President Edler requested motion to approve and recognize revenue (Items 2.4.1, 2.4.2, and 2.4.3), as detailed. **Dr. Lindamood moved to Approve and Recognize Revenue for Items 2.4.1, 2.4.2, and 2.4.3 above.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**

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

2.5.1 Prevent T2 Health Initiative in the amount of **\$29,617.30**

2.5.2 Safe Communities' Project in the amount of **\$22,952.76**

President Edler requested motion to approve the appropriation decrease for Item 2.5.1, as detailed. **Ms. Jones moved to Approve the Appropriation Decrease for Item 2.5.1 above.** Seconded by Mr. Alge. **Motion carried 6-0.**

President Edler requested motion to approve the appropriation decrease for Item 2.5.2, as detailed. **Ms. Spoons moved to Approve the Appropriation Decrease for Item 2.5.2 above.** Seconded by Mr. Alge. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2.6 **Board of Health THIRD AND FINAL READING of Proposed 2023 Environmental Health Fees**

Ms. Summit stated there were no changes from the First and Second 2023 Environmental Health Fee Readings from 10/21/22 and 11/18/22, respectively. There have been no questions or comments voiced by community members during a public hearing period. Multiple media announcements of fee changes were posted as well.

President Edler requested motion to approve the Third and Final Reading of the proposed 2023 Environmental Health fees, as detailed. **Dr. Lindamood moved to approve the Third and Final Reading of the 2023 Proposed Environmental Health Fees.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**

Commissioner Baroudi conducted roll call related to Item 2.6 above:

Roll Call: Mr. Alge (Bill): YES

Mr. Edler (Brian): YES

Ms. Jones (Karen): YES

Dr. Lindamood: YES

Ms. Moody-Russo (Nancy): YES

Ms. Pasztor (BJ): ABSENT

Ms. Spoons (Robin): YES

3.0 STAFF REPORTS ON PROGRAMS & SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

3.1 November 2022 Financial Report and Analysis – Karim Baroudi

Commissioner Baroudi summarized his financial report for the Board, including revenue trends in 2022 and a seven-year balance comparison. No red flags noted in trends. No concerns voiced by the Board regarding the November 2022 Financial Report.

3.2 Medical Director – Dr. William Kose

Infectious Disease Update: Dr. Kose stated positive COVID cases are increasing in Hancock Co, with continued concerns in the medical community regarding long COVID symptoms (some cases of long COVID impairing patient functioning for months). An overlapping concern is progressively increasing infections with respiratory symptoms, especially shortness of breath, but not as much need for ventilators. Influenza has also increased, but limited testing for Type A influenza further limits determination of cause of some of these pervasive respiratory issues. Hospitalizations have had a corresponding increase, with BVH reaching near patient capacity recently. There are no current concerns with Monkeypox.

Community Health Needs Assessment: Dr. Kose updated the Board on the Be Healthy Now (BHN) initiative, the driving force behind the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Dr. Kose and Commissioner Baroudi have been working to meet with community partners, who all seem to be in support of the BHN. Some examples of BHN priorities include improving health behaviors through tobacco cessation, diabetic/disease management, and addiction/overdose prevention. The next step is to present a final report to the Board (set for 01/2023), including BHN priorities and initiative strategies.

Ms. Jones asked if faith-based communities will be involved in the BHN initiatives, as faith communities often have wide and varied community connections and knowledge of resources. Commissioner Baroudi stated a large network of all community groups is the goal in the BHN initiative, but ideally there would be one person/group to act as the spearhead and network with all agencies involved. Mr. Alge asked who would be ideal to act as this networking organizer (i.e., the ADAMHS Board?); Dr. Kose opined that input is needed from the frontline as to whom would be the best person/group to lead BHN navigation (possibly social workers). Commissioner Baroudi stated HPH staff frequently help clients navigate multiple secondary social needs - needs sometimes not related to HPH direct services, because there is no one else available - and part of the BHN project is determining who will lead that navigation and how that service process will be organized.

3.3 Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) Update – Laura Reinhart

Ms. Reinhart summarized her written report. Dr. Kose made special note of the significant decrease in hemoglobin A1c of glucose monitor study participants and stated these results will contribute to longer life, fewer health problems, and an eventual reduction in health expenses, thus potentially justifying future coverage of glucose monitors for patients. Ms. Reinhart added that many glucose monitor study participants show increased medication compliance as an added benefit to program participation, which will further improve lifelong health.

Mr. Alge asked for an update on the grant with Allen Co. HD. Ms. Reinhart the grant acquired by Allen Co., which is for Reproductive Health (RH)/Sexually Transmitted Infection Prevention, a five-year grant cycle, and would involve HPH possibly receiving part of the Allen Co. grant money for implementation of RH services in Hancock Co. Mr. Alge asked if this grant will require the MHC staff to conduct services in Allen Co.; Ms. Reinhart answered that the grant would only contribute to RH services for Hancock Co. residents.

3.4 Health Planning & Promotion – Chad Masters

Mr. Masters summarized his detailed written Board report provided in the Board packet earlier in the week. No questions from Board members.

3.5 Health Services – Shannon Chamberlin

Ms. Chamberlin summarized her written Board report, announcing the departure of Alexa Dreyer from HPH as the Children with Medical Handicaps Program nurse. Ms. Chamberlin described that Ms. Dreyer desired a return to more hands-on clinical nursing work. The position is posted, and interviews have begun.

3.6 Help Me Grow (HMG) Program – Alexa Heacock

Ms. Heacock summarized the written Board report provided in the Board packet earlier in the week. No questions from Board members.

3.7 Environmental Health (EH) Services – Lindsay Summit

Ms. Summit summarized her written Board report, adding that health inspection trends are on target for timelines. She commended the efforts of Heidi Phillips, REHS and Instructor of the Food Safety Manager Class. Ms. Summit stated she believes offering an in-person class has contributed to increased safety awareness/compliance among food service workers in Hancock County food facilities.

Ms. Summit reported the Environmental Health (EH) Specialist vacant position has been posted; no interviews have yet occurred. Mr. Alge asked if Owens students could be involved; Ms. Summit stated candidates for this position need to have at least a bachelor's degree.

3.8 IT & Health Data Management Services – Karim Baroudi, in absence of Craig Niese

Commissioner Baroudi stated Mr. Niese's time has been focused on the completion of the electronic medical record software project for the Nursing Dept. Go live date set for 2/21/23. President Edler asked if the project is on schedule for go live date; Commissioner Baroudi answered yes. Further updates will be provided in the 01/2023 BOH meeting.

3.9 Health Commissioner Remarks & Legislative Update – Karim Baroudi

Commissioner Baroudi attended the most recent Marion Township Meeting, reporting that the Trustees have expressed gratitude for the flu clinics and MHC screenings provided by HPH. Mr. Baroudi stated he is looking forward to further collaboration with Marion Township in 2023, as he feels this connection may improve future collaborative efforts with other Hancock County Township Trustees.

4.0 OLD/NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Personnel

Commissioner Baroudi announced the resignation of Alexa Dreyer, RN, Children with Medical Handicaps Program, effective 12/15/22.

4.2 Drug Overdose Deaths

Due to a recent notable increase in Hancock County drug overdose deaths, the Board discussed a joint letter proposed by Commissioner Baroudi to be sent to Hancock County community partners and any potentially involved parties (law enforcement, etc.), to include information about the recent overdose spike and actions that can be taken to lower the spike and prevent more deaths. Mr. Alge asked who is responsible for paying attention to overdose spikes. Commissioner Baroudi stated Injury Prevention and HPH make public alerts when there are such spikes in overdose deaths, however, there is not an identified course of action mentioned, which prompted Mr. Baroudi's proposal for the above-mentioned letter.

President Edler shared his personal family experience with a drug overdose death and emphasized the importance of communicating to the public the benefits and limitations of fentanyl strip use which contribute to accidental overdose deaths. Mr. Edler explained to the Board that people experiencing addiction often need to use increasing amounts of a drug to experience the same effect over time. However, drug suppliers often cheapen their supply for profit by "cutting" or mixing it with other substances, often dangerous/deadly other substances (i.e., fentanyl). A drug user never knows if the dosage being used is a strong dose (more pure) or a weakened dose ("cut" with other substances). Although fentanyl strips can help detect fentanyl that is cut into a drug supply and possibly alert a drug user to danger, fentanyl strips cannot show exactly how much fentanyl is cut into a drug supply. Thus, because a drug user has no way of knowing exactly what each drug supply contains, and each drug user has different levels of substance tolerance, he/she may use a much higher dose, believing that the dose is cut/weakened, but in some cases that supply may be much stronger (more pure) than believed, or may have a much higher level of "cut" substances than believed, resulting in accidental overdose.

President Edler stated he is in support of Commissioner Baroudi's proposed letter, but he added that some of the information in the letter is incomplete and he would like to see more detailed information regarding use of fentanyl strips. Commissioner Baroudi stated the reason the fentanyl strip discussion was not included in the letter is because there is currently a pending House Bill to decriminalize fentanyl strip possession; Mr. Baroudi thought it unwise to include not fully legalized information in an official letter. President Edler acknowledged understanding of this potential legalization issue, but expressed he feels it is of utmost importance to include fentanyl strip information in letters of this nature once decriminalization occurs. Dr. Kose stated Hancock County partners have been working on the complicated issues surrounding accidental overdose death for over a decade, however, it is becoming a progressively larger problem and believes it may become the top priority for community health needs in Hancock County.

Ms. Jones noted a misspelling of Judge Reginald Routson's name in the proposed letter. Incorrect spelling Rouston, correct spelling Routson. Misspelling duly noted by Commissioner Baroudi.

Mr. Alge asked if the letter will address police not carrying Narcan to save lives, as he has significant concerns about this issue. Commissioner Baroudi stated there needs to be discussion among all involved parties about "best practices" in dealing with accidental overdose deaths, and that there are items clearly identified as best practices currently in the letter that all recipients will be asked to consider implementing.

President Edler requested motion to approve sending an official joint informational letter to all Hancock County community partners and any potentially involved parties (law enforcement, etc.), to include best practices to use for preventing accidental drug overdoses/deaths, to include correction of Judge Reginald Routson's last name, as detailed in Section 4.2. **Mr. Alge moved to approve sending the informational letter, as above.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 6-0.**

4.3 Academic Health Department Collaboration with BGSU

Commissioner Baroudi stated this matter is still pending. There have been no formal plans written to present to the Board regarding an HPH and BGSU academic collaboration.

On another note, Mr. Baroudi has been speaking with Timothy Murphy, Ph.D., Occupational Health, University of Findlay for ideas on how to increase U of F student interest in Public Health careers. HPH Environmental Health staff may begin speaking to University of Findlay classes to increase interest in applying for EH positions.

4.4 Community Health Improvement Plan

See Section 3.2 above, Medical Director Report.

4.5 Meet and greet with Myron Lewis, President & CEO, Blanchard Valley Health System

Board of Health members and HPH staff already present in the 12/16/22 BOH meeting introduced themselves to Mr. Lewis. Mr. Lewis introduced himself to the Board and staff and provided a brief personal and professional summary. Commissioner Baroudi described the Board of Health structure to Mr. Lewis, including information about how the seven appointed Board members are voted in by the District Advisory Council (DAC). The Board of Health includes three city representatives, three county representatives, and one representative from an HPH-licensed program. Mr. Baroudi described that the DAC includes 29 individuals including the Mayor, Commissioners' Chair, and a representative chair from each township and village in Hancock County. The DAC meets once a year on the first Monday in March, where the annual HPH report is presented and voting takes place, if required. Mr. Baroudi also provided information to Mr. Lewis on the 35 full-time associates at HPH and each widely varied-in-service department at HPH.

Mr. Lewis reported he is invested in helping advance the clinical as well as nonclinical health of Hancock County residents. He believes improving community health cannot be accomplished

by a hospital system alone. Mr. Lewis stated this investment of improving community health is part of Blanchard Valley Hospital's strategic plan, thus Mr. Lewis feels dedicated to forming partnerships at local, state, and national levels in order to further the Be Healthy Now initiatives for Hancock County residents.

Mr. Masters described his involvement with the Medical Reserve Core (MRC) and the significant impact the MRC had in managing the pandemic response and potential future participation in emergency responses. Mr. Masters stated the time given by MRC volunteers during the COVID pandemic alone matched \$75,000.00 worth of services that would have had to be provided by paid staff without such a volunteer core. Mr. Masters opined he hopes that BVH might in the future begin including MRC information during hospital staff onboarding to increase community participation in this impactful core of volunteers. Commissioner Baroudi stated HPH has a goal to build an even larger MRC in the future. Part of this emergency preparedness includes tabletop emergency preparedness exercise groups, one of which is planned for January 2023 at HPH. This exercise will include hospital staff and other community partners.

Commissioner Baroudi emphasized the importance for community members of his hope to have "one health system" working for Hancock County residents, meaning a solid, consistent partnership between Blanchard Valley Hospital and Hancock Public Health, involving shared goals and initiatives about improving the health of residents and shared strategic planning.

General social discussion ensued among Board members, Mr. Lewis, Commissioner Baroudi, Dr. Kose, and HPH associates already present at the 12/16/22 BOH meeting, with one special note made by Mr. Lewis regarding hospital services needing to be adjusted/limited due to currently limited staffing resources. Mr. Lewis described that this staff shortage is affecting all hospitals in the United States. Half of the open hospital positions are clinical, half nonclinical, but all have a significant impact on service provision for clients. Mr. Lewis stated BVH employs 3200 associates, and currently there are 500 open BVH positions. The hospital is currently reliant on traveling contracted employees, and without those traveling employees some hospital services would have to be discontinued.

5.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION

5.1 No CEUs will be offered at today's meeting, 12/16/2022.

6.0 NEXT MEETING

6.1 Friday, 1/20/2023, 7:30 a.m., Hancock Public Health, 2225 Keith Parkway, Findlay, Ohio.

6.2 **2023 Regular Board of Health Meeting Schedule: Third Friday monthly, 7:30 a.m., Hancock Public Health, 2225 Keith Parkway, Findlay, Ohio. List of 2023 Board Meeting dates below:**

Friday - January 20, 2023

Friday - February 17, 2023

Friday - March 17, 2023

Friday - April 21, 2023

Friday - May 19, 2023

Friday - June 16, 2023

Friday - July 21, 2023

Friday - August 18, 2023

Friday - September 15, 2023

Friday - October 20, 2023

Friday, November 17, 2023

Friday, December 15, 2023

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Edler requested motion for adjournment of the Regular 12/16/2022 Board of Health meeting. **Ms. Moody-Russo motioned the Board of Health to adjourn the Regular Meeting of 12/16/2022 at 9:40 a.m. Seconded by Dr. Lindamood. Motion carried 6-0.**



Brian Edler, Board President



Karim Baroudi, MPH, Board Secretary