



# Hancock Public Health

## Board of Health Regular Meeting Minutes

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 7:30 a.m.



### **BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE:**

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

- X Karim Baroudi, MPH, Health Commissioner
- X Nathaniel Ratnasamy, M.D., Medical Director

### **STAFF:**

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

## **1.0 CONVENTION**

### **1.1 Call to Order**

President Pasztor called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

### **1.2 Introduction of Public, Guests and Employees:**

Commissioner Baroudi announced the following guests to the 2/18/22 meeting:

- 1.2.1** Angela Guthrie – Hancock Co. Resident, per by prior request
- 1.2.2** Lisa Guthrie – Hancock Co. Resident, per by prior request
- 1.2.3** Cheryl Miller – PR/Marketing Coordinator, Hancock Public Health

## **2.0 BOARD ACTIONS/REGULATIONS/VARIANCES/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **2.1 Approval of February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Agenda Items**

President Pasztor requested motion to approve the 2/18/22 meeting agenda as presented in the Board information packet.

**Ms. Spoons moved to approve the Agenda of the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Regular Board of Health meeting.** Seconded by Ms. Jones. **Motion carried 7-0.**

### **2.2 Approval of January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes**

President Pasztor requested motion to approve the 1/21/22 meeting minutes.

**Mr. Alge moved to approve the minutes of the January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, Board of Health meeting.** Seconded by Dr. Lindamood. **Motion carried 7-0.**

### **2.3 Approval of January 2022 Bill Schedule**

President Pasztor requested motion to approve the bill schedule as presented in Board packet.

**Dr. Lindamood moved to approve the bill schedule for January 2022.** Seconded by Vice President Edler. **Motion carried 7-0.**

**2.4 Board of Health to allow time for Public Participation:**

Public guests expressed concerns, including accuracy of information regarding CDC/HPH-recommended COVID precautions, effectiveness of mask use and COVID vaccines, COVID testing accuracy, FDA involvement in vaccination approval, and hospital reimbursement for COVID, among others. One guest requested increased accessibility to Board of Health meetings and further encouraged involved community members to attend Board of Health meetings. President Pasztor thanked the public guests for their input on behalf of the Board.

**2.5 Board of Health to RECOGNIZE REVENUE for fiscal year ending 12/31/22:**

- 2.5.1 Prevent T2 Health Initiative project in the amount of **\$779.00**
- 2.5.2 Enhanced Operations Project in the amount of **\$90,500.00**
- 2.5.3 Integrated Naloxone FY'23 project in the amount of **\$54,750.00**
- 2.5.4 Public Health Workforce FY'22 project in the amount of **\$16,271.58**
- 2.5.5 Children's Trust Project in the amount of **\$25,000.00**
- 2.5.6 BIDPP FY'22 project in the amount of **\$10,000.00**
- 2.5.7 CN22 (Covid-19 Vaccination) project in the amount of **\$112,282.20**
- 2.5.8 PHEP project in the amount of **\$19,061.00**
- 2.5.9 Drug Overdose FY'22 project in the amount of **\$50,300.53**

President Pasztor requested motion to recognize new revenues, as presented above.

**Dr. Lindamood moved to approve Board Recognition of Revenue, as presented.** Seconded by Ms. Spoor. **Motion carried 7-0.**

**2.6 Board of Health to APPROVE APPROPRIATION INCREASE for fiscal year ending 12/31/22:**

- 2.6.1 Prevent T2 Health Initiative project in the amount of **\$779.00**
- 2.6.2 Integrated Naloxone FY'23 project in the amount of **\$40,000.00**
- 2.6.3 BIDPP FY'21 project in the amount of **\$1,343.71**
- 2.6.4 BIDPP FY'22 project in the amount of **\$10,000.00**
- 2.6.5 Enhanced Operations Project in the amount of **\$90,500.00**
- 2.6.6 Integrated Naloxone FY'23 project in the amount of **\$6,912.23**
- 2.6.7 Public Health Workforce FY'23 project in the amount of **\$13,271.58**
- 2.6.8 Children's Trust Project in the amount of **\$13,112.45**
- 2.6.9 CN22 (Covid-19 Vaccination) project in the amount of **\$112,282.20**
- 2.6.10 PHEP project in the amount of **\$5,404.64**
- 2.6.11 Drug Overdose FY'22 project in the amount of **\$31,077.03**

President Pasztor requested motion to approve appropriation increase, as presented above.

**Ms. Spoor moved to approve the Appropriation Increase, as presented.** Seconded by Ms. Jones. **Motion carried 7-0.**

**2.7 Board of Health to RECOGNIZE EFFORTS of Hancock Public Health Harm Reduction Team, and progress of the BLOODBORNE INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM initiative (BIDPP), since its inception on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.**

President Pasztor requested Board motion of recognition.

**Ms. Moody-Russo moved to recognize HPH Harm Reduction Team Efforts and BIDPP Program Progress.** Seconded by Ms. Jones. **Motion carried 7-0.**

**3.0 STAFF REPORTS ON PROGRAMS & SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY**

**3.1 Medical Director – Dr. Ratnasamy**

Dr. Ratnasamy reviewed COVID trends. Despite COVID cases and hospitalizations steadily decreasing, Dr. Ratnasamy reported there are still a higher rate of deaths, which should not be taken lightly. Mr. Alge asked if the downward COVID trend is related to the newer Omicron variant? Dr. Ratnasamy answered that the current variant has created fewer people being susceptible to acquiring COVID-19, having less individuals who are susceptible, the lower the spread. Ms. Jones asked if most deaths are occurring in immunocompromised individuals or people with comorbidities. Dr. Ratnasamy answered two-thirds of COVID deaths are in the elderly population, so still one-third of COVID deaths are in people younger than expected. Dr. Ratnasamy further stated that for people with stable disease processes, a positive COVID diagnosis can cause death, where otherwise that disease process may have remained stable and not caused death for many more years of that's person's life.

President Pasztor asked for an update on COVID oral treatment methods. Dr. Ratnasamy stated the oral treatments have come later than what we ideally wanted, however, at the least having these methods available will allow us to be better prepared for any future need. Vice President Edler asked if hospitals are still being selective regarding oral treatment recipients. Dr. Ratnasamy answered there is still a need for selectivity until the supply availability increases. Vice President Edler asked if there is a shelf life on oral COVID treatments; Dr. Ratnasamy answered that there are no special shelf-life circumstances with oral treatments.

Public guests were granted time to ask questions of Dr. Ratnasamy. One guest asked if the COVID numbers are down-trending because contact tracing is no longer occurring. Dr. Ratnasamy answered that there are multiple reasons numbers could be going down, among those reasons that contact tracing is not being done, also that people have such mild symptoms they have stopped testing. In summary, Dr. Ratnasamy stated the number of COVID ER/hospital admission is a good indicator of actual case trends in the population, and hospitalizations have been significantly down-trending.

Another public guest offered anecdotal information about the use of hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin, and other treatment methods that she opined are less expensive and/or more natural alternatives than the other medications routinely being used to treat COVID by the scientific community. Dr. Ratnasamy stated that, although these alternative treatment methods may produce some level of antiviral activity in humans, there would need to be much larger scientific trials with greater numbers of participants before any final statement of medication effectiveness could be made.

### **3.2 January 2022 Financial Report and Analysis – Karim Baroudi**

Commissioner Baroudi reviewed January 2022 financials with use of slides and details included in the Board packet provided earlier in the week to Board members. Portion of expenses allocated to salary/personnel was addressed in response to Vice President Edler’s inquiry at the 1/21/22 Board meeting. Commissioner Baroudi stated pertinent budget items of inquiry will be addressed monthly going forward.

One public guest asked if the community members are able to access Board of Health meeting agendas and minutes. Commissioner Baroudi answered he would give the guest a copy of the 2/18/22 agenda after the current meeting. He also detailed that the agency would look into providing topics/items for BOH meetings prior. Mr. Baroudi stated Board of Health minutes are available on the HPH website after the minutes have been Board approved. Public guest asked if livestream Board meetings are available to public. Commissioner Baroudi answered that livestream are not currently available, due to lack of technical capabilities to do so. At times, where Board meetings were virtual links to the meetings were provided. Now that we are back in-person, and due to COVID restrictions, the Board would appreciate prior notice/request to be able to provide physical accommodations for the Public to be able to safely attend. Commissioner reviewed all current choices for public participation in Board of Health meetings, including in-person meeting attendance, emailing the Board, or writing letters to the Board. Commissioner Baroudi announced Hancock County Board of Health meetings are held every third Friday of each month at 7:30 a.m. and welcomed the public’s interest in the work of the Board. He added that, meeting times/locations are announced on Hancock Public Health’s website as well as in the newspaper. Health Commissioner quickly reviewed the Open Meeting Law in Ohio, which stipulates public guests are allowed to observe public meetings, while needing the Board approval to address its members.

### **3.3 Health Planning & Promotion Services – Chad Masters**

Mr. Masters reviewed the information provided in his Board packet report, including various grant applications in process. Mr. Alge asked for clarification regarding EMS opting out of naloxone distribution from Page 2 of Mr. Masters’ 2/18/22 Board report. Mr. Masters stated EMS willingness to be involved with leave-behind naloxone services is a continual struggle, however, with upcoming EMS leadership changes Mr. Bright has been working to improve this process and expand leave-behind naloxone services.

### **3.4 Health Services – Shannon Chamberlin**

Ms. Chamberlin summarized her Board report, announcing Ms. Heacock was able to successfully resolve a longstanding billing/reimbursement issue for the BCMH Program (Bureau for Children & Medical Handicaps). Ms. Chamberlin pointed out a recent increase in Hancock Co. hepatitis B cases, half of which were drug related. Ms. Chamberlin stated Nursing will work closely with Injury Prevention staff to ensure hepatitis B vaccines are readily available.

Ms. Chamberlin reported on an Ohio downward trend of clinic vaccinations in general, also the case in Hancock Co. President Pasztor asked if there was an identified explanation. Ms. Chamberlin stated it may be due to pandemic issues and suggested a plan for increasing

educational efforts. Commissioner Baroudi offered that it may be too soon after the pandemic for vaccination reporting, and that the numbers hopefully will improve in Fall of 2022, when the Board would receive further update.

Discussion ensued among Board members regarding the School Nursing Program and various options for offering this programming through Hancock Public Health, including concerns voiced by Ms. Jones regarding School Boards' understanding of nursing scope of practice in school settings. Commissioner Baroudi stated many schools are hiring their own full-time nurses, and HPH Nursing will continue to consult when needed and providing services to those school districts not able to afford to hire their own nursing staff.

### **3.5 Help Me Grow (HMG) Program – Alexa Heacock**

Ms. Heacock summarized her Board report, reporting stable revenue despite the HMG programming impacted by COVID spikes in January 2022. Since going back to virtual visits, the HMG staff has been brainstorming a lot on how to improve service availability, and the decision has been made to offer group services at two different times, with evening hours offered. The families served have expressed polled interest in learning more about infant CPR/First Aid, thus CPR/First Aid training will be offered in the future to participating HMG families. Ms. Heacock described a new training which HMG home visitors will receive, called Joyful Together, which may result in potential long-term study opportunities.

### **3.6 Environmental Health (EH) Services – Karim Baroudi, on behalf of Lindsay Summit (absent)**

Commissioner Baroudi reported EH staff have completed most state-required food inspections, with the deadline being end of February 2022. An ODH Food Program Survey was conducted at HPH early February 2022; Mr. Baroudi stated the preliminary results discussed during the survey exit interview were positive. Detailed survey results will be reported to the Board when available.

Mr. Alge asked for clarification regarding the solar panel project. Commissioner Baroudi stated there are no decisions yet made on the details of this project. From a Public Health standpoint, HPH released its objection to the project due to concerns of potential septic issues. Mr. Baroudi stated Ms. Summit is working closely with the leaders of this project, asking for more detailed plans/projections and future safeguards.

### **3.7 IT & Health Data Management Services – Craig Niese**

Mr. Niese updated the Board on progress with ongoing IT projects. Backordered equipment continues to be an issue, including backordered new outside security cameras and a new main copier. However, in meeting the goal of improving building security, alarm buttons were recently installed by the HPH security contractors for all front desk staff. HPH has been working with Perry proTECH for a more efficient document management solution system, however, due to Perry proTECH staffing issues there has been a delay in progress.

### 3.8 Health Commissioner Remarks & Legislative Update – Karim Baroudi

COVID Update: Commissioner Baroudi summarized Hancock Co. COVID trends, as presented in the Board packet, with a 70% decrease in daily average cases in the last two weeks, with a commensurate decrease in hospitalizations. Detailed Hancock Co. vaccination statistics were presented. Once Hancock Co. achieves under 100 cases per capita, mask requirements in the HPH building will be lifted, still with option for staff and clients to wear masks.

Legislative Update: The Governor signed House Bill 253, which allows for extension of virtual meetings for public entities through July of 2022.

DAC Health District Funding Update: There have been multiple meetings with the DAC special committee, the most recent on 2/17/22. Cindy Land, Prosecutor’s Office, is in process of finalizing a written agreement for the DAC to sign on the Health District Operations.

### 4.0 OLD/NEW BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Personnel

There were no HPH separations in January 2022, and one hire: Cheryl Miller, Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator, hired effective 1/10/22, who was present at the 2/18/22 meeting and introduced herself to the Board.

Mr. Alge asked if the state-assigned epidemiologist position will continue with Hancock Public Health. Commissioner Baroudi answered that Jessica Shrake’s position is funded through the end of July 2022 to our team and that she is currently assisting with multiple Population Health projects. Ms. Shrake will be presenting to the Board on such projects throughout the year.

### 5.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION

5.1 No CEUs were offered at the current meeting; links will be provided for individual completion.

### 6.0 NEXT MEETING

6.1 Friday, 3/18/22 at 7:30 a.m., Hancock Public Health, 2225 Keith Parkway, Findlay, Ohio.

### 7.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Pasztor requested motion for adjournment of the 2/18/22 Board of Health meeting. Ms. Spoors motioned the Board of Health to adjourn the regular meeting of 2/18/22 at 8:49 a.m.  
Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. Motion carried 7-0.

  
Barbara J. Pasztor, RN, MHSA, Board President

  
Karim Baroudi, MPH, REHS, Board Secretary

the Board and announced the four identified strategic initiatives identified during the special Board strategic planning session: 1) Improving Communication, 2) Increasing Mobile Health Clinic Utilization, 3) Going Paperless, and 4) Keeping Staff and Customers Safe. Mr. Worstell further explained the software dashboard tool which will be used for the purpose of monitoring agency strategic initiative success and will help with populating long-term strategic planning.

Mr. Alge asked how, with the use of the new dashboard tool, the Board of Health will be informed about strategic planning progress in the future. Mr. Worstell answered that Board members could receive quarterly or even monthly dashboard reviews on goal progress during Board meetings or otherwise. With the dashboard, time will be maximized for staff and Board members (estimated 5-minute update per meeting). Commissioner Baroudi stated Mr. Worstell's proposal will expedite strategic planning reviews for the Board significantly.

Vice President Edler requested motion to approve the 2022-2024 Strategic Plan, as described and presented by Paul Worstell. **Ms. Spors moved to approve the 2022-2024 Strategic Plan.** Seconded by Ms. Moody-Russo. **Motion carried 4-0.**

## 5.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION

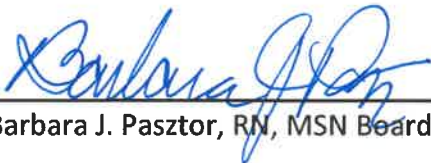
- 5.1 No CEUs were offered at the current meeting.
- 5.2 4.0 Continuing BOH Education hours completed on 12/2/21.

## 6.0 NEXT MEETING

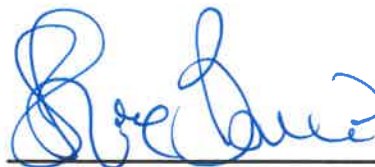
- 6.1 Friday, 2/18/22 at 7:30 a.m., Hancock Public Health, 2225 Keith Parkway, Findlay, Ohio.

## 7.0 ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Edler requested motion for adjournment of the 1/21/22 Board of Health meeting. **Ms. Spors motioned the Board of Health to adjourn the regular meeting of 1/21/22 at 9:34 a.m.** Seconded by Mr. Alge. **Motion carried 4-0.**



Barbara J. Pasztor, RN, MSN Board President



Karim Baroudi, MPH, Board Secretary