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**BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
March 16, 2021  
8:15 a.m.**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Health was held on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 8:15 a.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor community room of the Towers Building located at 500 Market Street, Steubenville, Ohio.

**Board Members Present:**

Terry Bell  
Chief Clark J. Crago  
Patrick Macedonia, M.D.  
Anthony Mougianis  
Jean-Philippe Rigaud

**Staff:**

Andrew Henry, Health Commissioner  
Kelly Wilson, Fiscal, Grants and PI Officer  
Michele Henry, Administrative Assistant  
Marc Maragos, Director, Environmental  
Stephanie Chester, WIC Director  
Carla Gampolo, Registered Sanitarian  
Linda Agresta, Environmental Clerk

**Absent:**

**Prosecutor:**

**Guests:**

See sign-in sheet

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Bell called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call taken.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Mayo questioned the percentages of testing, vaccinating and sickness rates for the underserved population in the county. Mr. Mayo inquired about the 12 million dollars Jefferson County was getting from the state and how much of that money would the Health Department obtain. What would the money be used for, i.e. health and wellness, exercise equipment, and education? Mr. Mayo suggested that the commissioners be approached and let them know the needs for health awareness out of that money.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

<i>Action</i>	<i>Accept the February 23, 2021 Minutes of Regular Meeting</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
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Motion-2021-21	Mr. Rigaud moved and Dr. Macedonia seconded a motion to accept the February 23, 2021 Minutes of the Regular Meeting.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Rigaud 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Macedonia Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye
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**February 2021 Expenses**

<i>Action</i>	<i>Approval of February's Expense Report</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-22	Mr. Rigaud moved and Chief Crago seconded a motion to accept February 2021 expenses.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Rigaud 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Crago Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud - Aye

**February 2021 Revenue**

<i>Action</i>	<i>Approval of February's Revenue Report</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-23	Chief Crago moved and Mr. Rigaud seconded a motion to accept February 2021 revenue report.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Crago 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Rigaud Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud - Aye

**Consent Agenda**

The only item from the Consent Agenda for discussion was the contract and MOU approval process. Dr. Macedonia requested the process be reviewed. Health Commissioner Henry spoke that he has no issue holding off on signing those that would incur a cost to the department. Current process will be reviewed and reported back to the Board at the next meeting.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Approval of February 2021 Health Commissioner's Consent Agenda</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-24	Mr. Bell moved and Mr. Rigaud seconded a motion to accept February 2021 Health Commissioner's Consent Agenda.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Bell 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Rigaud Bell - Aye



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	Motion passed unanimously.	Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud - Aye
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**Fiscal Report**

A copy of the February report is attached hereto and made part of the official minutes. Dr. Macedonia once again requested that the account summaries be more detailed on where the money is being spent. K. Wilson addressed the Board and told them the expense and revenue reports in front of them are the reports we run from Budlite. K. Wilson noted we get a similar report from the Board of health and reconcile those two reports together. Kelly Wilson explained that we get a report from the Auditor’s office that she uses to reconcile the Board of Health to the Auditor’s Office monthly. There is no way to break down each department to see how much it is costing to run those programs. Kelly requested the Board’s patience as she works through the financial system.

**Health Commissioner’s Report**

A copy of the report is attached hereto and made part of the official minutes.

Health Commissioner Henry addressed Mr. Mayo concerning the interest form and the question of race. Health Commissioner Henry stated that the interest form on the website is basic information only and that all individuals signing up through the website will be contacted without regard to race. The race of the person will be unknown until they show up at the clinic to obtain their vaccination. Mike McIntire with the NAACP questioned why there is no race box on the application. Mr. McIntire stated that there were breakouts for certain health conditions but not for the underserved. Mr. McIntire is requesting that the education be available to the underserved population. Dr. Macedonia reiterated the fact that this Covid vaccine is comparable to the flu shot; it is to be construed as such.

**Medical Director’s Report**

Dr. Kissinger stated they have starting seeing some patients in the clinic. Dr. Kissinger reported a recent case of mumps in a non-vaccinated person. He also reiterated the need for childhood immunizations, as they are safe and effective.

Dr. Kissinger noted there have been cases of exposure with symptoms and positive tests in vaccinated persons. Dr. Kissinger stated that not all vaccines are 100% effective and if you are exhibiting symptoms you should go and get tested. Dr. Kissinger also stated there has been a couple cases of re-infection in the county, these individuals were instructed to re-isolate and quarantine.

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The county has seen 138 deaths due to the Covid-19 virus. The total number of cases are declining, as well as a decrease in the active cases. We are currently 18% vaccinated in the county and are anticipating a surplus of vaccine in months to come. The vaccine is 100% effective in reducing death for those infected with the virus. The vaccines are safe, effective and available. The goal will change from flattening the curve to preventing the illness.

In Ohio, the African Americans make up 13% of the population but about a quarter of the deaths. Disparity is noted and the possibility could be a lack of access to healthcare, the lack of Vitamin D, genetic factors, and blood types. The reality is, there is a disparity in the death rate with people of color and we need to improve that situation.

Dr. Macedonia questioned the process for immunizations in the schools. Dr. Kissinger stated that the state of Ohio allows for exceptions. Dr. Kissinger reported the home schooled population are the people who choose not to vaccinate their children.

**Nursing Report**

A copy of the report is attached hereto and made part of the official minutes. Nurse Piko was not in attendance because she was attending a vaccine clinic. Kelly Wilson read Nurse Piko's report.

**WIC Report**

Stephanie Chester presented the WIC report for the month of February. Nurse Chester reported that March is National Nutrition Month. Everyone that comes in this month is getting informational handouts on how to personalize your plate. Participants are receiving divided plates and aprons that will encourage healthy eating habits.

Nurse Chester stated the full time health professional has stepped down and the part time health professional moved into the full time slot. We are looking to hire a part time registered dietitian or registered nurse. Dr. Macedonia questioned a dietitian vs. RN and Nurse Chester said the state does prefer a registered dietitian, but that they are hard to find in this area.

Nurse Chester spoke on the breast feeding and there has been an increase in lactation consultations over the phone and a couple were performed in person. April is minority health month. There is a disparity in the black community and health starts in infancy; a black infant is six times more likely to die than a white baby before their first birthday. Some of this could be linked back to disparity in healthcare. There is a decreased rate in breastfeeding in the black community. Social media blasts will be put out during the month of April.

WIC is partnering with Job and Family Services to help increase our case load. Job and Family Services will be sending WIC the contact information on pregnant moms, children under the age of five and on Medicaid. WIC will be calling and talking to them about the services WIC offers.



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There have been a couple moms who have signed up for WIC services. WIC department is also looking to approach food banks, pre-schools, and Help Me Grow to hand out flyers.

Dr. Macedonia questioned the reason for the lack of breast feeding in the black community and what could be done to improve those rates. Nurse Chester stated there are many factors including historical reasons contributing to negative connotation, lack of support from families and the disparity in the health system. There needs to be time and effort put into education and getting the support to help with getting a good latch.

WIC in person visits remain suspended.

**Environmental**

Marc Maragos presented the Environmental report. Several reports are attached to these minutes and are being made part of the official minutes.

Mr. Maragos reported 0 odor complaints in February and 2 so far in March.

Mr. Maragos reported there has been no additional correspondence from Crossridge. A Cuyahoga judge has been appointed in the case.

Mr. Maragos got a phone call from the county water and sewer department to set up a meeting concerning the Amsterdam sanitary sewer project. The health department's role in the project would be to make sure any property owner with a septic tank in that area has their system properly pumped out, crushed, and filled.

Mr. Maragos reminded the Board of the deadlines in the Diley and Cilles complaints. The deadline is March 24 and Mr. Maragos will be visiting the properties on that date.

In regard to the property located on Township Road 275, Mr. Maragos is getting updates with pictures and documentation from Mrs. Richardson on a weekly basis. The deadline for complete cleanup is mid-April. The septic tank is solid and no leakage was identified.

Dr, Macedonia questioned the high wall surrounding the APEX landfill and the proximity to the road. Mr. Maragos responded that the EPA approved the expansion on the new permit. The high wall was built to protect the road and local area.

**Accreditation**

Kelly Wilson and Health Commissioner Henry reported they have been working to get the accreditation plan back on track. There have been conference calls with the accreditation specialist from PHAB and the accreditation consultant Emily Frantz regarding what options are available to us to move forward in the most successful manner. There are several types of extensions that we have available to us.

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Kelly Wilson requests the opportunity to look at all the options and come up with the best plan for the Health Department and return to the Board with a recommendation next month. Jefferson County is not the only health department that has all but stopped the progress towards accreditation process all but stopped. However, for the JCGHD, between the pandemic, leadership change, and personnel changes, we've faced more than the typical challenges one would expect.

The Ohio Department of Health issued an e-mail in September of 2020 regarding ORC 3701.981. Each Board of Health and tax-exempt hospital shall complete assessments and plans in alignment on a three-year interval established by the department. This requirement requires the Board of Health and Trinity to align their CHA (JCGHD) and Trinity's CHNA. Health Commissioner Henry and Kelly Wilson will be meeting with folks from Trinity on March 18, 2021 to begin discussions.

There is also a need to develop community partnerships; we have developed a few due to the pandemic and would like those to continue and expand on those partnerships.

**PHEP**

A copy of the report is attached hereto and made part of the official minutes.

Dr. Macedonia questioned the transfer of vaccine and which direction the vaccine was transferred. Health Commissioner Henry stated the vaccines were transferred from the Health Department to Trinity. Dr. Macedonia just wants to make sure the documentation is corrected for the record.

**Old Business***PNC Wellness on Wheels Grant*

The PNC grant for \$85,000 needs to be spent on a medical type vehicle prior to August or the funds will be forfeited back to PNC. Health Commissioner Henry stated for a vehicle of that magnitude would be close to \$150,000.00 and is requesting the Board's thoughts on the need for such a vehicle.

The grant is restricted and the funds can only be used to purchase the mobile vehicle as laid out in the request for funding. The Covid pandemic makes the van very desirable. It could take a year to 16 months to construct the vehicle and to get it to us. There are barriers that need to be considered for this project.

Kelly Wilson stated that if the \$85,000 is not expended by July, the funds must be returned to the PNC Trust. A grant of this magnitude should never be returned. This type of funding is very hard to obtain and does not come along every day. We would be putting a nail in our coffin to



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ever apply for future funding from the trust if funding is returned. Grantors frown upon this. The question was raised on what money the County might be getting and the possibility of getting more funding with Cares Act monies and what it can be used for. Is it possible to put a down payment \$85,000 on the vehicle knowing there is further funding coming to complete the purchase?

The question was raised, could there be a partnership with Trinity and the Prime Time Van to buy a newer updated vehicle. Dr. Macedonia could get a formal bid on a unit; but didn't want it to be a conflict of interest. Rick Stead also has experience in designing such vehicles for law enforcement, but right now he is working with the vaccine clinics. We would like to have Mr. Stead contact the companies to get quotes and specs for the vehicle.

The original paperwork that was submitted to request the grant, Kelly contacted a company in Arizona who drew up specs of the vehicle.

The Board would like to pursue options for obtaining the specs and pre-ordering of the vehicle to use the funds prior to August.

**New Business**

Deb Hukill- Board Insurance Presentation

Deb Hukill presented the Board with a packet outlining the State of Ohio Corsa services offered to the Board. Corsa takes care of the insurance needs of counties. The yearly cost is \$6,000 for the coverage outlined in the plan. All electronics and computers are covered as well. The coverage has been in place since 2000.

Corsa also offers a hotline resource of attorneys for confidential information on how to protect yourself and/or what to say for any particular situation. If the Board as a whole or an individual Board member would happen to be sued they would contact Corsa.

Corsa also offers insurance including liability for company vehicles and heavy equipment for an average cost of \$200.00.

River Valley Health Foundation Award

Grant received in the amount of \$9,914.80 for Covid-19 vaccination needs.

RADx-UP Grant

Health Commissioner Henry was approached by the State of Ohio, in conjunction with the national institutes of health. The program RADx stands for rapid acceleration of diagnostics in



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underserved populations. Jefferson County was 1 of 12 counties selected. Two community health workers will be hired to actively promote education and get the underserved individuals access to testing. A one year grant for \$100,000 for salaries and benefits for 2 employees. More information to follow. The positions will be posted once all details are received.

This grant will allow us to be more proactive in the community. Dr. Macedonia questioned how we would measure success with these types of programs. Health Commissioner Henry stated they have research basis of findings and accomplishments and the data will be reported to Ohio State. Ohio State will then use the data for their research to show how underserved populations are served and how the disparity gaps are being addressed.

At the end of the first year the data would show how we have progressed. There is a possibility this could spill over into other areas to fill all gaps one at a time. The Health Department could use the community health workers to provide education to other departments within the county. i.e. NAACP, Urban Mission etc. to steer them in the right direction and use the resources that are available to them.

The RADx coordinator will provide training to the community health workers. The community health employees will be employed by the Health Department and have the coordinator to lean on for guidance. All counties are still in the planning stages; this is a very new project and all counties are still learning the ins and outs of the program.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Motion to accept the RADx Program</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-25	Dr. Macedonia moved and Chief Crago seconded a motion to accept the RADx Program.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Macedonia 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Crago Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye

FEMA Mobile Mass Vaccinations

Health Commissioner Henry provided the locations for the FEMA mass vaccination clinics. FEMA will set up a mobile unit and chose the day and time to hold their vaccination clinic.

There will not be a sign-up for this clinic Health Commissioner Henry is anticipating this to be a drive-thru event. Once the day and times have been chosen we may be asked to help with traffic control and flow during the event.

Surface and well water testing



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Dr. Macedonia asked about prior testing of water and the need to get back on track. Surface water vs well water testing, unsure if it was testing internally or by an outside source. Dr. Macedonia expressed a concern about Crossridge and landfills being tested and doesn't want to lose sight of it.

Marc Maragos stated the county was actively testing and that the EPA does testing every decade. The last EPA testing was done in 2010. The issue the department faces is with the Crossridge lawsuit and not wanting to jeopardize the case by conducting water testing. Mr. Rigaud brought up that the Board consider requesting Attorney Shawn Blake to do some research on whether the health department can proceed with water sample testing on the Crossridge site, or if doing so would have any impact on the pending lawsuit. Due to the change in weather, the environmental department is requesting the testing be done sooner rather than later due to the quick growth of weeds in that area prohibiting access.

Dr. Macedonia suggested the testing be done above and below the Crossridge property and not access the property involved in the law suit. Water was tested by an outside source at the request of the group Friends of Crossridge. Dr. Macedonia asked the group if they would share the results with the health department and they replied yes (I believe it was Angela Mastros in the audience who responded). The results will be shared with Mr. Maragos. There were three locations tested and at the time of the testing all the levels were within limits, according to Mrs. Mastros.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Motion for Health Commissioner to contact Attorney Shawn Blake (via letter/e-mail) to request he review/research if health department can proceed with water sample testing on the Crossridge site.</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-26	Mr. Bell moved and Dr. Macedonia seconded a motion to request Attorney Shawn Blake to review/research if health department can proceed with water sample testing on the Crossridge site without any impact on pending lawsuit.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Bell 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Macedonia Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye

Health Commissioner Henry stated that the job description for the Director of Finance and Administration was never approved. Health Commissioner Henry has created the job description for the Board's review.



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Dr. Macedonia reminded those in attendance that the budget must be presented to the Board prior to the end of the month. There will be a special meeting to discuss the budget prior to the end of March.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel Matters</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-27	Chief Crago moved and Mr. Rigaud seconded a motion to go into executive session for personnel matters. Kelly Wilson was asked to attend executive session as well.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Crago 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Rigaud Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye

<i>Action</i>	<i>Motion to return to Regular Session</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-28	Mr. Rigaud moved and Chief Crago seconded a motion to return to regular session.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Rigaud 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Crago Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – Aye Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye

<i>Action</i>	<i>Motion to approve the Director of Finance and Administration job description and position as written.</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-29	Mr. Rigaud moved and Mr. Bell seconded a motion to approve the Director of Finance and Administration job description and position as written.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Rigaud 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Bell Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – absent Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye

<i>Action</i>	<i>Motion to approve the position of Director of Finance and Administration with a salary of \$32.00 an hour.</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-30	Mr. Rigaud moved and Mr. Bell seconded a motion to approve the position of Director of Finance and Administration with a salary of \$32.00 an hour.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Rigaud 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Bell Bell - Aye



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	Motion passed unanimously.	Crago – Aye Macedonia – absent Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye
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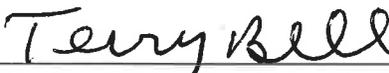
Health Commissioner Henry will be touching base with the County Commissioners in the near future about their allocations for the federal monies the county will be receiving and if they had set aside any monies for the Health Department. Mr. Bell also stated that the City of Steubenville would also be receiving money and a large amount of the population of the county resides in Steubenville. There will also be more grant monies forthcoming.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Motion to adjourn</i>	<i>Vote Detail (Roll Call)</i>
Motion – 2021-31	Chief Crago moved and Dr. Macedonia seconded a motion to adjourn.  Motion passed unanimously.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Crago 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Macedonia Bell - Aye Crago – Aye Macedonia – absent Mougianis - Aye Rigaud – Aye

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Health is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 8:15 a.m. in the Trumbull Towers Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

ATTESTED:

  
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 Mr. Terry Bell, Board President

  
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 Andrew Henry, Health Commissioner