



MEETING MINUTES

**Board of Health Meeting
Video Teleconference
August 10, 2020
5:45 p.m.**


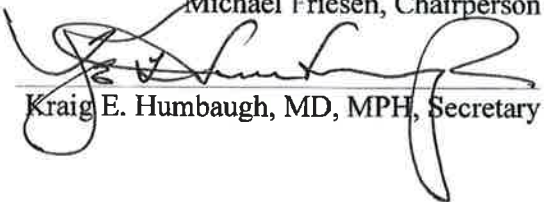
	<p>BOARD MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Ms. Allen-Bryant, Mr. Cornett, Dr. Dossett, Commissioner Ford, Mr. Friesen, Mr. Jabbour, Dr. Jackson, Dr. Jasinski, Dr. Majmundar, Dr. Mason, Ms. Roberts Pierre, Councilmember Reynolds. Dr. Zimmerman was excused.</p> <p>OTHERS PARTICIPATING: Dr. Humbaugh, LFCHD Staff, LFCHD Council.</p>
TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Friesen called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m. • Mr. Friesen thanked Sherelle Roberts Pierre, who has been an important member of the Board of Health (BOH) for several years, including leading the Marketing and Branding Committee. This is her last meeting as a member. He also thanked Michelle Donaghy, who is leaving the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) after serving more than ten years. She has been of tremendous help to the department.
Roll Call/Declaration of a Quorum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Foley called the roll. • A quorum was declared.
Request for Approval of the July 13, 2020 Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Cornett made a motion to approve the July 13, 2020 minutes. Dr. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Commissioner’s Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Humbaugh presented the commissioner’s report. • Dr. Humbaugh said LFCHD staff are amazing and have done a great job during the COVID-19 response. • We have not seen a plateauing of cases in Fayette County since mid-May. We doubled cases in June. We doubled cases again in July. We are reporting 47 deaths; over 50% in people 75 years and older; over 50% in residents of nursing homes. The average age for positive tests is going down. The pandemic continues to disproportionately affect African-American and Hispanic residents. Even though the hospitalization rate has lowered to around 1%, the higher number of cases has led to a higher number of hospitalized patients. There have been outbreaks in congregate living and assisted living facilities. We worked with the Fayette County Detention Center on an outbreak there, including cases in inmates and staff. We are providing test kits for continued testing at the center. • Challenges include the high number of asymptomatic carriers, with

about 25% of known cases in Lexington presenting as asymptomatic at the time of a positive test result. University of Kentucky (UK) and Transylvania University students are being tested as they return to campus. We are having daily calls with UK to discuss cases and plan. Another challenge is the availability of testing. Kroger had been testing at Bluegrass Community & Technical College (BCTC) but closed the site. The city has expanded drive-thru testing opportunities. We are receiving over 100 calls each day to the LFCHD call center. We are also facing challenges in migrating to the state contact tracing platform. We developed our own system, which has been working well. Our system has important functions that are not available in the state system at this time.

- Dr. Humbaugh reported we have approved a change in vendor for our facility security system. We continue to monitor staff and visitors for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 upon entering the building. We are moving forward with the remodel of the first floor. We continue to hire state contact tracers, case investigators, monitors, and liaisons through the state contracts. Currently, we have around 40 contractors serving in these roles. Dr. Humbaugh recognized Ms. Donaghy for her excellent work as the Human Resources Officer. She is leaving a legacy including a more transparent HR division. She has built a strong complement of LFCHD staff, who she has helped retain. She has changed the environment to encourage growth and upper mobility. He thanked Ms. Donaghy and affirmed she will be missed. Holly Clendenin, who served LFCHD more than a decade, leading the Fayette County Child Fatality Review team and working in our Community Health Equity and Education branch, is retiring at the end of the month. Patti Boggs, who has been with us more than twenty years, is also retiring. She is a nurse who has held various roles during her tenure and currently serves as a team leader in school health. Dr. Humbaugh thanked Ms. Roberts Pierre for her support, encouragement, insight, and assistance in communications and other areas as a board member. She helped us strategize outreach to the community. Ms. Roberts Pierre thanked Dr. Humbaugh and the board and said it was a pleasure to serve.
- Environmental Health (EH) inspectors are helping restaurants open while complying with the state “Healthy at Work” guidelines. Dr. Humbaugh appreciates the staff and customers of businesses who are cooperating with the inspections. There are a few businesses that are not complying. A warning can be issued for non-compliance, and a citation given if issues are not resolved. We are concerned about the upcoming flu season, which will occur as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Flu vaccinations will be strongly encouraged to prevent a concurrent outbreak. Staff are planning ways to provide flu shots for the community.
- Harm reduction participation continues to increase. We are celebrating five years of the needle exchange program. July 2020 had 1,790 visits, which was a program record.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School health nurses are returning to their schools. We do not know when schools will return to in-person services. • Mr. Cornett asked if case numbers from universities will be included in our reports. Dr. Humbaugh said our case counts include students who are Fayette County residents, though students in isolation are counted in the county in which they isolate. Councilmember Reynolds asked if we are able to expand testing availability. Dr. Humbaugh said the city’s Emergency Management team has been assisting in finding additional testing. Councilmember Reynolds asked how we respond to resident non-compliance complaints. Dr. Humbaugh said for businesses we do not regulate, we forward the concerns to the state Labor Cabinet. Dr. Jackson asked if the Kentucky High School Athletic Association has reached out for recommendations on fall sports. Dr. Humbaugh said they have not spoken with us directly, though they are likely in contact with the Department for Public Health. Mr. Jabbour asked about the plans universities have if they experience a COVID-19 outbreak. Dr. Humbaugh said the University of Kentucky plans to isolate and quarantine positive cases to prevent an outbreak. They also have plans to house patients away from other students. In addition, they have plans to quickly supply medical services, if needed. Transylvania University is encouraging students to return to their home counties to quarantine, when possible. LFCHD has also been working on plans with BCTC and Sullivan University. Dr. Mason has heard concerns about the length of time it takes to get test results. Dr. Humbaugh said the normal turn-around time is 2-3 days, if they test locally. Ms. Allen-Bryant asked if we are maxing out testing capacity. Dr. Humbaugh said last week 4,200 tests were done just in the drive-thru sites. Sites are maxing out capacity. Dr. Jasinski said, in the hospital setting, they are encouraged to obtain two negative test results before releasing patients, while employees are not required to have a second negative test before returning to work. Dr. Humbaugh said we are not recommending retesting as a step for release if patients have mild or moderate symptoms. This is in line with current CDC guidance. Instead, we are using symptom-based guidance for release. Those with more severe illness have different criteria for release.
Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive: Mr. Friesen presented the committee report. The committee discussed COVID-19 response and LFCHD staffing. He encouraged any members interested in serving on committees to contact him or Laura Foley. • Finance: Cara Kay presented the committee report for the period ending June 30, 2020. We ended the fiscal year with a \$5.1 million surplus on a \$2 million budget. We ended with \$22.2 million in reserve cash. We received more EH fees and more from retirement subsidies than were budgeted. We received \$885 thousand from the federal CARES Act. Overall, fee collection exceeded budget. On the expense side, we are on budget for salaries, but did have additional expenses related to the response. We spent over budget for legal services during the COVID-19

	<p>pandemic. Expenses for the response from March through the end of June were \$1.6 million. The majority of these expenses were for salaries, benefits, and indirect costs, as well as testing supplies. We anticipate additional reimbursements from the CARES Act. Ms. Kay has also spoken with FEMA about potential reimbursements not covered by the CARES Act. Our annual audit begins next week. We will submit the audit to the city by the end of September.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing and Branding: Ms. Roberts Pierre said the work we have done to build our reputation in the community has put us in a better position during the pandemic. Past “preparing for the worst” efforts have helped us to be prepared for this time. Accurate information is more important than ever. We have seen a tremendous increase in follows for our public media, illustrating LFCHD is seen as a trusted source. She applauds the department for their good work. She thanked Kevin Hall and the communications team. • Nominating/Bylaws: No report. • Program Outcomes/Evaluation: No report. • Policy Policy/Protocol: No report.
Communications Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Hall presented the communications report. • We have increased Facebook follows by 4,657. Twitter saw an increase of 605. We continue to release information on COVID-19 cases. Testing information from the city is shared every Monday. Consolidated Baptist will have testing Monday-Thursday through September. Mobile testing will be at Tates Creek High School this week. Combating misinformation has been a big part of our recent efforts. • We will celebrate five years of our needle exchange and harm reduction services with a virtual program on August 26 at 1:30 p.m. • Dr. Mason thanked the communications team for their thoughtful responses on social media. • Mr. Hall thanked Ms. Roberts Pierre for her guidance and support.
Open Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None presented.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Friesen requested a motion to adjourn. Dr. Mason made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.


 Michael Friesen, Chairperson

 Kraig E. Humbaugh, MD, MPH, Secretary