

MEETING MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting Video Teleconference May 10, 2021 5:45 p.m.

| | BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Allen-Bryant, Mr. Cornett, Dr. Dossett, Commissioner Ford, Mr. Friesen, Dr. Hood, Mr. Jabbour, Dr. Jackson, Dr. Jasinski, Dr. Mason, Dr. Zimmerman. OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Humbaugh, LFCHD Staff, LFCHD Council. |
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| TOPIC | DISCUSSION |
| Call to Order | Mr. Friesen called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m. |
| Roll Call | Ms. Foley called the roll. Councilmember Reynolds was excused. A quorum was declared. |
| Request for Approval of the April 12, 2021 Minutes | Dr. Hood made a motion to approve the April 12, 2021 minutes. Mr. Jabbour seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. |
| Commissioner's Report | Dr. Humbaugh presented the commissioner's report. Dr. Humbaugh thanked board members for their service throughout the pandemic response over the last year. Dr. Humbaugh welcomed Dr. Brittany McKinley, a preventive medicine resident who is rotating at LFCHD, to the meeting. We will return to our usual practice of having LFCHD staff provide presentations during the June board meeting. In June, staff will present on the LFCHD community garden project. We are approaching 35,000 reported cases of COVID-19 since the pandemic began and 309 COVID-related deaths. Deaths have decreased dramatically as vaccinations have become more common. Case numbers decreased from January until the last two months, during which new cases averaged in the 33-41 range. This leveling-off of case numbers may be due to the number of variant strains circulating in Kentucky. The CDC estimates about 40% of new cases in the state are due to variants. We have had recent outbreaks in congregant living settings. Due to the high vaccination rates among this population, death rates are decreasing. Fayette County has the third highest vaccination rate in Kentucky, which is a testimony to the community working together to provide vaccine in an effective and efficient way. Vaccine is becoming more available in pharmacies and doctor's offices. LFCHD is transitioning from mass vaccination to community clinics, using the Janssen product, which requires only one dose for series completion. COVID-19 vaccination data from the immunization registry had been coming from the Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR). Due to a |

hiatus in data coming from the registry, we were not able to produce a report for our website this week. We have given around 26,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines. The staff and community have done a great job. Kathleen Winter, a PhD epidemiologist from the University of Kentucky who had been with us throughout most of the pandemic and who made tremendous contributions to our response, has moved to the Department for Public Health where she is now serving as the state epidemiologist. This is National Nurses Week. Dr. Humbaugh recognized and thanked LFCHD nurses for their work and dedication throughout the response. They have been compassionate and have served as clinicians, educators, and vaccine advocates. School health nurses are finishing up in-person school on Friday. Summer school is expected to be more robust this year, and school health nurses are ready to assist. We are seeing a larger than average number of active tuberculosis (TB) cases at this time. We usually follow around 3-4 cases. We are currently following 7-9 cases. Standards of care requires daily observation to assure patients take their medications. The Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has been declared over. The outbreak in Guinea continues. April was the second highest month, in terms of numbers of participants, in the history of the harm reduction program. HANDS is assessing the possibility of offering inhome visits as well as continued tele visits for families in the program. The community supported agriculture program starts this week. We have good staff participation again this year. We are using Elmwood Stock Farm as the vendor for our program. Executive: Mr. Friesen said the committee met and discussed items mentioned in Dr. Humbaugh's report, including Ebola and TB. The committee also discussed recruitment for a new Commissioner of Health. Finance: Mr. Cornett asked Ms. Kay to present the Finance Committee report. Ms. Kay reported a year-to-date surplus of \$7.34 million compared to a budgeted surplus of \$4.95 million. She anticipates ending the year ahead of budget. Year-to-date revenues were 114% of plan while operating expenses were 100% of plan. Current cash account balances of \$29.20 million were up from \$22.41 million this time last year. We have a year-to-date deficit of \$779 thousand and a response-Committee Reports to-date deficit of \$1.7 million. We did not receive reimbursements in March. Reimbursements are being received on a delayed basis. Going forward, we anticipate at least one revenue stream for contact tracing to continue. We will review the FY22 budget at the next board meeting. The Finance Committee voted to end the differential rate for staff working in higher-risk settings on July 16, 2021. LFCHD is not eligible for tax credits related to staff taking COVID leave. LFCHD leadership is working on a telework policy to define how some positions can continue to telework. Home offices will continue to be located at 650 Newtown Pike. Marketing and Branding: No report.

| | Nominating/Bylaws: No report. Program Outcomes/Evaluation: No report. Policy Policy/Protocol: No report. Ad Hoc: Ms. Allen-Bryant presented the committee report. She said we are exploring dates to bring two Commissioner of Health candidates to Lexington for a visit. Board members will receive more details soon. Mr. Hall presented the Communications Report. We are seeing a slow-down in vaccination numbers. We are offering walk-in vaccinations |
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| Communications Report | this week. Board members can help by talking about vaccines with patients and their communities. We are working with city officials and the Lexington Medical Society to promote vaccinations. Around the end of this month, clinical services staff will be piloting vaccinations for homebound residents. Pfizer vaccine has now been approved for those 12 and older. Lt. Governor Coleman, Mayor Gorton, and Councilmember Sheehan visited the LFCHD vaccination clinic on May 6. We gave over 100 doses that day. The LFCHD Green Team worked with Voices of Hope to plan for an LFCHD community garden. The garden will be near the RCL Community room. Harm reduction and WIC participants will be invited to participate in the garden. Dr. Humbaugh is going to share some plants for the garden. The contract for the new LFCHD mural has been signed. The next step is to assure the way the mural will be mounted will not have a negative impact on the building. The plan is to complete the mural before Dr. Humbaugh leaves the department. |
| Open Comment | Mr. Jabbour asked when the board might return to in-person meetings. Mr. Friesen said we are looking at options. A hybrid model could be considered. Commissioner Ford said the city council will return to in- person meetings after the summer recess. Mr. Friesen said the Executive Committee will discuss the options. |
| Adjournment | Mr. Friesen requested a motion to adjourn. Dr. Hood made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jabbour seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:31p.m. |
| | Michael Friesen, Chairperson |

Kraig E. Humbaugh, MD, MPH, Secretary