

MEETING MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting Video Teleconference September 13, 2021 5:45 p.m.

TOPIC	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Allen-Bryant, Mr. Cornett, Dr. Dossett, Dr. Feld, Mr. Friesen, Dr. Gomez, Dr. Hood, Mr. Jabbour, Dr. Jackson, Dr. Mason, Councilmember Reynolds, Dr. Riley, and Dr. Zimmerman. OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Humbaugh, LFCHD Staff, LFCHD Council. DISCUSSION
Call to Order	 Mr. Friesen called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.
Roll Call	 Ms. Foley called the roll. All members were present. A quorum was declared. Drs. Feld, Gomez, and Riley were welcomed as new members of the Board of Health.
Request for Approval of the August 9, 2021 Minutes	 The August 9, 2021 Board of Health (BOH) meeting minutes were considered. Dr. Mason made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Hood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Environmental Health Branch Presentation	 Luke Mathis, Environmental Health Team Leader, and Skip Castleman, Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, presented proposed revisions to the LFUCG Board of Health Regulation #19: Food Service Regulation. The regulation, first adopted in 1970, established the authority to regulate food service establishments in Fayette County in order to protect public health and to provide uniformity of inspection. The regulation was first revised following Kentucky's adoption of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 2005 Food Code. If approved, this revision would formalize our Enhanced Regulatory Enforcement (ERE) policy and to institute a late fee for overdue annual food service permits. Revisions included modernizing terminology to match current use and addressing our use of posted inspection score placards. The phrase "continental breakfast" was removed in response to the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) vacating the Kentucky bed and breakfast regulation. An excerpt from the Kentucky Food Code was added relating to circumstances which may allow certain animals in food service establishments. The ERE, originally introduced as a probation program, was revised. When an establishment is assigned ERE, the inspection interval is decreased. To exit ERE, an establishment must pass their second consecutive regular inspection. Management and/or establishment owners receive a notification letter when placed on ERE. They may be required to attend a conference with LFCHD if improvement is not demonstrated during inspections.

Food service permit fee renewals are mailed to establishments in mid-October. They are due by December 31. The revisions propose the Board of Health set a late fee to be assessed on all annual permit renewals postmarked more than thirty (30) days after permit expiration, if the establishment is still in operation. Dr. Mason made a motion to approve the revisions to regulation #19. Mr. Jabbour seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Hood made a motion to set the late fee at \$100 dollars for the next year. Dr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Humbaugh presented the commissioner's report. Dr. Humbaugh welcomed our three new board members, Drs. Feld, Gomez, and Riley. The new members shared a few words about themselves and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve the community on the Board of Health. It has been a challenging month for the health department. All pandemic metrics have increased, despite the wide availability of vaccines. We continue to offer all three vaccine products in our public health clinic. Around 30% of vaccinations we are giving are third doses for the immunocompromised. Vaccines continue to be very effective at preventing severe illness and death. About 80% of hospitalizations are among the unvaccinated. We saw more COVID-19 cases in August than in the previous five months combined. There is a decrease in the trajectory of the case number curve, but it is too early to know if the trend will continue. The biggest challenges the health department is facing at this time include getting more people vaccinated, working the high number of new cases each day, and prevention of hospitalizations. ICUs in our region are at around 90% capacity. We are looking at promoting Commissioner's Report monoclonal antibody administration for those early-on in their COVID-19 illness who are high-risk to decrease hospitalization. We are working with local health partners to potentially develop an initiative. LFCHD may be able to offer mini COVID-19 vaccination clinics during some community events. Last influenza season, Lexington had less than five lab-confirmed flu cases, likely due to precautions including masking and social distancing and due to influenza being less contagious than COVID-19. We will continue to promote vaccinations, to help avoid a flu epidemic concurrent with the COVID-19 pandemic. Flu shots are quadrivalent this year. We will offer up to 1,000 free flu shots during our upcoming clinic at Consolidated Baptist Church on October 6. Our environmental health staff held a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic at Douglass Park last week, during which more than 200 animals were vaccinated for only \$5 dollars each. West Nile Virus (WNV) was detected in a dead bird in Lexington. No human cases of WNV were identified in Lexington this year. Mosquito spraying was conducted in the area. We have washed and sealed windows in the building at 650 Newtown

	 Pike. We are evaluating which windows may need replacement. To support recruitment and retention efforts, a salary survey will be conducted to assess how well our salary scale matches the market.
Discussion of Potential Future Hybrid Meeting Options	 Mr. Friesen said the Board of Health has been meeting via video teleconference during the pandemic, but could meet via a hybrid model with both in-person and virtual options. Dr. Feld and Mr. Jabbour said they prefer the hybrid model. Commissioner Allen-Bryant said she was comfortable either way. Mr. Friesen said we will move forward with offering in-person and virtual attendance options.
Committee Reports	 Executive: Mr. Friesen said Dr. Humbaugh covered committee topics during his report. Finance: Mr. Cornett introduced Cara Kay to present the report. Ms. Kay reported revenues are low each July, which results in a temporary deficit until large allocations arrive around November. We operated ahead of budget. We spent \$282 thousand on the response in July and \$9.2 million response-to-date. We have received nearly \$7 million in response reimbursements response-to-date. Cash account balances were \$26.1 million. During the recent special state legislative session, \$69 million was allocated to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to support COVID-19 response efforts in Kentucky. Marketing and Branding: No report. Nominating/Bylaws: No report. Program Outcomes/Evaluation: No report. Policy Policy/Protocol: No report. Ad Hoc: No report.
Communications Report	 Mr. Hall presented the communications report. We partnered with Animal Care and Control, the Humane Society, the Gainesway Small Animal Clinic, and Lexington Parks & Recreation for the rabies vaccination clinic. We have begun promoting the free flu shot clinic to be held October 6 and that free flu shots will also be available by appointment in our clinic. COVID-19 vaccinations will not be available during the free flu shot clinic. Mosquito spraying will occur in a couple of area codes following the discovery of West Nile Virus in a dead bird. Mr. Hall thanked board members who were able to join us for Governor Beshear's recent visit. Members of our epidemiology team were highlighted in a Herald-Leader newspaper article. We have special Pride vaccination pins we can provide board members, upon request. We are sharing information on third dose and booster COVID-19 vaccination guidance. We are also encouraging everyone to "get vaxed, wear masks, spread facts" as the pandemic continues.
Open Comment	None presented.
Adjournment	 Mr. Friesen requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jabbour made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Michael Friesen, Chairperson

Kraig E. Humbaugh, MD, MPH, Secretary