



MEETING MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting
 650 Newtown Pike
 December 12, 2022
 5:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE	<p>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Kacy Allen-Bryant, Dr. Lee Dossett, Dr. Hartley Feld, Mike Friesen, Dr. Maria Gomez, Dr. Gregory Hood, Majd Jabbour, Dr. Rodney Jackson, Councilmember Jennifer Reynolds, Dr. Elizabeth Riley, and Dr. Jason Zimmerman.</p> <p>OTHERS PRESENT: LFCHD Staff, LFCHD Council.</p>
TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:53 p.m.
Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Foley called the roll. A quorum was declared. Mr. Cornett and Dr. Mason were excused.
Request for Approval: November 14, 2022, Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The November 14, 2022 Board of Health (BOH) meeting minutes were considered. Dr. Hood made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Friesen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Interim CAO Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Cobb thanked board members and staff for attending the annual meet and greet. She presented the following interim CAO report: <p><u>Covid-19 Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of Monday December 12, we reported 350 new cases for December 3-December 9 and our 7-day average stands at 50 cases per day. This brings our total cases since the beginning of the pandemic to 117,391 and the number of deaths to 696 as of Monday. • Currently our Community Level is Low and the recommendations for that level are to stay up to date with covid-19 vaccines, get tested if you have symptoms, and those with high risk for severe illness may want to consider additional precautions such as wearing a mask in indoor settings. According to the CDC site last updated on Thursday, December 8. Our county case rate per 100,000 population is 86.65 the new covid admissions per 100,000 population is 9, and the % of staffed inpatient beds in use by covid-19 patients is 3%. The positivity rate for covid-19 testing as of December 6, was 6.87% which represents a decrease of 0.32% change in the last 7 days. • Fayette County remains the top county in Kentucky for vaccinated individuals as 81% of our population has had at least 1 dose. When looking at vaccination data, the 0-4 age category has only 11% having received their first dose. In looking at the 5-11 age group, there is a smaller uptake than in older children with only 46% of the population vaccinated with their first dose. The 12-15 and 16-17yo age groups are doing well with 75 and 80% respectively

receiving their first dose. The second dose numbers for those 2 age groups are 63 and 67% respectively; however, there is a large drop off with only 23 and 41% receiving their booster. The 5-11yo age group was approved back in May to receive a booster 5 months after completing their initial series.

- There is growing concern about the increase hospitalizations among vaccinated individuals that have received only the initial series/booster but not the new bivalent booster. It is important to receive the bivalent booster if you are eligible and the vaccine has now been approved for ages 6 months and up

Influenza

The flu is hitting hard in Lexington: There are already more total lab-reported cases in the first 9 weeks this season than in the previous 3 years combined.

Lexington reported 525 new cases and 5 flu-related deaths (3 from November and 2 from December) this past week, bringing the totals to 1,294 and 9 deaths this flu season. The totals from the last 3 years were:

- 381 cases, 2 deaths (2021-22)
- 0 cases, 4 deaths (2020-21)
- 749 cases, 9 deaths (2019-20)

The Influenza Activity Level across the state is Widespread (the highest rating level). Across the state, the greatest amount of cases are in children ages 1-10 then the next highest age group is 11-20.

Mpox Update

The CDC has recently made a change to the name of the disease and will now be referred to as Mpox to reduce stigma and other issues associated with prior terminology. The Mpox outbreak is continuing to expand across the US, with 29,711 cases reported as of December 7. Kentucky stands currently at 91 cases while there are 82,474 cases globally. We currently have one suspect and 13 probable cases in Fayette County and the state is reporting the numbers by county on their website and updating each week on Thursday. There are currently 18 counties with at least 1 case. We have the most cases besides Jefferson (51) and most of the other counties reporting cases have one case.

EBOLA:

- We are currently monitoring two travelers who recently returned from Uganda. Because they were present in an outbreak area, they are considered moderate/medium risk.

Department Updates

- The department held our Winter Event on Tuesday, December 6th at the Round Barn at Red Mile and staff enjoyed the presentation by Murder and Merriment and the opportunity to take photos with coworkers in the photo booth.
- 20 employees took advantage of the updated AL policy to cash out annual leave for a total of \$66,402. In order to be eligible to cash out leave, an employee had to take a minimum of 5 AL or Wellness days off throughout the past year and retain a minimum of 3 weeks leave time after the cash out. With

those qualifications, there were 52 employees who were eligible to cash out leave. The breakdown of levels of those who cashed out is below:

Grade 6	3
Grade 7	1
Grade 7.5	0
Grade 8	2
Grade 8.5	4
Grade 9	4
Grade 10	3
Grade 11	3
	20

- We did make minor changes to the Payroll & Time Reporting and Work Schedule policies to reflect the change for exempt staff to flex time between weeks. This will decrease the amount being paid while comp is still being paid when an exempt employee uses leave one week and works over the next.
- We have received an updated quote for the retrieval and removal of our off-site records that were moved out of state. Staff will be working with the vendor to understand the process and timeline for the transfer and relocation of the records. Once records are moved to the new vendor, they will begin to scan records so they will be stored electronically. We will update once more information is available on this project. In order to provide more support for the Billing and Medical Records TL, a Coordinator position was added that will also support the offsite storage project and our eventual transition to electronic health records. Our internal team met and decided that we will undergo an RFP process to select an EMR vendor.
- Dr. Stack requested that I represent local health departments for the CHFS RFP process to review and score EHR vendor proposals. The process will likely take place in Spring 2023.

Dr. Steven Stack Visit

Dr. Stack will also be joining the 1/17 town hall meeting for an opportunity to meet with staff virtually.


KHDA Legislative Update/Presentation

- At the KHDA retreat on Friday, December 2nd KHDA indicated they would be interested in moving forward with changing the KRS that apply to Louisville and Lexington if both jurisdictions were in favor of revising their respective statutes. I have been talking to the Executive Committee about this issue now for several months as Dr. Stack had brought it up to me when he learned that we were again searching for a new Commissioner. Dr. Jackson asked that I put together some details to inform you of the current state of affairs concerning the statutes and then the Board can discuss the options and weigh what is best for our department moving forward.


Committee Reports

- Executive: Dr. Jackson reported the committee discussed hiring a new compliance officer. In the meantime, many of the job tasks are being delegated. LFCHD

	<p>leadership would like to post the position as manager of quality. Would cover public health accreditation, coordinate QA audits, QI projects, and QI training. The annual report for PHAB is due soon. All standards and measures have been updated for reaccreditation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance: Cara Kay reported October financials. We had a year-to-date report a deficit of \$1.5 million compared to a budgeted deficit of \$1.8 million. Year-to-date revenues were 88% of plan, while operating expenses were 87% of plan. Response YTD shows a deficit of \$173 thousand. In November, we received our annual tax check. The current cash account balance of \$32.5 million was up from \$25.5 million this time last year. We are looking at creating an investment policy for the cash funds, which will follow related regulations. We will continue to invest in staff and infrastructure. The finance committee voted to sunset comp time at the end of this calendar year. • Marketing/Branding: No report. • Nominating/Bylaws: No report. • Program Outcomes/Evaluation: No report. • Policy/Protocol: No report. • Ad-Hoc committee: Dr. Jackson reported a candidate is visiting Lexington this week. Opportunities for the full board and ad hoc committee to connect with the candidate are being organized.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Gomez asked how the Community Health Survey is going. J. Cobb will prepare an update and will share it with the board.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jackson requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jabbour made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Friesen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.



 Rodney A. Jackson, Chairperson



 Jessica Cobb, Interim Secretary