

## MEETING MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting 650 Newtown Pike August 14, 2023 5:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Lee Dossett, Dr. Hartley Feld, Mr. Mike Friesen, Dr. Maria Gomez, Dr. Gregory Hood, Mr. Majd Jabbour, Dr. Leah Mason, Councilmember Jennifer Reynolds, and Dr. Elizabeth Riley. OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Jack Cornett, LFCHD counsel, LFCHD staff.
TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	Dr. Mason called the meeting to order at 5:48 p.m.
Roll Call	Ms. Foley called the roll. Attendance was as recorded above.  Commissioner Allen-Bryant and Dr. Jackson were excused. A quorum was declared.
Request for Approval: June 12 and July 10, 2023 Minutes	• The June 12 and July 10, 2023 Board of Health (BOH) meeting minutes were considered. Dr. Riley made a motion to approve both sets of minutes. Dr. Hood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Both sets of minutes were adopted.
Request for Approval: Tax Rate Resolution	• Mr. Friesen reported the finance committee approved the new tax rate. He presented the tax rate resolution for the new year. Mr. Friesen requested a motion to adopt the tax rate of 2.43 cents per \$100 dollars of the assessed value of all real property, all personal property, and all motor vehicles in Lexington-Fayette County as of January 1, 2023. The motor vehicle tax rate will be applicable to the calendar year beginning January 1, 2024. Dr. Mason made the motion. Councilmember Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Cornett, as interim secretary for the board, will sign the resolution and it will be provided to the state health department.
Community Education Presentation	<ul> <li>Tara Mason, Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD)         Community Education Team Leader, presented on the LFCHD Community         Education program, specifically, the health equity outreach educators.         Program leadership includes Jessica Cobb, officer, Dave Peterson,         manager, and Tara Mason, teal leader. Diana Alonso and Coreise Johnson         are the LFCHD health equity outreach educators.</li> <li>Thus far in 2023, the educators have attend 45 community events,         including partnership with barbershops, beauty salons, Fayette County         Public Schools, the Kentucky Association of Professional African         American Women (KAPAAW), BCTC, Project Ricochet, Passport,         Immanuel Baptist, Lexington Senior Center, University of Kentucky,</li> </ul>

- Central Bank Center, UK Cooperative Extension, Tandy Park, Oxford Spring House, Truck a Palooza, STOP the Violence block party, Coolavin Party, The Nest, PRIDE, back-to-school rallies, and more
- The educators provide free HIV testing, through grants from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, and they partner with LFCHD Infectious Disease (ID) staff to provide education along with the testing. They also provide a pre-diabetes management class with curriculum provided by the Kentucky Diabetes and Control Program.
- Biometric screenings, which measure blood pressure, weight, fasting lipids and glucose, and waist circumference. In 2023, nearly two thousand screenings have been conducted.
- Education includes presenting through the 5210 program, a wellness campaign for youth, myplate.gov for evidence-based nutrition guidance, hygiene education and hygiene kits for school-aged children, farm-to-school information, and through the Power of Produce (POP) Club at the Lexington Farmer's Market.
- An AmeriCorps volunteer is going to join us from September 2023 to July 2024 to support and promote our HANDS and WIC programs. One of their goals will be to increase participation in these programs.
- Attendees expression appreciation for the team and for the presentation.
- Jack Cornett, interim LFCHD CAO, presented the interim CAO report. We've had publicity regarding the pool situation at Lexington Athletic Club (LAC). The simple explanation is that the law did change, resulting in new regulations effective in January. Several local pools simply did not meet the new regulatory standards. We spoke with leadership at the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH). They indicated the new regulations allow owners to hire a pool consultant to put together an operational plan with KDPH, which they will review and consider approving. We do not know at this time if LAC will proceed with this option. Mr. Friesen asked if it was a statute. Mr. Cornett said it is a regulation, but that courts typically interpret regulations as law. Dr. Mason said the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) may promulgate regulations, and did so in this case. The full impact of the regulation may not have been recognized. The board is interested in learning details on regulatory requirements, as opposed to statutory requirements. Mr. Cornett said we do have to enforce DPH regulations. Dr. Hood indicated many college and kids club swim meets now require lifeguards present, even with experienced swimmers. These requirements are becoming more common.
- Inspection activity were very high this month, including lots of outdoor activities, food trucks, and events. We are moving forward to present a complete review of the inspection operation and where we see changes needed in the September board meeting.
- The FY2024 LFCHD salary plan was presented to and approved by the Board of Health Finance Committee. We are moving forward with implementation. A plan is in place to regularly review the plan every six months so it may remain relevant. It will correct imbalances and will provide a foundation for future updates.

Interim Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report

- Infectious disease trends have seen no significant changes over the past quarter. We've not yet seen a surge in COVID-19 cases, though we have had some staff contract the disease recently. There is a pertussis outbreak in Jessamine County. We are monitoring and have shared information with Fayette County Public Schools staff and parents on pertussis as the new school year begins. School health nurses have been well briefed. We also had a Legionella outbreak, primarily centered in a local apartment complex. Inspectors conducted a thorough review and believe they identified the source. Around five people were hospitalized. No new cases have arisen.
- WIC and HANDS are returning to in-person visits for the program, with most virtual options having ended on July 31.
- The community health assessment and improvement plan are moving forward. We are working with a variety of community partners to identify and address public health issues. Our priority focus in the new plan is behavioral health. The information collected will inform our strategic plan, the last of which was developed in 2017. July was national minority mental health awareness month. LFCHD staff member Catherine Lowe, who is cochair of the Employee Equity and Diversity Committee, submitted an article on the topic. Going forward, the board will see more focus on mental health.
- Our free flu shot clinic will be held October 12 at Central Baptist Church, across from Fayette Mall. LFCHD staff member Monicia Barnoud will serve as the FEMA ICS system Incident Commander for the event.
- Executive: Dr. Mason indicated committee topics were covered in the interim chief administrative officer's report. The committee discussed the \$4.5M total for recommended building work at 650 Newtown Pike. D. Hogston shared results of employee engagement survey.
- Finance: Mr. Friesen introduced Cara Kay to present the report. Ms. Kay reported LFCHD finances for fiscal year 2023, including a surplus of \$4.44M compared to a budgeted surplus of \$70K. Annual revenues were at 105% of plan, while operating expenses were at 88% of plan. Tax appropriation revenues exceeded the annual budget by \$539K. Current cash account balances of \$38.94M were up from \$34.26M this time last year. As of June 30, approximately \$21M of unrestricted cash has been invested in treasuries and CDs. The finance committee discussed salary plan, which adds \$230K not in the FY2024 budget. We instituted a 5% COLA in July. We have a separate scale for nurse positions. We also approved a 1% increase for future staff anniversary milestones. We are getting into the details regarding building remediation and upgrades, including completing work already begun in the clinic area. We are looking at rebalancing the airflow to make the temperature around the building more consistently comfortable.
- Marketing and Branding: Dr. Gomez said we initiated conversations with the state regarding the child safety program and are meeting soon to discuss the opportunities. The program is called Southern Bluegrass Prevention at KDPH. K. Hall said we are sharing information on national breastfeeding

## Committee Reports

	<ul> <li>awareness with our coordinator. Victoria Rusk, our new communications generalist is overseeing the campaign and providing design work. The free flu shot clinic will be our first flu vaccination event at the location. The event serves as a test of our emergency preparedness. High dose flu vaccine will only be available at the October 12 clinic. We will continue to offer COVID-19 vaccinations.</li> <li>Nominating and Bylaws: No report.</li> <li>Policy and Protocol: Dr. Mason said the committee has not yet met. The committee had not reviewed the DocuTract software which LFCHD purchased, and were not in favor of it.</li> <li>Program Outcomes and Evaluation: No report.</li> <li>Ad Hoc Search Committee: The committee met and is in the process of reviewing the Commissioner of Health job description. J. Cornett is working on a single description for both the physician and non-physician candidate pools. We will recruit through our job board, through public health partners, and through our recruitment vendor. Councilmember Reynolds will serve on the committee.</li> </ul>
Public Comment	<ul> <li>Dr. Mason opened the floor for public comments. None were presented.</li> </ul>
Adjournment	Dr. Mason requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Friesen made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Rodney A. Jackson, DMD, Chairperson

Jack Cornett, Interim Secretary