




# MEETING MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting  
650 Newtown Pike  
April 14, 2025  
5:45 p.m.

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<p><b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</b> Commissioner Kacy Allen-Bryant, Dr. Dossett, Dr. Feld, Dr. Maria Gomez, Dr. Hood, Mr. Majd Jabbour, Dr. Rodney Jackson, Dr. Christine Ko, Dr. Leah Mason, Councilmember Reynolds, and Dr. Elizabeth Riley.</p> <p><b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b> Dr. Steve Davis, legal counsel, LFCHD Staff.</p>
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Jabbour called the meeting to order at 5:53 p.m.</li> </ul>
Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Foley called the roll. Attendance was as recorded above. Dr. Touchan was excused.</li> </ul>
Request for Approval: March 10, 2025 Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The March 10, 2025 Board of Health (BOH) meeting minutes were considered. Dr. Mason made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Allen-Bryant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The minutes were approved.</li> </ul>
Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero Award Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Gomez and Mr. Jabbour presented the Dr. Rice C. Leach Public Health Hero Award. There were two winners: Dr. Abeni El-Amin, President of Project Ricochet Inc., and Dr. Lindsey Jasinski, Chief Administrative Officer at Eastern State Hospital. Dr. El-Amin was selected to recognize her “profound dedication to public health, education, and community empowerment”. Dr. Jasinski was selected for her work in standing up “the first EmPATH (Emergency Psychiatric Assessment, Treating and Healing) unit in Kentucky” at Eastern State Hospital in Lexington. The unit provides emergency care to patients experiencing a mental health crisis, including through the use of peer support. Both winners graciously accepted the award and were congratulated by all present. They expressed appreciation for the award.</li> </ul>
A Day in the Life of a Vital Statistic Team Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandra Lilly, Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) Registrar, presented a “day in the life” of a vital statistics team member. She has served 23 years at the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD). She has held numerous roles and was appointed registrar in 2017. She provides services to English and Spanish-speaking clients. Services include paternity affidavits, communicable disease statements, disinterment and reinterment approvals, assigning deputy registrars, verifying birth and death certificates, and reconciling the “677” report. She also provides case management to hepatitis B positive mothers. She shared a story of a time she helped a person who was born at home and had never had a birth certificate. She helped the person obtain the certificate, which allowed them to go on an ocean cruise. Ms. Lilly noted community members rely on her office for</li> </ul>

	<p>support during major life events, including the birth of a child and the death of loved ones. The board thanked Ms. Lilly for her presentation and for her excellent in doing this important work.</p>
Interim Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Davis reported he keeps mortality data on his desk. The health needle is not moving. In Fayette County, heart disease is the leading cause of mortality, followed by cancer, accidents, chronic respiratory disease, strokes, and more. We are starting to see more suicides and homicides. He likes to look at the data each morning and ask what LFCHD is doing to address these issues. He is pleased we are looking at quality assurance and improvement. He said he would be remiss if he didn't mention the building renovations. We have found a location for indoor housing of our vans. He offered kudos to Matthew Bone and the IT team and Jill Keys and the clinical team for implementing the Electronic Health Record. We are seeing good results in our harm reduction program. Syphilis cases have exploded nationally, but the last two months we have had lower rates than during the same period in 2020. Our work on Legionella has been recognized at the state-wide and national levels. The team has been very proactive on measles, working closely with the University of Kentucky and other hospitals. There have been no cases in Fayette County. LFCHD will hold its first health fair on May 24 at Bluegrass Community and Technical College. Our merit council is in place and we are working on the first meeting for the council. We are working with colleges and universities to have physicians and students coming to LFCHD to be mentored by the squad. HANDS referrals are going up each month. He asked the team to "think crazy" on ways to move the health needle. Some of our WIC staff are going to the grocery with WIC clients to help them shop for healthy foods. The diabetes expo was a huge success. Dr. Davis said injuries are the leading cause of childhood mortality, many of which occur on playgrounds. We have staff that work with individuals on playground safety.</li> </ul>
Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive: Mr. Jabbour reported Dr. Davis covered committee topics in the interim CAO report.</li> <li>• Finance: Cara Kay reported for February 2025. We saw a \$2.9M surplus on a budgeted surplus of \$4.1M. Revenues were 106% of plan, while expenses were 115% of plan, due to timing issues. We have \$2.5M in Covid funding we still expect to receive. If we do not receive those funds, we will use tax dollars for funding. Cash and investments totaled \$46.32M, compared to \$43.63M this time last year. Unrestricted cash investments in treasuries and CDs totaled \$27.41M. The LFCHD \$61M pension liability is not reflected in these numbers.</li> <li>• Marketing and Branding: Dr. Gomez highlighted the upcoming Diabetes Expo, to be held April 26.</li> <li>• Nominating and Bylaws: No report.</li> <li>• Policy and Protocol: No report.</li> <li>• Program Outcomes and Evaluation: No Report.</li> <li>• Ad Hoc Search: Mr. Jabbour reported we are nearing the end of the process.</li> </ul>
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Jabbour opened the floor for public comments. CM Reynolds thanked the board and LFCHD for the condolences and support offered to her and her family.</li> <li>• Dr. Mason made a motion for the Board of Health to enter closed session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(f) for a discussion which may lead to the</li> </ul>

	<p>appointment of an individual to the position of commissioner of health pursuant to KRS 212.265(c). Commissioner Allen-Bryant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board entered closed session at 6:41 p.m. Dr. Mason made a motion to exit closed session. Commissioner Allen-Bryant seconded the motion. The board exited closed session at 7:04 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Mason made a motion to authorize the board chair and vice chair to begin negotiating a potential contact with an individual candidate for the position of commissioner of health and to utilize legal counsel and health department staff, as needed, to facilitate the process. Dr. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.</li> </ul>



Majd Jabbour, Chairperson  
LEAH MASON, VICE CHAIR



Steve Davis, Interim Secretary