

CABELL-HUNTINGTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Board of Health Regular Meeting – December 8, 2021

Board Members Present:

Daniel Konrad
Donna Rumbaugh
Danny Porter
Robert Sweeney

Board Members Present by Phone Conference:

Fred Kitchen

Board Members Absent:

Kevin Yingling, MD

Staff Members Present:

Michael E. Kilkenny, Chief Executive Officer/Health Officer
Elizabeth Adkins, Administrative Services Manager
Rodney Melton, Director of Environmental Health Services
Austin Hoffman, Regional Epidemiologist
Dr. Abir Rahman, Director of Epidemiology
Kathleen Napier, Director of Nursing
Laura Powell, Administrative Services Office Assistant
Hannah Petracca, Public Information Officer
Jack Mease, Chief Financial Officer

Staff Members Present by Video Conference:

Bryce Parker, Epidemiology Assistant

Visitors by Video and Phone Conference:

Sarah Ingram, Herald Dispatch

In honor of Sally Johnson's memory, a moment of silence was observed at 5:15pm.
Hannah Petracca conducted a reading in memory of Sally Johnson upon request by Staff Members.

Mr. Konrad called the Board of Health meeting to order at 5:22 pm.

A motion to approve the December 8, 2021 Board of Health Agenda was made by Mrs. Rumbaugh, seconded by Mr. Porter and approved.

A motion to approve the October 27, 2021 Board of Health Meeting Minutes as written was made by Mrs. Rumbaugh, seconded by Mr. Kitchen and approved.

Departmental Reports:

Chief Operating Officer:

Tim Hazelett presented the Chief Operating Officer report.

Non-Congregate Housing Funding Update:

The 25% funding held by FEMA for the Non-Congregate Sheltering was received and distributed to the Cabell County Coalition for the Homeless. Moving forward, reimbursement will be at 100%.

Environmental Services:

Rodney Melton presented the Environmental Services report. The two newest Environmental Health team members are finishing their state training and will be placed in the field upon completion. A temporary trailer has replaced the tent for COVID-19 testing. This switch was to provide adequate shelter for the staff conducting COVID-19 testing and provide a more efficient process. The Environmental Health team has been working closely with the Threat Preparedness Coordinator in personal protection equipment (PPE) management. In collaboration with the Emergency Manager, CHHD distributed 21 pallets of 8oz hand sanitizer (54,000+ bottles) and 2,200 containers of sanitizer wipes to partners and the community.

Epidemiology:

Dr. Rahman presented the Epidemiology report, which included case numbers for reportable diseases, graphs for diseases that had cases over any of the focused time periods, trainings, outreach, and meetings attended in October and November. The COVID-19 outbreaks in long-term care facilities decreased. Outreach discussions occurred at Marshall University PA School and St. Mary's School of Nursing. Mr. Konrad inquired on any concern for the upcoming months. COVID-19 continues to be the main concern.

Regional Epidemiology Report

Austin Hoffman presented the Regional Epidemiology report, which included regional epidemiological trainings and meetings held in the past month, field and partner education, and disease investigation and surveillance.

October consisted of standard review of cases, regional trainings, logistics and site visits conducted at the Mason and Jackson County Health Departments. The total number of outbreaks and associated COVID-19 cases decreased by ~50% since September. The average number of cases per outbreaks stabilized at 16 cases.

November consisted of additional trainings, including syphilis and CMS webinars, and site visits to Wayne and Mingo County Health Departments. The overall COVID-19 outbreaks continued to decline though the number of cases across the region increased by ~68%. Four outbreaks were opened in the month of November. The average number of cases per outbreak remained at 16. Mr. Konrad inquired on outbreaks and testing plans schools. No outbreaks have been reported in Cabell County schools, though there have been a few in other parts of the region. At this time, schools are only conducting symptom and as needed testing. Vaccine outreach continues to be scheduled and conducted in schools.

Nursing:

Kathleen Napier presented the Nursing report, which includes the clinical and Harm Reduction Program. The reporting system for COVID-19 vaccines has changed and is reflected in the report. The number reported includes other facilities in Cabell County. We continue to vaccinate approximately 1,800 clients each month through our COVID-19 Vaccine Center and Outreach. Cabell County School COVID-19 vaccination clinics are being conducted this week.

Administrative Services:

Elizabeth Adkins presented the Administrative Services report. To date, over 30,000 calls have been received through the COVID-19 Call Center. A Grants Management chart has been added to the Administrative Services report. To date, we have billed over \$1M and received a little over \$500,000 in reimbursement. Teresa Mills was recognized as a member of the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation State Task Force and the co-presentation of the tobacco report regarding HB4494 conducted on December 5th.

E. Adkins read the resolution between the City of Huntington, Cabell-Huntington Health Department and Cabell County Community Services Organization (CCSO).

A motion to approve the resolution and add it into the records of this organization was made by Mr. Porter, seconded by Mr. Kitchen and approved. The signed resolution will be submitted for supporting documentation.

Financial Report:

Jack Mease presented the October 2021 financial report.

A motion to approve all departmental reports as written and presented was made by Mr. Porter, seconded by Mrs. Rumbaugh and approved.

A motion to approve the October 2021 financial reports with the modification to the Year-to-Date Budgeted Expenses was made by Mr. Porter, seconded by Mrs. Rumbaugh and approved.

Health Officer:

Dr. Michael Kilkenny presented the Health Officer report.

Dr. Rahman was recognized for completing the CSTE/CDC Forecasting Workshop.

CHHD continues to watch the Omicron variant and stay up to date on all information through a weekly CDC webinar. The variant is an emerging threat and is the strongest reason for vaccinated individuals to get the booster and unvaccinated individuals to seek vaccination. Though too early to tell much about the Omicron variant, the vaccine data has proven to partially contain the variant.

Harm Reeducation Program – The Cabell-Huntington Health Department Harm Reduction Program has received support of the City Council/City of Huntington. We will be seeking support from the Cabell County Commission on Thursday, December 9th. If support is received, we will be applying for state licensure.

Executive Session

The Board of Health excused to Executive Session at 5:52pm.

Executive Session adjourned at 6:38pm.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

Dr. Kilkenny requested the Board of Health’s approval to assist an employee with the immigration process. A motion to approve immigration assistance and to seek legal counsel was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Rumbaugh and approved.

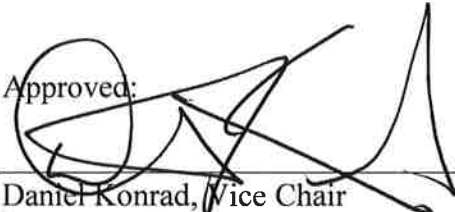
Tim Hazelett requested the Board of Health’s approval to implement a paid internship in the Environmental Services department to increase the ability to recruit employees. A motion to approve the implementation of a paid internship in the Environmental Services Department was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Porter and approved.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael Kilkenny, MD, MS
CEO & Health Officer, Cabell-Huntington Health Department

Approved: 
Daniel Konrad, Vice Chair
Cabell-Huntington Board of Health

