

**Minutes of the
Mahoning County Public Health
Board Meeting
August 19, 2020
8:00 a.m.**

The Mahoning County Public Health Board held its regular meeting on August 19, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at the offices of Mahoning County Public Health, 50 Westchester Drive, Youngstown, Ohio 44515.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call

Present - via GoToMeeting

Absent

Mr. Len Perry
Bev Fisher
Dr. Nancy Mosca
Dr. Michael Miladore
Joe Mistovich

Staff Present: Ed Janik, John Hallas, Michelle Edison, Julie Thompson, Ryan Tekac

Staff Present via GoToMeeting: Erica Horner, Susan Kovach, Loretta Floyd-Pleas, Scott Bolam,
Dr. Kravec

Public Audience: David Hoffman

Public Audience via GoToMeeting: Dave Mannion, Brian Bagwell, Bethany Carlson

III. Minutes

MOTIONS

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to approve the minutes of the 7/15/20, 7/29/20 and 8/03/20 Board meetings as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mistovich motioned, Mr. Perry seconded to approve the minutes of the 7/13/20 Personnel Committee meeting as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Dr. Miladore seconded to approve the minutes of the 7/14/20 Finance Committee meeting as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Request to Address the Board

A. Mr. David Hoffman – Ellsworth Township

Mr. Tekac explained that Mr. Hoffman has requested to address the Board as a result of a notice received through the Operation and Maintenance Program. The Operation and Maintenance Program in this county requires a homeowner who has a system that is mechanical and/or discharges off-lot to be entered into the O&M program. What that means is that those systems have to have a service contract and they have to be serviced

by a service provider depending on the type of system. Mr. Hoffman's system is required to be serviced twice a year. Mr. Hoffman received notice from our office on December 5, 2016 due to a pumping report that we received indicating that his aeration motor was missing. Based off of our septic rules any system that is altered or repaired is required to be enrolled in the O&M program. Replacing the motor is considered a repair. Since then, Mr. Hoffman's last service contract that we have on file expired in 2017. I would like to give the floor to Mr. Hoffman at this time.

Mr. Hoffman explained that the reason the motor was missing was because he pulled it in 2014 because it was not working and had rusted and he was concerned it was going to fall to the bottom of the tank. After having the system pumped in 2016, Mr. Hoffman received a letter from the Mahoning County Board of Health and installed a new motor. The service provider he hired was supposed to come twice a year and do an inspection to verify everything was working but Mr. Hoffman was never notified when they were coming, that they were there and never received any paperwork documenting what had been done during the inspection. Mr. Hoffman feels that this required contract is wrong and is only being charged because people in the country don't have to pay a city sewer fee.

Mr. Tekac added that when the Ohio Department of Health updated their sewage rules several years ago, they mandated that local health districts have an O&M program and work to expand the program to include all septic systems in their jurisdiction. We are currently working to expand our program as required by ODH.

After further discussion, Mr. Perry added that the bigger issue here is that the service providers need to be providing the homeowners with information such as when they are coming, what they are doing while on the property and what they find during the inspection. He continued that because service providers register with our office, we can use the opportunity to educate them about following this process.

Mr. Tekac agreed and stated that he would check further into our records to confirm we are receiving the paperwork that is required to be submitted to our office and follow-up with the Board and Mr. Hoffman.

B. Mr. Brian Bagwell – Beaver Township

Mr. Tekac introduced Mr. Bagwell, who is a member of the South Range Schools Board of Education. Mr. Tekac and Mr. Bagwell had a conversation several weeks ago regarding the return to school. As the Board is aware, MCPH has been working with not only superintendents, but also athletics and other individuals within the school systems to ensure that when students return to school if and when there is an outbreak; there is a reduction in the number of individuals potentially affected by COVID.

Mr. Bagwell introduced himself as the parent of four children, two of whom attend South Range Elementary, as well as being a school board member. He is requesting to address the Board today as he has some concerns about the re-entry plans for local schools. Mr. Bagwell cited various sources stressing the importance of children being present in classrooms to receive the most effective learning. Mr. Bagwell does not feel that schools are actually being allowed to choose the best options for their individual districts rather they are being forced to follow state/local recommendations. School age children are the least likely to die or become seriously ill from COVID and contract tracing for each student within six feet of a positive student there could easily be more students quarantined in a single day than have tested positive since the beginning of tracking. At what point are the preventative measures more detrimental than the disease? In my opinion we are well past that point. By restricting students from being less than six feet apart from each other, regardless of whether they have a mask on or not, schools are forced to switch to other learning options. I doubt anyone will say that students are certain to receive the same benefits from in-class room learning that they will get from hybrid or virtual learning. Here

is my question for the Board. At what point will these restrictions be relaxed? What metrics are you watching and what thresholds must be crossed for you to decide it is safe for students to be back within six feet of each other? I have never heard a physician say this disease will be eradicated or go away. Illnesses will happen; certainly people will continue to die due to COVID-19 for years to come; just like people continue to die from the flu. It's unrealistic to think this will ever go away completely. One parent, who also happens to be a practicing physician, spoke during the public participation at our board meeting Monday night. He reminded us that health is not only the absence of disease; it is the complete mental, physical and social well-being. I asked that question to the members of the Health Department involved in the school re-entry plan and the only response I received was "we don't know". If that really is the answer, then Mahoning County does not have the correct people leading us and that should be concerning not only to the Board but to everyone in the county. Look at the statistics available to all of us on both the county and state COVID-19 dashboards; these numbers don't indicate that we should be living in a state of fear and panic and especially don't give reason to force those feelings on our children. Hospitalizations and deaths are dropping sharply. Remember the initial goal was to flatten the curve? That curve has been more than flattened and it's time to remove these ridiculous restrictions and get back to living our lives.

Dr. Mosca thanked Mr. Bagwell for his comments and asked if he was representing himself or if he was an official representative for the South Range Board of Education? Mr. Bagwell responded that he was representing himself.

Dr. Miladore also thanked Mr. Bagwell and expressed appreciation for his situation and questioned when the first day of school was? Mr. Bagwell responded the day after Labor Day. Typically it is earlier, but this year it has been pushed back. Dr. Miladore then asked if all students were invited back for the start of school. Mr. Bagwell responded that they are but in order to maintain the six foot isolation distances; they have to adopt a hybrid learning model.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the logistics of the hybrid learning model that South Range will follow as well as potential other options for school districts and when and how things may change. The bottom line is that these regulations are issued by the State of Ohio and all we can do is work within the parameters they set for the best possible outcome.

V. New Business

A. Resolution 2020-001 – Affirmation of Support for Expansion of Mahoning Valley Pathways HUB

Mrs. Edison explained that this resolution is for the Ohio Commission on Minority Health and is a requirement of the continuation grant. We have received funding from the Commission since the inception of the HUB and this resolution is required to submit with our information for the 2021 grant.

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to approve Resolution 2020-001 – Affirmation of Support for Expansion of Mahoning Valley Pathways HUB as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Memorandum of Understanding with Mahoning County Commissioners regarding Issuance of Notes/Bonds for Purchase Acquisition, Construction, Reconstruction and/or Renovation of Facilities to be Utilized by Mahoning County Public Health for its Operations

Mr. Janik explained that this is a memorandum of understanding with the County Commissioners in the event that we participate in the auction and would be the winning bid on this building; it is an agreement that they would fund the money for us, that they would

issue a note and subsequent bonds for us to purchase the building if that happens. If it doesn't, and we are not the winning bidder it will be a moot point but we need to go through this motion.

MOTION

Dr. Miladore motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Mahoning County Commissioners regarding Issuance of Notes/Bonds for Purchase Acquisition, Construction, Reconstruction and/or Renovation of Facilities to be Utilized by Mahoning County Public Health for its Operations as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Reports

A. Committee

Dr. Miladore reported that the Finance Committee met yesterday and the finances are solid. We are bringing in revenue and expenses are increasing but have been covered by funding received.

Mr. Mistovich reported that the Personnel Committee met on Monday and discussed the hiring of new positions, collective bargaining matters and a director name change.

B. Division/Program

Ed Janik

Beginning work on 2021 cost analysis for Environmental programs. The 2019 Audit is posted on our website. Was looking through records and in January of 2012 we had four grants that we were administering and in January of 2020 we are administering 20 grants.

Michelle Edison

So far this year, the HUB has enrolled 105 new clients including those enrolled under the chronic disease pilot. We have approximately 160 additional active clients and dozens of active referrals. Community Health Workers are using telephonic means to engage referrals and enroll clients.

The MORE 1st Birthdays Initiative is supporting our local infant mortality efforts through the transportation program. The provider, Just In Time Employment/Consulting Agency provides an encouraging experience for clients during their transports. The owner, Andrea Blackmon, has shared family recipes with clients and offered motherly encouragement. Additionally, because of provider restrictions, if a client is unable to wait in a waiting area for her appointment, the transportation provider will allow the client to wait in the vehicle. This is especially helpful during hot or inclement days.

A social media education campaign is being developed under the MY Baby's 1st Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative. Cathy Hergenrother, MORE 1st Birthdays Coordinator, is working with Cora Lewis, MY Baby's 1st Coordinator and Dr. Powe and her public health students to create posts to be used on several sites hosted by MY Baby's 1st. The campaign will begin in September.

We have continued to convene the group discussing Racism as a Public Health crisis to brainstorm potential strategies and outcomes. We are hoping to finalize a contract with a national consultant who will help facilitate our collective impact approach in the coming weeks and aid in the development of a comprehensive, multifaceted plan that supports improved health outcomes for all residents and mitigates barriers associated with racism and systemic biases.

John Hallas

We are receiving many COVID-19 mask complaints after the newest order. The complaints are spread across the division and are impacting everyone's regular workload.

We have received the plans for the Canfield Junior Fair and they comply with all requirements. We will have staff inspect the 10+ mobile units when it starts on Wednesday, September 2nd.

In the WPCLF program, we are awaiting designs for soil evaluations. When they arrive the jobs will be bid on for awards.

The mosquito fogging is progressing according to schedule as precipitation has been light and the weather hot. Trapping is complete for the season.

We received a Legionella kit from ODH through a CDC grant for use in the event that we need to conduct an investigation. It contains a chlorine test kit, lollipop thermometer and pH testing strips.

Erica Horner

In the Project DAWN naloxone kit program for July there were 13 community kits distributed with five reported saves (100% of the kits distributed were to populations who reside in areas at highest risk for overdoses in the county). There were 36 kits distributed to First Responders during July with 17 reported uses, 16 saves, 0 deceased and 1 unknown.

For July we administered a total of 244 vaccine, 49 to adults and 195 for children ages birth to 18 years old.

As part of the Maternal and Child Health program, Cara Rasor was able to complete a Workplace Wellness event with stress relief education provided to Canfield Pharmacy employees on July 23, 2020. She met with a few employees one-on-one while practicing social distancing and wearing masks. Cara provided each employee with a stress survival kit, stress relief information, and sensory motor rings. Finally, Cara is currently in the process of working with Canfield Pharmacy to implement a policy for their staff related to a stress relief program.

CPR recertification was completed in July for mandatory clinical staff and was also offered for staff members that were interested in attending. There were a total of 36 staff members who participated in the recertification.

Loretta Floyd-Pleas

The Mahoning County WIC Program celebrated National Breastfeeding Awareness Month by partnering with the Action/Grow Urban Farm to have WIC Farmers Market Coupons; Gift Bags for Breastfeeding and Pregnant moms and a farmer's market stand with vibrant colors from fresh vegetables and fruits locally grown. This is a balance scenario where the WIC participants are offered the opportunity to purchase healthy foods to take home to prepare a meal loaded with nutritious goodness. This event was well attended by WIC families. The Event was promoted on the local radio station 94.7.

HOLA an Hispanic organization that promotes Voter Registration were present to offer voter registration and absenteeism ballots.

Out of the 783 Farmers Market Coupons booklets the Mahoning County WIC received we have distributed 460 coupon booklets.

The next POP-Up Farmers Market is scheduled for August 20th at the Youngstown WIC Clinic located at 345 Oak Hill Renaissance from 10am to 1pm.

WIC Program informational packets were mailed to 50 local churches and 75 local physicians. Follow-up calls are currently being conducted during this time to address questions and concerns of the local physicians and churches.

The Ohio Department of Health offered through the MidWest Region Mentorship Grant –The WIC Counseling Course—this course identifies what staff needs to know to effectively help moms choosing to breastfeed including how to approach mothers and address their needs—our Breastfeeding Peer Helper ShaCorey Wilburn attended this course.

Also, ODH offered an opportunity to attend the Certified Lactation Counseling course work online for one week and our Health Professional Catherine Pontino completed this course and after an exam has become a Certified Lactation Counselor.

And ODH is offering through the MidWest Region Mentorship Grant—the “Outpatient Breastfeeding Champion Course” in an online format—this is a clinically focused course that addresses common breastfeeding questions that a breastfeeding mother and her family have throughout the course of lactation, into toddlerhood and beyond and our Breastfeeding Coordinator Daljeet Dhillon and Loretta Pleas will be attending.

Transportation is working well—our Youngstown WIC located on Oak Hill has scheduled an average of 5 appointments a week and our Boardman WIC and Austintown WIC Clinics have been slower with 2 to 3 request per week. This program is young, and we anticipate the demand will increase as the word gets out to the community on its availability. Plus, rides are free on WRTA currently.

Current caseload in WIC 3,743 with 1,653 being children, 1,274 are infants and 816 are women.

Scott Bolam

As we have discussed previously, this is the year for our A2LA (American Association of Laboratory Accreditation) audit. This audit is for our lead testing program. The audit is scheduled for the week of September 28th and will be completely virtual this time; there will be no on-site visit like usual.

In the groundwater monitoring program, samples will be collected around Mahoning Landfill this week and around Toth-Hilltop next week.

Dr. Kravec

There have been a lot of questions about testing. Saliva testing has been requested for emergency FDA approval. Antibody testing still not appropriate for our area due to prevalence rates. Efforts have been focusing on preparing for flu season.

Ryan Tekac

We have continued to work with our local school districts to offer them guidance based on the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Education. Most recently Susan and I met with President Tressel and his team. The purpose of this meeting took place two weeks prior to school to ensure they have support from both the city and county health departments.

In addition to the YSU meeting we also held virtual presentations for our local school administrators and we will be hosting a virtual meeting for the school nurses. Susan has provided to the schools with algorithms that will aid the schools in dealing with the following situations:

- Child or Staff Reports ill
- Child or Staff reports a positive COVID test rule
- Child or Staff member is contact to a Positive Case

The EH division has also been working with school cafeteria staff to ensure they are providing a safe atmosphere for serving lunches with COVID safety in mind.

As we inch closer to the opening of schools we will continue to work with them and be a partner in reducing any potential outbreaks within the school.

I want to recognize Lowellville, Poland and Boardman school districts and their athletic staff as they have done a great job in working with us and understanding how to contact trace and keep their student athletes safe.

At the last Board Meeting I shared the news of a newly developed zip code level dashboard that was created by Bharat with the data gathered by Jake. I made the comment that it was just a tip of the iceberg and this past month we have rolled out a new comprehensive dashboard. The dashboard has all the capabilities of the previous dashboard, including a map of all COVID-19 cases and deaths (both probable and confirmed) in Mahoning County including the city of Youngstown by zip code, with long-term care data sectioned out. Other data featured in the upgraded dashboard include:

- Demographic information
- Pre-existing Conditions Information
- Recovered Cases
- Trend Data (Age, Total Cases & Hospitalizations, Gender, Race, ICU admissions and LTC cases)
- Testing Center information

I would also like to share an email that was received from Diane Reese, owner of area long term care facilities, which reads; "Erica...Also, I need to tell you how helpful you and your staff have been during the last 5 months. My husband and I sincerely appreciate your assistance, quick response to our questions, our directors questions, and being so readily available to us. Each director who I have spoken with say the same thing about your responsiveness, professionalism and kindness. Of course, I wish we were not going thru this but working with you has definitely been a silver lining. With sincere gratefulness, Diane"

VII. Approval of Monthly Expenses

A. Monthly Expenses

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Dr. Miladore seconded to approve the monthly expenses as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Contracts

- 1) Sylvester Patton, Clean carpets and tiles, strip and wax floors at Boardman and Youngstown WIC offices, \$1,270.00

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Dr. Miladore seconded to approve the contract with Sylvester Patton as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 2) Blue Outdoor LLC., Advertising at Southern Park Mall (MQFT, INA and CKSS Grants), \$1,200.00
- 3) Blue Outdoor LLC., Production Costs for above advertising at Southern Park Mall (MQFT, INA, CKSS), \$450.00

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to approve the two contracts with Blue Outdoor LLC. as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 4) Airgas USA, LLC, Gasses and Cylinder Rentals for MCPH Lab, \$4,000.00 (3 year contract)

MOTION

Dr. Miladore motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to approve the contract with Airgas USA as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Executive Session

A. Enter Executive Session

MOTION

Mr. Mistovich motioned, Mrs. Fisher seconded to enter into Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining Matters and Purchase of Property at 9:38 a.m.

On roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Mistovich	Yes
Dr. Miladore	Yes
Mrs. Fisher	Yes
Mr. Perry	Yes
Dr. Mosca	Yes

B. Exit Executive Session

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to exit Executive Session at 10:08 a.m.

On roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Mistovich	Yes
Dr. Miladore	Yes
Mrs. Fisher	Yes
Mr. Perry	Yes
Dr. Mosca	Yes

C. Authority to Hire

MOTION

Mr. Mistovich motioned, Mrs. Fisher seconded to grant authority to the Health Commissioner to hire two part-time positions as necessary.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Title Change – Michelle Edison

MOTION

Dr. Miladore motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to approve a title change for Michelle Edison from Pathways HUB Coordinator to Director of Health Equity Strategy & Initiatives as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Adjournment

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes of the
Mahoning County Public Health
Board Meeting
August 18, 2020
12:00 p.m.**

The Mahoning County Public Health Board held a special meeting on August 18, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at the offices of Mahoning County Public Health, 50 Westchester Drive, Youngstown, Ohio 44515.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call

Present - via GoToMeeting

Len Perry
Bev Fisher
Joe Mistovich
Dr. Michael Miladore

Absent

Dr. Nancy Mosca

Staff Present: Ed Janik, Julie Thompson, Ryan Tekac

Public Audience via GoToMeeting: Atty. Tim Tusek, Audrey Tillis

III. Executive Session

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to enter into Executive Session to consider the purchase of property.

On roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Perry	Yes
Mrs. Fisher	Yes
Dr. Miladore	Yes
Mr. Mistovich	Yes

IV. Exit Executive Session

MOTION

Dr. Miladore motioned, Mr. Mistovich seconded to exit Executive Session.

Motion carried unanimously.

V. Adjournment

MOTION

Mrs. Fisher motioned, Mr. Perry seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2020
4:30 P.M.**

**Mahoning County Public Health
50 Westchester Drive
Youngstown, Ohio 44515**

MINUTES

Board members present: Dr. Nancy Mosca (via GoToMeeting)
 Mr. Len Perry (via GoToMeeting)
 Mr. Joe Mistovich (via GoToMeeting)

Staff present: Ryan Tekac
 Ed Janik

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m. Mr. Perry made a motion to enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment, discipline, or compensation of public employees, or to discuss pending or imminent court action, collective bargaining matters, or security matters.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mistovich.

Dr. Mosca made a motion to leave executive session at 5:28 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Perry.

Upon leaving executive session the Personnel committee stated that they would make recommendations related to the appointment, employment, discipline, and compensation of public employees during the next regular meeting of the Board of Health on August 19, 2020.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Mistovich at 5:30 p.m.

MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2020
8:30 A.M.**

**Mahoning County Public Health
50 Westchester Drive
Youngstown, Ohio 44515**

MINUTES

Board members present: Mrs. Bev Fisher (via GoToMeeting)
Dr. Michael Miladore (via GoToMeeting)

Staff present: Ryan Tekac
Ed Janik

Meeting called to order at 8:35 a.m.

The Finance Committee reviewed Resolution 2020-001 – Affirmation of Support for Expansion of Mahoning Valley Pathways HUB and the monthly financial reports as presented.

The Finance Committee will recommend approval of the following contract at the next regularly scheduled MCPH meeting August 19, 2020:

Contracts:

- Sylvester Patton, Clean carpets and tiles, strip and wax floors at Boardman and Youngstown WIC offices, \$1,270.00
- Blue Outdoor LLC., Advertising at Southern Park Mall (MQFT, INA and CKSS Grants), \$1,200.00
- Blue Outdoor LLC., Production costs for above advertising at Southern Park Mall (MQFT, INA, CKSS Grants), \$450.00
- Airgas USA, LLC, Gasses and Cylinder Rentals for MCPH Lab, \$4,000.00 (3 year contract)

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.