

Mid-Ohio Valley Board of Health
January 25, 2024 at 6:30pm
The Mid-Ohio Valley Board of Health
211 6th Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101

Call to Order:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by Blair Couch, Board Chair. Emily Lanham took roll call, and a quorum was present.

Motion to approve the 01/25/2024 MOVBOH meeting agenda. (Couch)

Attendance

Board Members:

- Blair Couch – Wood County
- Joyce Faller – Pleasants County via phone
- Eleanor Little – Pleasants County via phone
- Kristina Sullivan – Ritchie County via phone
- Steve Ritter – Ritchie County
- Heather Downey – Roane County via phone
- Dave Goff – Roane County via phone
- Carrie Brainard – Wirt County
- Anna Reno – Wirt County
- Eric Jiles – City of Parkersburg
- Mary Keating – City of Parkersburg
- Patsy Hardy – Wood County

Employees:

- Eric Walker – Executive Director
- Emily Lanham – Administrative Services Assistant
- Alex Klosek – Finance Director
- Tiki Williams – Personnel
- Devena Moore – Clinical
- Malcolm Lanham – Community Health Director

Nicole Needs – Environmental Health Director

Jennifer Habeb – WIC Director

Jenny Mullen - Clinical

Public Comment:

- Sean Keefe
 - Concerned about Public Health Funding.
 - Concerned about the rising death rate.

Board Chair Comments:

- None

Routine Items:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the Board of Health meeting minutes from November 16, 2023. (Ritter/Little) The motion was approved.

Financial Report: Alex Klosek, Financial Director presented on the following items:

YEAR TO DATE REVENUES/EXPENSES

- Year-To-Date Revenues exceeded Expenses by \$319,348.55 on November 30, 2023.
- Prior to OPEB accrued costs and Depreciation costs, Revenues exceeded Expenses by \$390,978.86 on November 30, 2023.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - CURRENT

- Accounts Receivable \$611,536.25 as of 11/30/23.
- CURRENT Accounts Receivable \$583,066.76 as of 12/15/23.
- CASH BALANCE - The bank account is considered healthy as of November 30, 2023.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Finance Report. (Faller/Ritter) The motion was approved.

Personnel Report – Tiki Williams, Personnel presented on the following:

Retirements:

- Clinical Director/Nurse Practitioner – Wood County

Resignations:

- OA II - Wood County

New Hires:

- Nutrition Associate – Permanent - Wood County WIC
- Nutrition Associate – Temp - Jackson County WIC
- (2) Breastfeeding Peer Counselors – Wood County WIC, Calhoun County WIC

Promotions:

- Sanitarian I to Sanitarian II - Wood County

Transfers: None

Reallocations: None

Executive Director's Report – Eric Walker, Executive Director presented on the following items:

- February 1, 2024 – Public Health Day at the legislature
- Grants for FY 2024:
 - IAP – Received, sent first two invoices.
 - EPI – Received
 - Threat Preparedness – Received
 - WIC - Received
- Indirect rate
 - MOVHD's rate is lower than the approved indirect rate. The CPA has calculated 37.55%.
 - Asking for an increase to indirect rate to that provided by independent CPA in his audit report each year (the rate varies from year to year).
 - Current indirect rate is 26.51%
 - The state's current indirect rate is 38%.
- Clinical supporting WVU Eye Institute with a vision clinic on January 26, 2024.
 - All appointments are full, with a waiting list.
 - This is funded by the Benedum Foundation.
- Clinical department changes
 - Changing the Director's position from a nursing position to a position that will focus on running the program. The Clinical Secretary position will be removed from that program because of this change. Those duties will be assumed by the new Director. With the money saved, we will be making the Outbreak Coordinator position a permanent full-time position.
 - WIC – There could be a shortfall of a billion dollars which will cause wait listing clients. This has not been done in 30 years.
- Environmental Health legislation
 - This is something concerning that MOVHD is monitoring closely.
 - Food Handler Examination
 - Legislators are discussing eliminating the expiration date, so it would valid for one's lifetime.
 - This will cause a loss of revenue in the Environmental Health department.

Health Officer Comments – Dr. Charles F. Whitaker, III presented the following:

- Covid is relatively low.
- Syphilis epidemic is no longer considered an outbreak.
- Covid deaths (death certificate listed as covid):
 - Increased by 75%
 - Kentucky has a 9% rate
- Flu vaccines outpace Covid vaccines:
 - In children, 50% get Flu vaccines and 10% get Covid vaccines.
 - In adults, 50% get Flu vaccines and 20% get Covid vaccines.
- More wastewater testing is being done.
 - Looking for different respiratory and viral bacteria.

- RSV vaccines are increasing.
- Decrease in cervical and penial cancer.
- Measles is increasing:
 - 24 cases in the US.

New Business:

- Indirect Cost Rate Increase
 - Currently, MOVHD uses an indirect rate of 26.51% based off the current independent audit report.
 - MOVHD would like to increase the rate to the indirect cost rate that is in the independent audit report.
 - Pros:
 - Raising revenues available to the Health Department.
 - Cons
 - Potentially laying off grant employees
 - We have to use the same rate for all state grants.
 - State of WV average indirect rate cost is 34%.
- Environmental Health Fees
 - Legislature no longer has the authority to set the fees.
 - The authority was moved to the local level of the county commissions, Boards of Health, and appointing authorities.
 - Executive Council of WVALHD has approached the county commission associations to see if they would approve a fee schedule similar to the state, so fees remain the same across the state.
 - After 64CSR30 is removed, our current fee schedule may no longer be valid until we make and approve our own rule.

This item was tabled until the special meeting that is slated for February 15, 2024 at 6:30pm to introduce our new rule for our fees and permits. (Couch)

Board Member Concerns:

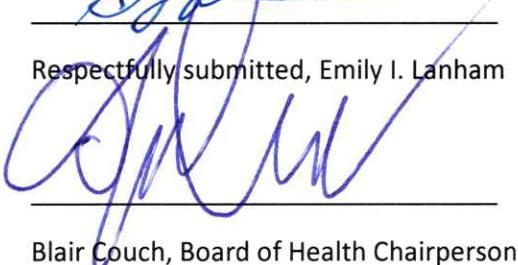
- None

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm (Couch)



Respectfully submitted, Emily I. Lanham



Blair Couch, Board of Health Chairperson