

Mid-Ohio Valley Board of Health
May 22, 2025 at 6:30pm
Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department
1824 Murdoch Ave. Parkersburg, WV 26101

Call to Order:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Patsy Hardy, Board Chair. Emily Melrose took roll call. A quorum was present.

Attendance:

Blair Couch – Wood County
Jacob McCumbers – Calhoun County
Dave Goff – Roane County via phone
Anna Reno – Wirt County
Carrie Brainard – Wirt County
Patsy Hardy – Wood County
Dr. Charles Whitaker III – Health Officer
Eric Walker – Executive Director
Travis White – Finance Director
Emily Melrose – Personnel
Christi Merrill – Clinical Director
Emily Lanham – Executive Assistant via phone
Nicole Gains – Environmental Health Director
Amy Phelps – Public Information Officer
Lauren Williams – WIC
Jennifer Habebe – WIC Director
Malcolm Lanham – Community Health Director
Halee Bowie – Pleasants County
Mykaela Davis – Pleasants County
Devena Moore - Clinical

Approval of Agenda:

- A motion was made and approved to amend the agenda to move the Old Business to after the Public Comments and accept as presented otherwise.

Public Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- St. Joseph's Landing Update – Jon Defibaugh

Board Chair Comments:

- None

Routine Items:

- Approval of 03/27/2025 board meeting minutes as presented was made and seconded. (Reno/Couch)

Finance Report – presented by Travis White, Finance Director

YEAR TO DATE REVENUES/EXPENSES

- Year-To-Date Revenues exceeded Expenses by \$ 224,521.34 on March 31, 2025.
- Prior to OPEB accrued costs and Depreciation costs, Revenues exceeded Expenses by \$ 362,983.57 on March 31, 2025.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - CURRENT

- Accounts Receivable \$2,116,776.52 as of 03/31/25
- CURRENT Accounts Receivable \$ 753,945.54 as of 05/7/25

CASH BALANCE

- The bank account is considered healthy as of March 31, 2025. A “healthy” bank account is one in which there are sufficient funds to cover two months of expenses.

A motion was made and approved to accept the financial report as presented.

Personnel Report – presented by Emily Melrose, Personnel

- New Hires
 - None
- Resignations
 - Nutrition Associate – Wood County WIC
- Retirements
 - None
- Reallocations
 - Nutritionist 2 to Nutritionist 3 - Wood County WIC
- Vacant Positions

- Nurse 1/LPN – Wood County
- Nutritionist 1 – Wood County WIC
- Nutrition Associate – Wood County WIC

Executive Director Report – presented by Eric Walker, Executive Director

- Community Health received a WV First Foundation Grant
 - Grant Amount \$298,000
 - See Community Health report for more information
- Our Clinical department will again be hosting the WVU Eye Institute’s Appalachian Vision Outreach Program
 - This program was so successful last year, they have requested two days (May 22nd and 23rd) this year
- Environmental Health mailed out invoices early this year in an effort to allow businesses more time to complete their applications and pay their fees
- Our Women, Infants and Children program has increased their community outreach in some of our counties. They have all observed an increase in caseload numbers compared to last year

St. Joseph Landing Update:

- St. Joseph Landing Update
 - Funding
 - We have been awarded \$120,519.00 in emergency funding to help with some aspects of our move.
 - Networking and Internet
 - Our fiber internet (Segra) has been setup and is running
 - Our network is up and running.
 - We are piggybacking off of existing fiber in the building. The state wants to move us to our own fiber cable, but we do not have a date for the move
 - Our wireless has not yet been installed. A heat map has been completed. We will be purchasing additional wireless routers to be installed. We do not have a date from the state as to when this will be complete.
 - Our servers have been moved and are running in temporary locations until the IT office is completed.
 - Telephones
 - Segra wants all areas to be completed before they come to set up our VOIP telephones
 - As all of the network lines are ran now, we are working with them to move the timeline up so that our programs already operating out of St. Joseph’s landing do not need to wait
 - Access Control System
 - Our access control system was removed from the 6th street office to reuse components in the new office
 - Areas have been identified for the new system to be installed

- Access control wiring needs to be ran from each access point to the locations that the controllers will be installed

Health Officer's Report – presented by Dr. Charles Whitaker, III, Health Officer

Really an uncertain time with probably having a decrease in Federal Funding.

- So far, HSN1 BIRD flu hasn't acquired the key trick of passing with ease from person to person, which is what could enable a human pandemic. For now, both the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) rate the public health risk as low. But the situation could change Biologically, HSN1 isn't so different from any other influenza A virus
- Two Louisiana infants die of PERTUSSIS as infections rise; Cases of pertussis increased from 7,063 in 2023 to 35,435 in 2024 I would suspect the "Chain of Cases" began or at least in part began with an Adult with Pertussis (the 100 day cough) which in adults it may not be severe, just long lasting. Infants under 4-6 months may present with Pertussis with APNEA, (stopped breathing). Thus, the recommendation for a booster Tdap for "Grandparents" who may be in contact with a newborn.
- Health Alert: MEASLES surges past 1,000 cases (much of the data is missing from Texas) worst outbreak in years The country reported 1,274 cases of Measles in 2019. In the decade before a vaccine became available in 1963, there were 3 to 4 million U.S. measles cases each year - mostly in children - with 48,000 hospitalizations and 400 to 500 deaths. CDC reports 12.4% increase in measles cases, 10 outbreaks. The data come as a new study predicts 851,000 cases over the next 25 years if vaccination rates stay at current levels (30,000 to 40,000/year) Complications from measles include ear infections, hearing loss, pneumonia, croup, diarrhea, blindness and swelling of the brain. Even in healthy children, measles can cause serious illness and death. In unvaccinated pregnant women, measles may cause premature birth or a low-birthweight baby. ROBERT KENNEDY MMR RECOMMENDATION
- VENEREAL DISEASES ARE CURRENTLY INCREASING IN THE MOVHD CATCHMENT AREA.
- COVID 19 VACCINE (new product) The FDA has approved the Biologics License Application for Nuvaxovid™ (NVX-CoV2373), Novavax's recombinant protein-based COVID-19 vaccine, for use in adults aged 65 years and older and in individuals aged 12 through 64 years with at least one underlying condition associated with increased risk for severe COVID-19. This makes Nuvaxovid the only FDA-approved recombinant protein-based, non-mRNA COVID-19 vaccine currently available in the U.S.

New Business:

One Time Non Base Building Pay Differential (OTNBBPD):

The finance Committee met on May 08, 2025 and made a recommendation for the board approve a \$600.00 One-Time Non Base Building Pay Differential to all classified employees, prorated for employees with less than 1.0 FTE to be paid out in November, 2025. The total number of classified employees, including vacancies, is 75 (5 vacancies). The estimated total for this disbursement is \$41,371.28 and will be covered with our general operating funds.

- A motion was made and seconded for a \$600 One-Time Non-Base Building Pay Differential to all classified employees of the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department prorated for employees with less than 1.0 FTE. Motion was approved.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the FY2026 Budget as presented was made and seconded. Motion was approved.
- A motion was made and seconded for the approval of the FY2026 Board of Health meeting schedule as presented was made and seconded. Motion was approved.
- A motion was made and seconded to change the address on the Board of Health bylaws as presented was made and seconded. Motion was approved.
- A motion was made and seconded for approval of the FY2026 Organizational Chart as presented was made and seconded. (Reno/Couch) Motion was approved.
- A motion was made and seconded for the approval of the FY2026 MOU renewals for Dr. Whitaker, Dr. Wilson and Dr. Beckett as presented. Motion was approved.
- A motion was made and seconded to hire a Quick Response Team Supervisor as presented. Motion was approved.

Board Member Comments:

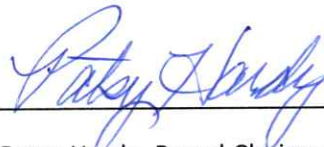
- None

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm (Hardy)

Respectfully Submitted by,



Emily I. Lanham, Executive Assistant



Patsy Hardy, Board Chairman