Mid-Ohio Valley Board of Health
July 24, 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 Lanham 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 via phone

Patsy Hardy – Wood County

Dr. Charles Whitaker III – Health Officer

Steve Ritter – Ritchie County

Eric Walker – Executive Director

Travis White – Finance Director

Emily Melrose – Personnel

Christi Merrill – Clinical Director

Emily Lanham – Executive Assistant

Nicole Gains – Environmental Health Director

Amy Phelps – Public Information Officer

Jennifer Habeb – WIC Director

Malcolm Lanham – Community Health/Threat Preparedness Director

Approval of Agenda:

- A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. (Couch/Reno)

Public Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- None

Board Chair Comments:

- Welcome everyone to the meeting and thanks for being here.

Routine Items:

- Approval of 05/22/2025 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 $180,495.20 on May 31, 2025.
- Prior to OPEB accrued costs and Depreciation costs, Revenues exceeded Expenses by $349,543.05 on May 31, 2025.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE – CURRENT

- Accounts Receivable $707,121.72 as of 05/31/25
- CURRENT Accounts Receivable $908,838.33 as of 07/09/25

CASH BALANCE

- The bank account is considered healthy as of May 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

PERSONNEL REPORT - JULY 2025

- NEW HIRES
  - 1 (TEMP) PROCESSING AS OF 7/10/25
- RESIGNATIONS
  - No Resignations
- Retirements
  - No Retirements

- REALLOCATIONS
    - Lauren Williams - Nutritionist 2 to Nutritionist 3 - 4/15/25
- VACANT POSTITIONS
    - Nurse 1 / LPN
    - Nutritionist 1 - Temporary Nutrition Assoc. is in the process of being reallocated to Temporary Nutritionist
    - Nutrition Associate - Vacant as of 4/29/25 - Temporary employee is currently processing for hire.
    - Peer Recovery Support Specialists (4) - should be posted soon.
    - Quick Response Team Supervisor

As of July 10th, 2025

Executive Director Report – presented by Eric Walker, Executive Director

Self-Assessment

- WV Rule 64CSR73, section 7 requires a performance-based evaluation for each local board of health (LBH). Per section 7.2, the local board of health is to conduct an annual self-assessment on a form provided by the commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health (BPH).
- The Center for Local Health (CLH), which is a liaison between the bureau and local health departments, is conducting a performance-based evaluation of each Local Health Department which may be used to meet this requirement.
- Our evaluation has been completed by the CLH. We have completed our required self-assessment and improvement plan based upon that evaluation using the forms provided.
- Each of our departments did an excellent job and only one deficiency was noted, details are below.
    - **Requirement:** 5.1.3.b.1.a, The Local Health Department (LHD) collects and documents required water samples and chlorination information on all facilities that have transient & non-transient public water systems.
    - **Deficiency:** The LHD did not have an example to review.
    - Notes:
        - The LHD currently has three facilities that fall into this category. Roane County Golf Club, Spring Heights Education and Conference Center in Roane County, as well as Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park, in Wood County.
        - All three of these facilities have water sampling and testing completed and submitted by third parties.

- As sampling and testing is already being done on these systems, the health department doesn't need to collect a separate sample.
- The health department will request that sample results be sent to the corresponding county office (Wood and Roane) to verify results. If a sample has not already been taken and tested, the sanitarian will take a sample and send for testing.

St. Joseph Landing Update:

- St. Joseph Landing Update
  - All programs have moved into their space with the exception of Administration, with an estimated move in date of mid-September.
  - Networking and Internet
    - Our hard wired internet is up and running
    - We are in process of having network cables run to areas for our wireless to be set up. Wireless access points are connected. We are working with the state to get them online.
  - Telephones
    - All Segra telephones have been programmed
    - All Segra telephones except for Administration are installed and in use
  - Access Control System
    - Our access control system is up and running with the following exception:
      - Parts for the man door at our main entrance to the Clinical Department are on back order. Once they are received, it will be installed.

<u>Health Officer's Report</u> – presented by Dr. Charles Whitaker, III, Health Officer

Measles

- Measles Outbreak at Highest Level in US since Disease Was Declared Eradicated In 2000, over 1200 confirmed cases (431 adults and 824 children) of measles in the US as of July 5 in 39 states, at least 155 hospitalizations. There have been three confirmed deaths.

Pertussis

- 2 Kentucky infants died of pertussis as cases rise nationally. Pertussis in adults is often a chronic "100 day cough" and may be often misdiagnosed as COPD or a virus. It can be deadly in infants, especially in the first 6 months. That is why DTaP booster is recommended for all who may be around a newborn.

HEP B

- Hepatitis B and STDs remains a concern at moderate to high level but is not increasing in MOVHD.

Tuberculosis

- Seeing an increase in the USA but not in WV or MOVHD as of his time.

Wastewater Surveillance

- continues for many viral diseases and appearing to be the "Canary in the Mine for early detection. On the website- they do have a dashboard for the locations that have surveillance. Here is the link to the dashboard- https://wvuvectors.shinyapps.io/WaTCH-WV/

Covid 19

- The Novavax COVID-19 Booster has been approved for 2025/26 and is a "non-mRVA" vaccine. It also combines Flu vaccine at the same time.
- The expected COVID-19 Strain this year is LP.8.1. Chronic Kidney disease remains the most common long-term complication of COVID-19 and of LONG COVID.

Overdose Deaths

- On May 14, 2025, the New York Times reported that the CDC has indicated a 27% nationwide decrease in overdose deaths. NOW AN INCREASE.

Birth Rate Decrease

- The US is experiencing a significant decline in birth rate as more women choose to have fewer or no children, driven by increased freedom and economic independence. The average number of children per woman has dropped below the replacement level of 2.1, reaching a record low of 1.6.

Board Member Comments:

- Blair Couch updated on the commission and St. Joseph's Landing and the updates on warming/colling centers and the board said that we are not to be involved.
- Patsy Hardy asked Emily Lanham to give an update on the Roane County board member that resigned. One of our representatives from Roane County resigned on 06/06/2025.

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

Respectfully Submitted by,

Emily I. Lanham, Executive Assistant

Patsy A Hardy
Board Chair

Patsy Hardy, Board Chairman