



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 - 5:00 p.m.

5th Floor Board Room

Present: Sylvie Stacy, MD, Hernando Carter, MD, Iris Fancher, MD, Jeffrey Dobyns, DO

Absent: Kenny Murray, MD and Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

Others Present: Mark Wilson, MD, Rodney Holmes, David Hicks, DO, David Maxey, Esq., Senitra Blackburn, Kim Cason, Bryn Manzella, Jonathan Stanton, Haskey Bryant, and Terrie Hartley

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Carter, Chair.

Introduction of New Board Member

Dr. Carter introduced Jeffrey Dobyns, D.O. and welcomed him to the Board of Health. Dr. Dobyns will complete the 5-year term vacated by Dr. Susan Walley.

Minutes of the September 1, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

Communal Living Facilities Update

Haskey Bryant, MPH, MPA, Environmental Health Program Supervisor, provided an update on Communal Living Facility (CLF) Regulations and reviewed the regulatory history for the program. A CLF is defined as a residential facility where more than four residents (not related to the owner/operator) pay the owner/operator to occupy rooming units. She said there are currently forty-nine active communal living facilities in Jefferson County and one with suspended admissions status. Communal Living Facility Regulations set the minimum standards of the residents' environment to protect their health and safety. On May 13, 2020, the Board of Health approved a resolution to adopt the current revised CLF Regulations which went into effect on July 12, 2020.

Child Care Protection and Facilities

Ms. Bryant provided an overview of the Child Care Facilities Program and explained how they are regulated in Jefferson County. A child care center is defined as a facility receiving more than twelve children for daytime or nighttime care for all or part of the day or night. This includes kindergarten or nursery schools or other programs operated as part of a private or faith-based organization receiving more than twelve children younger than lawful school age for daytime care for more than four hours per day or twenty hours per week. There are currently 274 child care facilities in Jefferson County authorized for operation by JCDH. In 2012 JCDH adopted the

first edition of the Child Care Center Regulations with one dedicated Environmental Health Specialist assigned to the program. In 2015 JCDH enacted a revised edition of the regulations and in 2017 a second dedicated Environmental Health Specialist was assigned to the program. In 2018-2019 new administrative policies and procedures were developed. Ms. Bryant said her department is working toward publishing child care scores to the JCDH website, developing a fee schedule for annual permit renewals, developing more efficient methods for application renewals and file updates, and developing more resource information on policies, handouts, and training.

Ms. Bryant answered questions from the Board.

Contracts

On the motion of Dr. Stacy, and seconded by Dr. Fancher, the following contracts were approved:

A new contract with Fiesta 2003 (payee) to provide benefits associated with the official sponsorship agreement of Fiesta at a rate not to exceed \$3,000 from September 15, 2021 through October 31, 2021.

Renewal of a contract with the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Division of Preventive Medicine (payee) for UAB physician to provide clinical care to the JCDH Metabolic Disorder/Adolescent Health Program for an amount not to exceed \$28,060 annually from November 1, 2021 through October 31, 2024.

A new contract with Cherry J. Gibson (payee) to provide telephone support for breastfeeding Women, Infants & Children participants for a rate of \$10.19 per hour; not to exceed \$11,000 from August 1, 2021 through August 1, 2022.

An amendment to a contract with Phreesia, Inc. (payee) for an automated intake platform designed to improve efficiency of the medical record and clinical areas. The amendment is to add Patient Chat to existing services for 27 licenses for an amount not to exceed \$240 per month from July 1, 2021 through July 1, 2022.

A new contract with the Alabama Institute of Deaf and Blind Birmingham (payee) to provide Braille translation to those documents that are needed in order to expand JCDH language access to all for a rate of \$.90 per sheet/\$15 per hour for supplies, labor, and maintenance unless it exceeds two sheets and total contract not to exceed \$1,500 from May 7, 2021 through June 1, 2022.

A new contract with Midmark Corporation (payee) for software license, maintenance and support for IQvitals equipment. Vital Sign equipment will be integrated with Athena electronic medical record at a rate of \$4,660 to include installation of software and maintenance; not to exceed \$5,000, from September 22, 2021 through November 19, 2023.

A new contract with IMG College, LLC (payee) to provide sponsorship opportunities and specific inventory items at the University of Alabama at Birmingham solely with respect to its Athletics Department for a rate not to exceed \$200,000 from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

A new contract with O2 Ideas, Inc. (payee) to provide a media campaign related to COVID-19 vaccines via television, radio and digital for an amount not to exceed \$100,064 from August 30, 2021 through November 26, 2021.

A new contract with BGrace Media, LLC (payee) to provide media campaign services related to the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccinations for a rate not to exceed \$599,000 from September 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

Renewal of a contract with Robert Half Government (payee) to provide professional services for contact tracing and vaccination clinics for COVID-19 emergency services for an hourly rate contract to be paid at \$20 per hour from August 13, 2021 through July 31, 2023.

A new contract with Townsquare Media Ignite (payee) to provide GEO Targets for Jefferson County residents and participants of the Magic City Classic Events with Sexual Health Services information for a rate not to exceed \$20,000 from October 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021.

An amendment to a contract with MedsPlus Consulting, LLC (payee) to extend the term of agreement to provide COVID-19 vaccination services during the COVID-19 pandemic for an amount not to exceed \$170,000 from June 30, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

Renewal of a contract with Sheila Moore (payee) to provide training and consultation to JCDH employees in human research policy and regulations for a rate of \$60 per hour; not to exceed \$30,000 per year, from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

An amendment to a contract with Bruno Event Team, LLC (payee) to extend the term of agreement for the Jefferson County COVID-19 call center hotline for an additional amount of \$114,400 and total amount of contract not to exceed \$960,380 from February 9, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

An amendment to a contract with Bruno Event Team, LLC (payee) to extend the term of agreement for the COVID-19 vaccine appointment scheduling platform for an additional amount of \$81,800 and total amount of contract not to exceed \$264,300 from February 19, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

A new contract with Wilbur Corporation (payee) to rebuild the existing backflow device in the mechanical room at the Guy Tate building for a rate not to exceed \$2,623 from August 24, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

A new contract with Birchfield, Penuel & Associates (payee) for design services for a structure to cover portions of the Annex building parking for a rate not to exceed \$315,000 from September 7, 2021 until completion.

An amendment to a contract with Birchfield, Penuel & Associates (payee) for design services for exterior and interior modifications to each of the health centers to provide Disease Control Isolation Areas for a rate not to exceed \$85,000 from September 3, 2021 until completion.

Renewal of a contract with Derrick Lewis (payee) to coordinate schedules of all contracted police officers at JCDH, as well as provide security services for the Department, at a rate of \$30 per hour; not to exceed \$60,000 from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Renewal of the following contracts to provide security services to JCDH at a rate of \$28 per hour; not to exceed \$56,000, from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022:

Glenn Ward Pleasant, Donna Logan, Vincent Hill, Damarcus Mitchell, Cecil Ingram, William Camp, Alanda McCurdy, Larry D. Scott, Gregory Edge, Eric Jones, Alton Harville, and Roger Eady.

Renewal of a contract with HealthStream, Inc. (payee) to provide Learning Management System platform providing workforce development including education and assessment tools. Platform is used to conduct annual mandated training, continuing education for current employees, and new hire training/onboarding for new employees for an amount not to exceed \$155,000 over five years from October 1, 2021 through October 1, 2024.

Renewal of a contract with the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) (payee) for Contractor to provide ongoing operational maintenance and upgrades for the Birmingham Air Quality website, which provides near real-time air quality monitoring data for Birmingham, which was originally developed by UAH through an EMPACT project funded by the Environmental Protection Agency for an amount not to exceed \$18,200 from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees for the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Public Health (SOPH) (payee) for the continuation of partnership between JCDH and UAB SOPH to strengthen activities of both parties for an amount not to exceed \$38,088 from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with Todd Cox (payee) to repair hardware and/or software that supports legacy (Greenway) electronic medical record system for a rate of \$250 per hour and not to exceed \$80,000 from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022.

A new contract with the Crisis Center, Inc. (payee) to provide two full-time support specialists to support the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Implementing Overdose Prevention Strategies at the Local Level grant project for an amount not to exceed \$90,172.50 from September 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022.

A new contract with Recovery Organization of Support Specialists, LLC (R.O.S.S.) (payee) to provide an on call Peer Support Specialists services to support the JCDH Implementing Overdose Prevention Strategies at the Local Level project for an amount not to exceed \$110,350 from August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022.

A new contract with HIKMA Specialty USA, Inc. (payee) for a special promotional pricing through the end of calendar year for the newly available 8 mg. naloxone nasal spray, Kloxxado. Higher doses are required to reverse overdoses due to the fentanyl concentration. Purchase price of \$60 per two doses of Kloxxado 8 mg. naloxone nasal spray; public health price of \$75 per two doses after promotional pricing expires. Term of agreement is August 16, 2021 through August 15, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to scale up Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) prevention services in dedicated Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinics in offering Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis, Non-Occupational Post-Exposure Prophylaxis, strengthening clinics and laboratory capacity for recommended follow-up visits, and optimizing linkage to retention in and re-engagement with HIV Medical Care for a rate not to exceed \$800,000 from August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022.

A new contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to provide funding for Disease Intervention Specialists within the STD Program to conduct case investigations for an amount not to exceed \$500,000 from March 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to provide funding for Disease Intervention Specialist position within the STD Program to conduct case investigations for an amount not to exceed \$112,500 from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (payor) for JCDH to produce and issue daily forecasts of particle pollution in Jefferson and Shelby Counties and to facilitate these responsibilities, will enter into contracts for meteorological data subscription services and for maintenance of the Birmingham Air Quality website. JCDH will be reimbursed for those contracts at 80% of expenses. Total amount of contract will not exceed \$72,000 from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Emergency Preparedness (payor) to support one Full Time Equivalent for JCDH to manage the Jefferson County Healthcare Coalition for an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Emergency Preparedness (payor) for ADPH to provide grant funds for JCDH all hazards at the local level for an amount not to exceed \$478,042 from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

An amendment to a contract with the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) (payor) to extend the NACCHO Implementing Overdose Prevention Strategies at the Local Level work for grant year two for an amount not to exceed \$499,999.50 from November 25, 2020 through July 31, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation (payor) to lease clinic space at three JCDH facilities at a rate of \$2,012 per month at Central Health Center, \$1,333 per month at Eastern Health Center, and \$6,832 per month at Western Health Center from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

An amendment to a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to amend the original grant to increase funding to build programs, support systems and implement activities to address drug overdose for an amount of \$566,449 (\$168,949 for Surveillance and \$397,500 for Prevention Funding for Year 3 with total contract amount not to exceed \$1,636,449 from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2022.

Health and Dental Benefits Plan

Dr. Wilson said the following resolution is a Health and Dental Benefits Plan that needs annual approval from the Board. For the past several years JCDH has absorbed any increases in health insurance costs.

On the motion of Dr. Fancher, and seconded by Dr. Stacy, the following resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Health Officer of Jefferson County has from time to time recommended to the Jefferson County Board of Health periodic and other changes to the amounts and proportions of premium rates to be paid under the Jefferson County Board of Health Employee Health and Dental Benefits Plan by both current employees and retirees in various classes; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Health has heretofore performed its statutory duty to review and endorse such periodic changes in annual and interim budget proposals; and,

WHEREAS, continuing changes in laws affecting such plans have impacted the costs of maintaining the Jefferson County Board of Health Employee Health and Dental Benefits Plan as well as the administration of the plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of Health Employee Health and Dental Benefits Plan was at one time administered under the auspices of the State Employee Insurance Board (SEIB), and by statutory change, is now administered under the auspices of the Local Government Health Insurance Program (LGHIP); and,

WHEREAS, as a result of such changes and the likelihood additional changes will occur frequently into the foreseeable future, and after examination of the issues facing different groups of employees and retirees as described herein, the Health Officer has recommended both that the rates and changes contained herein be adopted effective January 1, 2022, and that the Health Officer hereafter submit a report and recommendations of changes each year; so,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Health:

Approves the following rates effective January 1, 2022, for the Jefferson County Board of Health Employee Health and Dental Benefits Plan, recognizing that all rates are subject to change depending upon factors beyond the control of the Board of Health, including actions taken by LGHIP, Medicare, and other programs that may affect the total premiums and proportions paid thereunder; these rates and proportional contributions may therefore change from time to time or year to year.

Medical and Dental Plan

	<u>Medical & Dental Employee monthly premium</u>	<u>JCDH monthly premium</u>	<u>Total monthly premium</u>
Family	\$297.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,347.00
Individual	\$132.00	\$419.00	\$551.00
Part-time Employees	Not Eligible To Participate		

Retirees Non-Medicare Eligible

<u>Medical & Dental Retiree monthly premium</u>		<u>JCDH monthly premium</u>	<u>Total monthly premium</u>
Family	\$300.00	\$1,804.00	\$2,104.00
Individual	\$150.00	\$ 991.00	\$1,141.00
Retiree not Medicare eligible & dependent Medicare eligible	\$300.00	\$1,040.00	\$1,340.00
Retiree not Medicare Eligible & 2 dependents Medicare eligible	\$300.00	\$1,239.00	\$1,539.00

Medicare Eligible Retirees

<u>Medical & Dental Retiree monthly premium</u>		<u>JCDH monthly premium</u>	<u>Total monthly premium</u>
Retiree Medicare eligible & dependent not Medicare eligible	\$ 992.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 992.00
Both Retiree & dependent Medicare eligible	\$ 398.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 398.00
Retiree & 2 dependents Medicare eligible	\$ 597.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 597.00
Single Medicare eligible retiree	\$ 199.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 199.00

*****Please note that active employees are eligible for \$100 in extra premium discounts if they qualify; non-tobacco discount, walker tracker discount, and wellness discount.

Report of the Health Officer

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Wilson reported that Jefferson County is averaging 110-120 new COVID-19 cases per day, which is down from a peak of around 660 in late August 2021. The percent positivity rate for the past week is 6.7%. As of October 12 there were 151 adults and 5 children that were hospitalized in Jefferson County. Acute care and intensive care unit bed capacity for COVID-19 is good throughout the county. The vaccination rate in Jefferson County is as follows: 45.6% of the total population has been fully vaccinated, and 56.1% has received one or more doses. For Alabama overall, 39.7% of the population has been fully vaccinated and 48.4% has received one or more doses. The demand for vaccine has slowed significantly as the Delta variant surge has subsided.

COVID-19 Vaccination Distribution

Dr. Wilson said JCDH continues to hold vaccine clinics every weekday in October at the Guy Tate building location and is still providing vaccination clinics for some special events throughout the community such as sporting events at UAB and at Legion Field. JCDH has met all of the vaccine requests that we are aware of for private homes for homebound people, for a total of thirty-nine. JCDH has met all requests from those passed along to us from United Way of Central Alabama's Senior Services Program in addition to providing vaccinations to residents at several senior living facilities.

ABC Coke Civil Penalty Fund

Dr. Wilson stated that the Board was previously informed of the ABC Coke grants awarded through the Public Health Advised Fund (PHAF) managed by the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (CFGB). The process involved the CFGB reaching out to organizations providing services or able to provide services in the communities of North Birmingham, Inglenook, and Tarrant with an invitation to apply for funding to support public health-related programs or projects in those communities. A scoring system was used in reviewing the grants. A total of \$387,500 was allocated for the public health benefit to those communities surrounding the ABC Coke facility. The CFGB will disperse the checks and monitor to make sure the work is completed.

The World Games 2022

Dr. Wilson announced The World Games will be held in Birmingham in 2022. The director of the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is head of an incident command structure that has been established for the event. JCDH will have some involvement in the incident command with Jonathan Stanton, Director of Environmental Health Services, serving as our point person. At this time our main involvement has been making sure food vendors are in compliance with food and safety regulations. Personnel from Environmental Health's Food and Lodging division have begun meeting with vendors to make sure they are trained on the regulations.

Hospital-linked Violence Intervention Program

Dr. Wilson reminded the Board that the Hospital-linked Violence Intervention Program is a model which has been established in over thirty cities in the United States. The program offers assistance to survivors of gunshot wounds or other acts of violence while they are in the hospital and offers them assistance and links them with a Violence Intervention Specialist who will help to break the cycle of retaliatory shooting and violence through intervention, care, and follow-up services. JCDH and multiple community stakeholders have decided the program could make a difference in Jefferson County. Bryn Manzella, Quality Improvement Officer, is writing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a nonprofit organization that could hire staff and run the program with some oversight by JCDH. The UAB Trauma Service is a committed partner who will allow the Violence Intervention Specialists into the hospital, with patients' consent, to connect patients to the program. There have been some conversations with Mayor Randall Woodfin's office about additional funding through the City of Birmingham's American Rescue Plan funds.

Congenital Syphilis Increase

Dr. Wilson reported Alabama is following a national trend in seeing a rise in congenital syphilis cases. In the past year, Alabama had twenty-eight cases, five of those being in Jefferson County. A couple of cases were instances where women did not get or were late getting prenatal care. Dr. Wesley Willeford, Medical Director of Disease Control, has appointed experienced Disease Intervention Specialists to work these cases. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommended guidelines are that women be tested at their first prenatal appointment and

then retested at twenty-eight weeks into their pregnancy. Many pregnant women are not getting retested.

JCDH-involved Legal Cases

Dr. Wilson said there may be a need for the Board of Health to go into executive session at the end of the November Board meeting in order to discuss several legal cases that JCDH is involved with.


Board of Health Advisory Board

Dr. Wilson stated he spoke briefly with the Jefferson County Medical Society about the question as to whether the Board of Health should have either an advisory board that includes non-physician community representatives or have advisory participants that could be part of Board meetings but be non-voting members. As discussed in previous Board of Health meetings, there were some bills put forth in the Alabama State Legislature last year that would require the County Health Officer to consult an advisory board before issuing any public health orders or making public health recommendations. After discussion, the Board decided to not pursue an advisory board at this time.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the 5th Floor Board Room or via Zoom (announcement will be made prior to the meeting date). There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.



Iris Fancher, MD, Secretary

Approved: 
Hernando Carter, MD, Chair