



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

**Wednesday, March 8, 2017 - 5:00 p.m.
5th Floor Board Room**

PRESENT: Max Michael, III, M.D., Joshua Miller, D.O., Hernando Carter, M.D., and Sylvie Stacy, M.D.

ABSENT: Commissioner Jimmie Stephens and Yocunda Clayton, M.D.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Mark Wilson, M.D., David Hicks, D.O., Toni Bellina, Senitra Blackburn, Carley Ezzell, Jason Harpe, Rodney Holmes, David Maxey, Esq., Bryn Manzella, Jonathan Stanton, and Denisa Pridmore

Call to Order

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

Minutes

Minutes of the February 8, 2017 meeting were approved as distributed.

2016 Audit Report

Jason Harpe, CPA, Partner, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLP presented the Department's 2016 audit report. Mr. Harpe stated the auditors are issuing an unmodified opinion, which is the highest opinion they can issue for financial statements. JCDH has a net pension liability of \$56.7 million for its unfunded pension obligation with the Retirement Systems of Alabama as of September 30, 2016. He commended the Department for its contributions to the trust for post-employment benefits. Mr. Harpe noted that over the next two years the Post-Employment Benefits will be added to the balance sheet as a long term liability.

Carley Ezzell, CPA, Manager, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLP reviewed the required communication to the Board that is located at the end of the Audit Report.

The Board unanimously accepted the 2016 Audit Report.

Environmental Health Overview

Jonathan Stanton, P.E., Director of Environmental Health, educated the Board of Health about the public health responsibilities of his department. Some of the unique obligations for JCDH include Air Pollution Control and storm water monitoring for twenty-one cities in Jefferson County. He reviewed the traditional environmental health services such as rabies prevention, food establishment inspections, and disease outbreaks related to food. Environmental Health is planning to look at Health Impact Assessments to help shape

proactive policies in neighborhoods. One area being considered is Fairfield due to its financial situation and a potential problem for trash collection.

Mr. Stanton discussed seasonal issues Environmental Health will be involved with such as rabies becoming more prevalent, vector complaints, swimming pool openings, and mosquito borne vectors such as Zika and West Nile. Planning for the mosquito season is already underway with coordination of activities with ADPH. JCDH did some mosquito trapping last year but no *Aedes aegypti* species, which is more likely to carry the Zika virus, were found.

Mr. Stanton noted that JCDH is responsible for issuing water quality advisories. Storm water is sampled in Jefferson County throughout the year, but with more water activities in the summer, the water quality is more of a factor with the public. Air quality alerts for the new ozone season will be posted beginning in April. A new lower ozone standard of 70 has recently been issued to protect the public's health. The Board discussed pollutants emitted by cars and whether required car inspections would have an impact. Environmental Health is looking at this and other possibilities to pursue. JCDH does voluntary car inspections for the general public 1-2 times per year in conjunction with other partner agencies.

Mr. Stanton reported some of the areas of improvement for Environmental Health. The online payments for permits for continuing clients began this week. The cost effectiveness will be evaluated in the future. Food Handler classes have been scaled back to two-three days per week since they are available online. Staff are currently pursuing the installation of a volunteer food safety online class and tutorial that could be utilized by concession stand workers.

Mr. Stanton noted that the State Committee of Public Health receives a listing of emergency closings by ADPH and JCDH each month. He asked the Board to let Dr. Wilson know if they would be interested in receiving these lists.

Dr. Michael inquired about the incentive for people to have the vehicle inspections. Dr. Wilson said some agencies may offer financial assistance for repairs. He reminded the Board this was previously listed as one of the options for the Board's policy discussions centered on mobile sources of air pollution.

February 2017 Financial Statements

Dr. Michael noted the February 2017 Financial Statements were included in the Board package. There were no questions from the Board.

Contracts

On the motion of Dr. Carter, and seconded by Dr. Miller, the following contracts were approved:

A new contract with the Birmingham Barons, LLC (payee) to provide signage: outfield fence sign and nightly promotional announcements with accompanying video board logo and fascia board during baseball games for an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017.

An amendment to a contract with Paycom Payroll, LLC (payee) to provide the following additional services: Application Programming Interface, B2C, background checks, COBRA, garnishments, Paycom Learning, Paycom Pay, Secure File Transfer Protocol, tax credit services and time clock lease for an amount not to exceed \$70,000 from January 12, 2017 through September 18, 2019.

An amendment to a contract with Human Resources Management, Inc. (payee) to provide human resources technical needs assessment and planning at a rate of \$125 per hour; not to exceed \$30,000, from February 1, 2017 through March 31, 2017.

A new contract with Claudia M. Hardy (payee) for facilitation services for five focus groups made up of residents of Jefferson County housing authorities who are current or former tobacco users. The purpose is to obtain information regarding knowledge of effects of tobacco use and cessation services within the community for a rate not to exceed \$2,500 from February 1, 2017 through August 31, 2017.

Dr. Carter asked what position the Board takes on eviction of residents of smoke-free public housing for smoking inside or on the premises. The Board discussed its concerns with the federal regulation. Dr. Wilson noted JCDH's strategy will be to offer support to tobacco cessation services for public housing residents who are smokers. Staff will follow-up on exact restrictions for these individuals who live in public housing.

Credentialing

Dr. Wilson presented the following credentials report: Initial credentialing for Lisa Thumi Burroughs, M.D., as a Public Health Medical Officer in Clinical Services. The Board unanimously approved the Credentials Report.

Fluoridation of Water

Dr. Wilson thanked Bryn Manzella, Director of Quality Improvement, for writing the following resolution in conjunction with Dr. Nathan Smith, Director of Dental Health. JCDH would like to support ADPH, who plans to introduce legislation to require any jurisdictions that do water treatments in Alabama to notify them at least 90 days before they make any changes to their fluoridation status. This would provide an opportunity to make the public aware of the changes, as well as the benefits of fluoridation.

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

Mandate to Notify the State Health Officer of Public Water System's Proposed Permanent Changes to Water Fluoridation Status

WHEREAS, oral health is an integral component of overall health, and dental caries can result in loss of dental function and systemic infection (1);

WHEREAS, dental caries represent the most common chronic disease impacting children in the United States (2);

WHEREAS, water fluoridation reduces the prevalence of dental caries in adults by 20-40% and by 18-40% in children (3, 4);

WHEREAS, water fluoridation may reduce dental health disparities experienced by lower socioeconomic communities (1, 5);

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have identified the fluoridation of water in preventing tooth decay as one of the ten greatest achievements in public health of the twentieth century (5);

WHEREAS, the Community Preventive Services Task Forces' April 2013 review of community water fluoridation recommends water fluoridation based on water fluoridation's effectiveness in reducing tooth decay across population groups (7);

WHEREAS, water fluoridation is recognized as the most equitable and cost-effective method for community-based delivery of fluoride (1, 8);

WHEREAS, no adverse health effect of water fluoridation other than dental fluorosis (a change in the appearance of tooth enamel) has been confirmed (9-11);

WHEREAS, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention studies have demonstrated a return on investment of thirty-eight dollars in prevented dental treatment cost for every dollar invested in fluoridating public water supplies (12);

WHEREAS, the per capita annual cost for public water fluoridation ranges from \$0.11 to \$4.92 for communities with at least 1,000 population based on a 2014 cost-benefit analysis (13);

WHEREAS, no Alabama law or mandate requires public water systems to fluoridate water, and Alabama has experienced a ten percent decrease to 72% of the population receiving fluoridation via public water (14), and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Health is planning to introduce legislation in the 2017 Alabama Legislative Session regarding notification of the State Health Officer of contemplated changes to water fluoridation by public water systems within Alabama.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of Health endorses:

- 1) The Jefferson County Health Officer to advocate for the adoption of legislation requiring any public water system considering a permanent change in the fluoridation of its water supply, including the removal of fluoride, to notify the Alabama State Health Officer no less than ninety (90) days prior to any vote or discontinuance.
- 2) Utilization of Jefferson County Department of Health resources, financial and human, to educate Jefferson County residents, policy makers and healthcare professionals about the health benefits of water fluoridation.

References

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Achievement in Public Health, 1900-1999: Fluoridation of Drinking Water to Prevent Dental Caries. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm484al.htm>. Accessed February 24, 2017.

2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Hygiene-related Diseases. Available at https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/disease/dental_caries.html. Accessed February 27, 2017.
3. United States Department of Health and Human Services. Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General- Executive Summary. Rockville, MD: US Department of Health and Human Services. National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. National Institutes of Health. Available at [http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/Data Statistics/Surgeon General Report/ExecutiveSummary.htm](http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/Data%20Statistics/Surgeon%20General%20Report/ExecutiveSummary.htm).
4. Newbrun, E. Effectiveness of Water Fluoridation. *Journal of Public Health Dentistry* 1989; 49:278-89.
5. Riley, JC, Lennon, MA, Ellwood, RP. The Effect of Water Fluoridation and Social Inequities on Dental Caries in 5 –year-old Children. *International Journal of Epidemiology* 1999; 56:253-8.
6. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ten Greatest Public Health Achievements—United States, 1900-1999. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00056796.htm>. Accessed February 27, 2017.
7. The Community Preventive Services Task Force. Preventing Dental Caries: Community Water Fluoridation. 2000. 2013. Accessed from <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/oral/caries/html>. Accessed February 27, 2017)
8. Burt, BA, ed., Proceedings of the workshop: Cost Effectiveness of Caries Prevention in Dental Public Health. *Journal of Public Health Dentistry* 1989; 49(5, special issue): 251-344.
9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fluoridation Safety. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/safety/index/htm>. Accessed February 22, 2017.
10. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Health Effects and Environmental Impact. Available at https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/safety/health_effeccts.htm. Accessed February 22, 2017.
11. Cheng, KK, Chalmer, I, Sheldon, TA. Adding Fluoride to Water Supplies. *British Medical Journal*. 2007; 335:669. www.bmj.com/content/335/7622/699.
12. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Cost Savings of Community Water Fluoridation. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/statistics/cost.htm>. Accessed February 27, 2017.
13. Ran, T, Chattopadhyay, SK, and the Community Preventive Services Task Force. Economic Evaluation of Community Water Fluoridation: A Community Guide Systematic Review. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 2016; 50: 790-796.
14. Alabama Department of Public Health, Oral Health Office. Community Water Fluoridation Talking Points. Personal communication from Sherry Goode. February 27, 2017.

Health Officer Report

Opioid Epidemic

Dr. Wilson provided an update on the “Pills to Needles” community-wide initiative. JCDH is now hosting the effort and providing administrative support. Natasha Shumpert, Social Services Coordinator, is overseeing the project.

A sub-group of this coalition is working on the development of the Recovery Resource Center of Jefferson County that will be housed at Cooper Green. A grant is being pursued from the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), which was passed by Congress to help with the opioid epidemic, to assist with linking overdose survivors to services.

Needle Exchange

Dr. Wilson reported the needle exchange bill is in a final draft form and is in the Alabama Legislative Reference Service. Representative Jack Williams has agreed to sponsor the bill.

Baby Box

Dr. Wilson reported that JCDH has signed up to be an enrollment network partner in Alabama for The Baby Box Company initiative to help new mothers develop safe sleep habits for their babies. New parents who complete a test after watching an educational video will receive a baby box.

Public Health Week/Centennial Events

Dr. Wilson announced there will be a news conference on Friday, March 31, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Guy Tate building to promote Public Health Week and the kick-off of JCDH’s 100 year anniversary. A Community Health Day will be held at Railroad Park on Saturday, April 1, 2017 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. Dr. Wilson invited the Board to attend. Various activities are planned during Public Health Week.

Voluntary Health Diagnosis Database

Dr. Wilson reported that JCDH has been collaborating with partners to come up with a way to voluntarily share data for population health locally. He reminded the Board of its resolution in favor of an All-Payer Claims Database. Bryn Manzella will be participating on a state-level committee, the Alabama Healthcare Database Workgroup, whose first meeting is next week.

Youth Violence Prevention

Dr. Wilson stated the City of Birmingham is applying for grants on Youth Violence Prevention among Minorities and he has been in attendance as the local public health representative. Dr. Michael will give the name of a School of Public Health representative to Dr. Wilson for this committee.

Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)

Dr. Wilson said one of the PHAB requirements for the Executive Management Team (EMT) is to periodically review Board of Health actions. A review was completed last week and the EMT plans to conduct these reviews every six months going forward.

Opioid Epidemic (Continued)


Dr. Miller discussed local forums for the opioid epidemic and ways we could communicate to Jefferson County municipalities the ways JCDH and ADPH are addressing the issue. Dr. Wilson has met with law enforcement to provide information on naloxone's availability and our recommendation for first responders to carry it. Dr. Wilson will ask to speak at one of the upcoming meetings of the Mayors' Association.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Room. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.



Sylvie Stacy, M.D., Secretary

Approved:



Max Michael, III, M.D., Chair