



**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Wednesday, November 13, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room**

**Present:** Iris Fancher, MD, Jeffrey Dobyns, DO, Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD, and Weily Soong, MD

**Absent:** Michele Kong, MD and Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

**Others Present:** David Maxey, Esq., Kim Cason, Jonathan Stanton, Allury Lal, MD, Kim Bullock, Bryn Manzella, David Hicks, DO, Rodney Holmes, and Terrie Hartley

**Call to Order**

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

Minutes of the September 11, 2024 meeting were approved as distributed. The notes from the October 9, 2024 meeting, at which there was no quorum, were accepted as information only.

**2023-2026 Strategic Plan Update**

Bryn Manzella, MPH, Quality Improvement Officer, provided a presentation and update on the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan. Ms. Manzella said the Strategic Plan is an adaptive plan designed to assess and respond to changes in the post-pandemic public health landscape, as well as ongoing geo-political changes that impact community health and JCDH's operations. The plan has four strategic directions categorized into four goals. Each goal is supported by two or three strategies implemented and measured through numerous tactics. Each tactic has measures, a champion/leader, an Executive Management Team sponsor, team members, and a time frame.

**Strategic Direction 1:** Collaborate with Community Partners to Positively Influence the Determinants of Health: JCDH works closely with community members and organizational partners toward a shared vision of improved health for all people in the county by positively influencing the determinants of health.

**Actions:** Community Advisory Committee Proposal, State of the County's Address, Community Health Assessment (CHA), Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), Public Health Advised Fund-supported initiatives, JCDH-Miles College Collaboration, Gun Violence Reduction Initiatives, Health Equity Grant Request For Proposals for Community Engagement in Public Health, and the Green Loop Community Composting and Food Waste Reduction Initiative.

**Strategic Direction 2:** Focus on Health Systems Transformation: JCDH co-facilitates health system changes that improve access to and effectiveness of prevention and health care

initiatives. The changes drive a system-wide focus on improving population health outcomes and the availability of services where people live, learn, work, worship, and play.

*Actions:* Completion and dissemination of Healthcare Ecosystem Landscape Scan and Analysis with Invitation to Partner with JCDH, Partnership Email Creation and Monitoring, Clinical Space and Efficiency Evaluation, Expanded Mobile Footprint/Telehealth, and Behavioral/Mental Health Support.

**Strategic Direction 3:** Serve as a Trusted Source of Public Health Data and Information: JCDH is a trusted source of public health data and information. Staff access data to inform operational and programmatic decisions. JCDH collaborates with community partners by providing data to use in describing health conditions and improving health in Jefferson County.

*Actions:* Data Governance Program, Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)–JCDH Joint Informatics Committee, ADPH–Data Modernization Committee, and Health Equity Report Update.

**Strategic Direction 4:** JCDH is a Thriving, Equitable Workplace: JCDH is a thriving and equitable workplace where all employees have access to the resources and opportunities they need to grow, develop, and collaborate to achieve improved health for all in Jefferson County.

*Actions:* Organizational and Operations Assessment Request for Proposals, Employee Engagement Survey, Special Events Protocol, Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey (PH WINS), Employee Wellness Program, Evidence-based Public Health Course, Project Corporate Leadership, and Celebration of “Bright Spots” through JCDH monthly updates.

Ms. Manzella answered questions from the Board. She stated the Department has been working to achieve its Strategic Plan and in the coming year expects to complete many of the initiatives as well as launching additional work.

### **September 2024 Financial Statements**

Rodney Holmes, CPA, Director of Finance and Administration reviewed the September 2024 Financial Statements which were included in the Board material. He stated that September 30, 2024, was the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Holmes answered questions from the Board.

### **Health and Dental Benefits Plan**

Dr. Hicks noted 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 and recommends doing so again this year. The Department budgeted for a 5% rate increase; the actual increase was 4.75%.

On the motion of Dr. Soong, and seconded by Dr. Turnipseed, with Dr. Fancher abstaining, 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, 2025, 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, 2025, 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 &amp; Dental Employee monthly premium</u> | <u>JCDH monthly premium</u> | <u>Total monthly premium</u> |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Family              | \$297.00   | \$1,256.00                  | \$1,553.00                   |
| Individual          | \$132.00   | \$ 505.00                   | \$ 637.00                    |
| Part-time Employees | Not Eligible to Participate                          |                             |                              |

**Retirees Non-Medicare Eligible**

|  | <u>Medical &amp; Dental Retiree monthly premium</u> | <u>JCDH monthly premium</u> | <u>Total monthly premium</u> |
|--|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Family   | \$300.00  | \$2,127.00                  | \$2,427.00                   |
| Individual   | \$150.00  | \$1,166.00                  | \$1,316.00                   |
| Retiree not Medicare eligible & dependent Medicare eligible    | \$300.00  | \$1,227.00                  | \$1,527.00                   |
| Retiree not Medicare Eligible & 2 dependents Medicare eligible | \$300.00  | \$1,438.00                  | \$1,738.00                   |

**Medicare Eligible Retirees**

|   | <u>Medical &amp; Dental Retiree monthly premium</u> | <u>JCDH monthly premium</u> | <u>Total monthly premium</u> |
|---|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Retiree Medicare eligible & dependent not Medicare eligible | \$ 1,125.00   | \$ 0.00                     | \$1,125.00                   |
| Both Retiree & dependent Medicare eligible                  | \$ 422.00   | \$ 0.00                     | \$ 422.00                    |
| Retiree & 2 dependents Medicare eligible                    | \$ 633.00   | \$ 0.00                     | \$ 633.00                    |
| Single Medicare eligible retiree                            | \$ 211.00   | \$ 0.00                     | \$ 211.00                    |

\*\*\*\*\*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.

### **Contracts**

On the motion of Dr. Turnipseed, and seconded by Dr. Soong, the following contracts were approved:

A new contract with Courtney French Broadcasting, LLC (payee) for Dr. David Hicks, Health Officer, to participate in Wellness Wednesday segments on V94.9 radio; not to exceed \$27,000 from September 25, 2024, to March 15, 2025. Dr. Hicks noted he is live at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays for the 15-minute segment.

A new bid contract with Laboratory Corporation of America (payee) to provide reference laboratory services including pap smears per ITB#24-08-18; not to exceed cost on bid award from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027.

Renewal of a contract with The Children's Hospital of Alabama (payee) to provide on-call services to be handled by professional registered nurses at a rate of \$20 per call, referred to next business day \$6 per call; not to exceed \$40,000 for three years from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027.

Renewal of a bid contract with WestMed Disposal, Inc. (payee) to provide medical waste disposal per ITB#24-07-16; not to exceed \$167,979.24 from August 20, 2024, through August 20, 2027.

A new contract with Bagby Elevator Company (payee) who will provide overtime labor for a team to install new hoist cables after hours at the Guy Tate building; not to exceed \$6,800 from September 16, 2024, through December 16, 2024.

A new contract with Carrier Corporation (payee) to replace a chiller and compressor at Eastern Health Center; not to exceed \$33,748 from August 1, 2024, through November 30, 2024.

A new contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) to provide external evaluation services for Overdose Data to Action (OD2A)-Local activities and action items as outlined in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approved work plan; not to exceed \$163,500 from May 1, 2024, through August 31, 2028.

A new contract with the American Diabetes Association (ADA) (payee) for partnership with the ADA's Project Power Youth Program for diabetes education and prevention; not to exceed \$25,000 from June 1, 2024, through May 30, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with the Crisis Center, Inc. (payee) to provide peer navigation services and harm reduction services per the OD2A-Local work plan; not to exceed \$273,265 from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Versick 3E Company (payee) to provide electronic library of Material Safety Data Sheet system and poison control 24-hour hotline; not to exceed \$6,188 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

A new contract with Software House International Corp (payee) to acquire support for security operations center services, vulnerability scanning and reporting, and vCISCO services; not to exceed \$160,434.84 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

A new contract with American Benefit Administrators, LLC (payee) to administer Flexible Spending Account, Dependent Care Account, and Health Reimbursement Arrangement at a rate of \$4.30 per participant from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Sheila Deters-Masters (payee) to provide training and consultation to JCDH employees in human research policy and regulations; not to exceed \$30,000 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027.

A new bid contract with Blankenship and Seay Consulting Group, Inc. (payee) to provide an organizational and operations assessment per RFP#24-08-19; not to exceed \$26,500 from August 28, 2024, through December 2, 2024.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to provide early detection of breast and cervical cancer for women in the state of Alabama; not to exceed \$180,000 from June 30, 2024, through June 29, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health Bureau of Family Services (payor) to establish agreement between ADPH and JCDH for the purposes of establishment of a supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children at Central, Eastern and Western Health Centers; not to exceed \$2,961,247 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health Center for Emergency Preparedness (payor) to provide grant funds for JCDH Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) grant activities at the local level; not to exceed \$80,799 from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

A new contract with the University of Alabama Health Service Foundation (UAB OB/GYN) (payor) for the vendor to lease clinic space at Central, Eastern, and Western Health Centers; not to exceed \$122,124 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027.

A new contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payor) to provide chest x-rays for UAB international medical students; not to exceed \$30,000 from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2026.

A new contract with Courtney French Broadcasting, LLC (payee) to conduct a two-hour live remote session at Western Health Center for sexually transmitted infection screenings on October 31, 2024; not to exceed \$250.

A new contract with the Alabama Sports Council, Inc. (payee) to provide space, digital assets, promotional services, tents, tables, and chairs for the Department at the Magic City Classic on October 26, 2024; not to exceed \$31,000.

Renewal of a contract with the Cross-Cultural Health Care Program (payee) to provide training, certification, and license agreement for Adriana Valenzuela to host Equity and Inclusion Training to internal staff; not to exceed \$1,800 from October 5, 2024, through October 5, 2026.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) to establish an agreement with General Internal Medicine & Population Science for a UAB physician to provide clinical care to JCDH Metabolic Disorder Adolescent Health Program; not to exceed \$28,060 from November 1, 2024, through October 31, 2027.

A new bid contract with Pace Analytical Services (payee) to provide Gravimetric analysis of particulate matter 2.5 and particulate matter 10 filter, data management and archiving services per bid #24-08-17: not to exceed \$147,420 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027.

A new contract with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC (payee) to provide information technology audits; not to exceed \$13,000 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

A new contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payee) for collaboration to provide services including Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnostic & Treatment Program care coordination, Vaccines for Children Program, and Family Planning. JCDH will reimburse Medicaid quarterly the portion of the negotiated Medicaid match percentage for applicable services from June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2029.

An amendment to a contract with Central Station, Inc. (payee) to provide alarm monitoring. The amendment is to increase the payment amount of the contract agreement; not to exceed \$11,520 from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026.

A new contract with McCain Engineering Company, Inc. (payee) to provide all labor, materials, and incidentals to repair the Lattner boiler at Western Health Center; not to exceed \$7,910 from November 1, 2024, through October 31, 2025.

A new contract with Birmingham Recycling and Recovery (payee) to provide recycling pickup services the Guy Tate building; not to exceed \$12,600 from November 1, 2024, through October 31, 2027.

A new contract with Gen-Co, Inc. (payee) to replace the hose and heater on the generator at the Guy Tate building; not to exceed \$1,880 from November 1, 2024, through May 1, 2025.

A new contract with TCP Ventures (payee) to provide train-the-trainer Mental Health Advocate courses to barbers and cosmetologists; not to exceed \$3,000 from November 4, 2024, through December 4, 2024.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees for the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) for use of opioid settlement funds to support Peer Navigator services in the UAB Emergency Department; not to exceed \$399,689 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with The Bloom Group, Inc. (payee) who will provide consulting and government relations; not to exceed \$47,000 from December 1, 2024, through November 30, 2025.

A new contract with the Jefferson County Commission (payee) for a memorandum of understanding between the Jefferson County Commission and JCDH to participate in an Environment Systems Reach Institute (ESRI) enterprise agreement to share the cost of said ESRI agreement; not to exceed \$864,225 from October 1, 2024, through October 1, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with the Board of Trustees for the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health (SOPH) (payee) for continuation of partnership between JCDH and SOPH to strengthen activities of both parties. The amendment is to extend the terms of the agreement at no additional cost; not to exceed \$38,088 from October 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

A new contract with Rast Construction, Inc. (payor) for JCDH to offer hepatitis A and B vaccines to employees who are at risk for contracting disease due to work activities and who consent to receive vaccines. The vendor will invoice JCDH per vaccine given at the following rate: hepatitis A/B combination-\$132.14, hepatitis A-\$99.50, and hepatitis B-\$90.17 from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to maintain one Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Program Manager, four Disease Intervention Specialist and one Outreach Educator to support STD Program activities: not to exceed \$1,000,000 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with Environmental Engineering & Measurement Services, Inc. (payor) will provide support to the JCDH air monitoring program; not to exceed \$202,000 from October 7, 2024, through October 7, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with Storm Water Management Authority, Inc. (payor) for JCDH to provide storm water management services to the members of the Storm Water Management Authority; not to exceed \$684,000 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (payor) for JCDH to issue daily forecasts of particle pollution to Jefferson and Shelby counties and to facilitate those responsibilities, it will enter into contracts for meteorological data subscription and maintenance of the Birmingham air quality website; not to exceed \$72,000 from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

A new agreement with the Housing Authority of the Birmingham District for a space-lease agreement to allow JCDH to occupy space assigned by the vendor to provide health care education and services on property owned by the Housing Authority of the Birmingham District from August 26, 2024, through on-going, with no exchange of funds.

## **Health Officer Report**

### ***Report from State Health Officer – October 2024***

Dr. Hicks presented to the Board for their information a summary report for the month of October 2024, from Dr. Scott Harris, State Health Officer, sent monthly to county Boards of Health describing actions taken by the State Committee of Public Health. Dr. Hicks noted that cases of pertussis have tripled in the state and Jefferson County has shown an increase as well among adolescents.

### ***Special Events Update***

Dr. Hicks reported that on September 28, JCDH participated in the community festival “FIESTA” at the Health & Wellness Village. Department staff provided information about the following programs/services: environmental health, sexually transmitted illnesses, prevention and epidemiology, tuberculosis, Woman Infant Children supplemental nutrition program, dental health, From Day One, family planning, naloxone distribution, immunizations, and social services. Dr. Hicks reported that during the week of October 21, JCDH participated in the 83rd Annual Magic City Classic. Environmental Health staff conducted food safety operations by issuing food permits to vendors. The number of unpermitted vendors identified at the event decreased to only four this year resulting in a 90% compliance rate. Disease Control staff provided information on the clinical services they offer and distributed condoms and information on preventing the spread of sexually transmitted illnesses. Population Health staff provided naloxone training and instructions on how to attain opioid overdose kits. The Public Relations Division served as the lead on this engagement. They coordinated the arrangement for the space, developed and managed the marketing and promotions for the event, and served as the internal logistics manager. The entire JCDH Team serviced and interacted with approximately 2,000 attendees.

### ***JCDH Annual Team Day Update***

Dr. Hicks stated the Annual Team Day was held on October 21. He reported that surveyed staff rated the following training sessions as either “excellent” or “good”:

- The Transformative Power of Respect in the Workplace: 89%.
- Life Stream of Success: 66%.
- Working it Out in the Workplace: 86%.

### ***Birmingham Crime Commission***

Dr. Hicks reminded the Board that he accepted an appointment by Birmingham Mayor Randall Woodfin to the Birmingham Crime Commission charged with assembling information on strategies and programs that other cities and jurisdictions have successfully employed to reduce homicides specifically and crime overall. The Commission will recommend a plan of action to the



City of Birmingham that will incorporate best practices and successful strategies in use by other cities. Dr. Hicks sees this as an extension of the Department's work to address gun violence as a public health problem. In response to a question from a Board member, Dr. Hicks stated the CFGGB began a violence reduction initiative in 2015 which ended in 2017. Since then, there have been other violence reduction efforts but no centralized coordination across several community and law enforcement groups.

### ***Network of Air Monitoring Stations***

Dr. Hicks notified the Board that the Department gave notice on November 4, 2024, that it will hold a virtual Community Meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to discuss the following:

- JCDH's Network of Air Monitoring Stations Used to Determine Compliance with the Federal Clean Air Standards;
- How to Access the Air Monitoring Stations' Air Quality Data;
- JCDH's Permitting Process and Opportunities for Public Involvement;
- JCDH's Air Quality Complaints Process; and
- How the Public can Submit Useful Information to JCDH and How Such Information is Considered in Permitting or Used by JCDH in Enforcement.

The notification has been posted on the Department's website, sent via postal mail to residents in impacted areas, and flyers will be posted at various community sites.

### ***Miles College Collaboration Update***

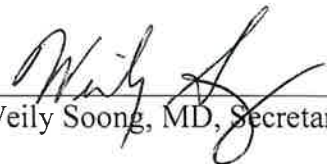
Dr. Hicks updated the Board on the Department's collaboration with Miles College to develop community capacity to initiate environmental projects for communities with limited funding and technical expertise. Three Miles College interns have begun assisting staff with the following projects:

- Green Loop Initiative (Community Composting and Food Waste Reduction)
- School Air Sensor Program
- Social determinants of health field visits
- Bluestone Coke settlement community engagement

### ***Appointment of County Rabies Officer and Election of Board Officers***

Dr. Hicks reminded the Board that the annual appointment of the Rabies Officer and election of Board Officers will be held during the December Board Meeting. He noted that 982 rabies vaccines have been administered during 145 rabies vaccination clinics to date.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Room. The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

  
Weily Soong, MD, Secretary

Approved:

  
Iris Fancher, MD, Chair