



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.

5th Floor Board Room

Present: Iris Fancher, MD, Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD, Weily Soong, MD, and Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

Absent: Michele Kong, MD, and Andre' McShan, MD

Others Present: David Hicks, DO, Kim Cason, David Maxey, Esq., Bryn Manzella, Kim Bullock, Rodney Holmes, Loretta Hicks, Terrie Hartley, Allury Lal, MD, Yaslyn Perez, and Senitra Blackburn

Crisis Center, Inc.

Ana Sullivan, MS, Executive Director, provided an overview of the Crisis Center, Inc. Ms. Sullivan stated depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other mental health issues can increase the risk of chronic conditions like diabetes, heart disease, stroke, autoimmune disease, lung disease, Alzheimer's disease, certain cancers, and more. She stated mental health is public health. Social isolation and loneliness put people at risk of developing serious mental and physical health conditions. The Crisis Center programs include Crisis and Suicide Line, Sexual Assault Support Services, Youth Talk Line, Senior Talk Line, Representative Payee Program, Recovery Resource Center, and 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Ms. Sullivan provided information and statistics for each program.

The Recovery Resource Center (RRC) receives support from the Jefferson County Public Health Advised Fund of The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham and is a partner with JCDH. They are able to provide a central point of information for people navigating the substance use treatment system. The Recovery Resource Center also provides community education and harm reduction services. In 2024, RRC served 4,038 clients, performed 2,227 clinical assessments, distributed approximately 2,300 doses of naloxone, and referred 2,599 clients for treatment.

Ms. Sullivan answered questions from Board members.

Call to Order

Prior to the meeting being called to order, Dr. Fancher announced that in the absence of Dr. Kong, Board Chair, she was asked to serve as Chair Pro Tempore. On the motion of Dr. Soong, and seconded by Dr. Turnipseed, Dr. Fancher was approved to serve as Chair Pro Tempore for this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Fancher.

The minutes of the April 9, 2025 meeting were approved as distributed.

Contracts

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

A new contract with Central Alabama Pride, Inc., (payee) for Disease Control staff to educate and promote Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), sexually transmitted diseases and clinical services information. The Population Health team will provide naloxone training relevant information at Pride Fest 2025; not to exceed \$7,500 on June 1, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Courtney French Broadcasting, LLC (payee) for Dr. David Hicks participation in Wellness Wednesday segment on V94.9 radio; not to exceed \$54,000 from March 16, 2025, through March 15, 2026.

A new contract with Steele Unique Weddings and Events, LLC (payee) for planning and managing the Employee Team Day 2025 event in collaboration with Human Resources; not to exceed \$25,000 from April 17, 2025, through October 10, 2025.

A new contract with Deno Rise Productions, LLC (payee) for hosting the JCDH Employee Team Day and karaoke sessions on October 10, 2025; not to exceed \$1,200 on October 10, 2025.

A new contract with Active Transitions, LLC (payee) will address signs and symptom of distress and effective ways to care for yourself at the Employee Team Day 2025; not to exceed \$2,331 on October 10, 2025.

A new contract with Provider Trust, Inc. (payee) to provide monitoring and verification compliance services related to licensure, exclusion of individuals and entities, and eligibility of providers and vendors; not to exceed \$75,500 from May 1, 2025, through April 30, 2030.

Renewal of a contract with University of Alabama Health Services Foundation, PC (The Workplace) (payee) to perform tuberculosis skin tests on all new hires and on current employees that work in divisions that are required to be tested annually or biannually; not to exceed \$8,000 from June 14, 2025, through June 14, 2028.

Renewal of a contract with Formax, LLC (payee) to provide repair and maintenance services to vacuum feed folder and hydraulic cutter in the print shop; not to exceed \$4,233.90 from May 14, 2025, through May 13, 2026.

A new bid contract with JettMan Supply, LLC (payee) for mobile car wash and detailing service per bid # 25-03-09; not to exceed \$305,000 from April 7, 2025, through April 7, 2028. Commissioner Stephens provided details on the county's car washing contract which could be more economical. Dr. Hicks will consider this when the contract term ends.

A new bid contract with Johnson Controls Fire Protection, LP (payee) for life safety inspection and maintenance services per bid #25-02-08; not to exceed \$47,936.02 from April 28, 2025, through April 27, 2028.

Renewal of a contract with Smartsheet (payee) for annual renewal of work collaboration software; not to exceed \$2,100 from June 7, 2025, through June 6, 2026.

A new contract with Eurofins Environment Testing Northern California, LLC (Eurofins Air Toxics) (payee) to provide sampling materials and lab analysis at fuel tanks in the Wenonah neighborhood of Birmingham; not to exceed \$2,160 from April 10, 2025, through September 30, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Propio LS, LLC (payee) to provide interpretation services when JCDH interpreters are not available; not to exceed \$40,000 per year from April 20, 2026, through April 20, 2027.

A new contract with the Crisis Center, Inc. (payee) for operational support of the Recovery Resource Center that provides substance use assessment, referral, peer support and information; not to exceed \$325,500 from May 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026. Dr. Hicks provided the background of the partnership between the Resource Recovery Center and JCDH. This contract would shift the funding source from the Public Health Advised Fund to the opioid settlement funds.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) on behalf of the UAB School of Optometry for tenant to utilize JCDH premises to provide optometry services to JCDH patients with no exchange of funds from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

April 2025 Financial Statements

Rodney Holmes, CPA, Finance and Administration Director, reviewed the April 2025 Financial Statements which were included in the Board material. He noted a column was added showing the prior year's year to date information for comparison. Mr. Holmes answered questions from the Board.

Health Officer Report

Report from State Health Officer – April 2025

Dr. Hicks presented to the Board for their information, a summary report for the month of April 2025, 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 a state legislator is interested in forming a committee to address Alabama's lower life expectancy compared to the national average. Dr. Hicks touched on this in his State of the County address in April.

Reportable Diseases Update

Dr. Hicks reported that a local school has an outbreak of pertussis with most infected students having been previously vaccinated. Disease Control staff are working with those affected to make sure they have proper information and decrease the risk for spreading.

Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Preparation

Dr. Hicks informed the Board that the Department has commenced preparation for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budgets.

Organizational Assessment Update

Dr. Hicks is finalizing a new organizational structure and leadership competency framework for the Department. He will send this to the Board.

Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham's Public Health Advised Fund

One of the competencies of JCDH's Strategic Plan is how to better leverage funds through the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham's Public Health Advised Fund. Dr. Hicks reviewed his recommendations on priorities for funding through the fund to include the following:

- Perinatal Care;
- Mental and Behavioral Health;
- Gun Violence and Public Safety;
- Substance Use; and
- Access to, and knowledge of, resources.

Health Policy Update

Dr. Hicks provided an update on the status of the following bills which were introduced in the State legislature:

- HB-152 – This bill provides for sales and use tax exemption for the purchase of certain baby supplies, baby formula, maternity clothing, and menstrual hygiene products. The Governor has signed this bill.
- HB-89 / SB-102 – This bill provides presumptive Medicaid eligibility to pregnant women. The Governor has signed this bill.
- HB-367 – This bill would prohibit any governmental entity or county health departments from expending public funds to advertise or promote vaccines. This bill did not advance through the legislature.
- HB-445 – This bill would authorize the Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board to regulate all consumable hemp products through the licensure of manufacturers, wholesale distributors, and retailers. This bill would prohibit the sale of any consumable hemp products to individuals under 21 years of age. The Governor has signed this bill.
- SB-101 – This bill was amended to require a minor to be at least 16 years of age to consent to medical, dental, and mental health services. This bill has passed in the House and under review in the Senate.
- SB-275 – This bill would exempt mobile food vendors from having to obtain additional licenses, permits, or other permissions, in jurisdictions where a mobile food vendor temporarily operates. Dr. Hicks noted that the Department does not require a permitted out-of-county mobile food vendor to obtain an additional permit from the Department. This bill was indefinitely postponed.

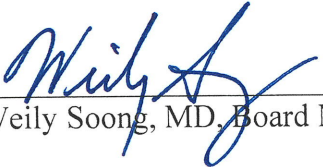
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Update

Dr. Hicks reported that during the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day held on April 12, the following number of vehicles dropped off hazardous waste at these respective locations: 561 vehicles at the Gardendale location, 669 at the Irondale location, and 394 at the Bessemer location.

Retirement Announcement

Dr. Hicks announced that Kim Cason, Health Services Manager, is retiring June 1. Along with her Clinical Services duties, Kim is the Department's Privacy Officer, and District Nursing Director. Dr. Hicks expressed his appreciation to Kim for her work ethic and years of dedication.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Room. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.


Weily Soong, MD, Board Member

Approved:


Iris Fancher, MD, Chair Pro Tempore