



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.

5th Floor Board Room

Present: Michele Kong, MD, Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD, Weily Soong, MD, and Andre' McShan, MD

Absent: Iris Fancher, MD and Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

Others Present: David Maxey, Esq., Jason Harpe, Courtney Baker, David Hicks, DO, Rodney Holmes, Loretta Hicks, Kim Bullock, Jonathan Stanton, Bryn Manzella, Wesley Willeford, MD, Nicole Standridge, Erica Perkins, Natalyn Tucker, Shaniqua Miles, and Terrie Hartley

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Dr. Kong.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 14, 2025 meeting were approved as distributed.

Jefferson County Public Health Fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham

Nicole Standridge, MPA, MPH, Senior Program Officer, Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (CFGB), provided background for the Public Health Advised Fund (PHAF). She stated formation of the fund began in 2006 as an opportunity to support public health projects in Jefferson County with more flexibility. A committee of JCDH staff led by Dr. David Hicks reviews and recommends projects to support. Over \$11 million in grants have been distributed. Ms. Standridge reported in 2024 \$1,06,031 was awarded to eight organizations and shared the positive impact these grants have in our community. She reported grants totaling \$707,500 have been awarded in 2025 so far. One of the major grants is the Jefferson County Greenways Foundation for the revitalization of East Side Park. There are three multi-year grants in 2025: Cawaco Resource Conservation and Development Council, Auburn University Foundation, and YMCA Birmingham. Following her presentation, Ms. Standridge answered questions from the Board.

Dr. Hicks provided background on the agreement with the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (CFGB) following a question from the Board. He said in 2005 the Board of Health passed a resolution that designated a portion of unrestricted General Fund net assets to establish the Public Health Community Projects Fund (PHCP) with earnings from that fund to be transferred to the CFGB. This fund has allowed us to help build public health capacity within the community. Dr. Hicks expressed his appreciation to Ms. Standridge on the work she does for the CFGB.

Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Review

Jason Harpe, CPA and Partner at Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC presented the Department's Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Statement Audit Report coupled with a federal awards audit. Mr. Harpe stated the auditors are issuing an unmodified opinion, which is the highest opinion they can issue for financial statements. As of September 30, 2024, the Department reported a net pension liability of \$74,622,115 related to its unfunded pension obligation with the Retirement Systems of Alabama. Additionally, some JCDH employees remain enrolled in the City of Birmingham Pension Plan, which is overfunded by \$8,035,643; this surplus is reflected as an asset.

Mr. Harpe commended JCDH for its contributions to the trust for post-employment benefits. He also reviewed the required communication to the Board which is located at the end of the 2024 Audit Report and the Independent Auditor's Report to the Board located at the beginning of the Report. Mr. Harpe commended the Department and the Finance and Accounting staff for their cooperation and work they do throughout the year. Mr. Harpe concluded by addressing questions from the Board.

May 2025 Financial Statements

Dr. Kong stated the May 2025 Financial Statements were included in the Board material. Loretta Hicks, Chief Accountant, answered a question from Dr. Soong related to a variance in the Disease Control budget.

Contracts

On the motion of Dr. Soong, and seconded by Dr. McShan, the following contracts are approved:

Renewal of a contract with Muck Rack, LLC (payee) to provide access to broadcast from the United States market and provide online web-based applications and services to assist with tracking all JCDH public relations, communications, and media coverage; not to exceed \$17,000 from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

A new contract with Courtney French Broadcasting (payee) for radio commercials for National HIV Testing Day 2025; not to exceed \$1,750 from June 16, 2025, through June 27, 2025.

A new contract with Summit Media (payee) to provide radio commercials for National HIV Testing Day 2025; not to exceed \$3,000 from June 16, 2025, through June 27, 2025.

A new contract with Latino News (payee) for print and social media promotions for National HIV Testing Day 2025; not to exceed \$1,000 from June 16, 2025, through June 27, 2025.

A new contract with Radio Estrella Alabama (payee) for radio, social media, and live promotions for National HIV Testing Day 2025; not to exceed \$1,000 from June 16, 2025, through June 27, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Fiesta (payee) for JCDH to be a Patron Level Sponsor for Fiesta 2025; not to exceed \$3,500 from September 15, 2025, through October 1, 2025

An amendment to a contract with Whitely and Whitely (payee) to provide relocation for Shuttlesworth air monitoring site. Amendment is to extend terms of agreement; not to exceed \$15,300 from December 23, 2024, through July 31, 2025.

A new contract with Eurofins Environmental Testing Northern California, LLC (Eurofins Air Toxics) (payee) to provide sampling materials and laboratory analysis for a total of 15 samples; not to exceed \$2,160 from April 10, 2025, through September 30, 2025.

An amendment to a bid contract with JCM Lawn Care (payee) for lawn care services to include locations at Leeds, McAdory, and Tarrant sites while ceasing service at the Fairfield site, per ITB #23-07-15; not to exceed \$317,000 from June 1, 2024, through September 7, 2026.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) to provide consultative services to the Sexual Health Clinic; not to exceed \$150,665 from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

Renewal of a contract with The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) to provide clinical services to JCDH patients who participate in the Metabolic Disorder/Adolescent Health Program; not to exceed \$31,535 annually from November 11, 2024, through October 31, 2027.

Renewal of a contract with Software House International (SHI) (payee) for a true-up order to be submitted for each enrollment anniversary to extend JCDH infrastructure into the Azure Cloud; not to exceed \$10,000 per month from April 30, 2025, through May 1, 2026.

An amendment to a contract with The Samaritan Foundation, Inc., d/b/a Connection Health (payee) to provide community health worker services to JCDH patients who participate in the “From Day One” Infant Mortality Program. Amendment is to increase the worker’s hourly pay from \$17.50 to \$18.50 per hour; not to exceed \$540,000 from April 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Tammy Howard (payee) to provide consultation and oversee projects to digitize paper health records and provide training as needed to ensure compliance with regulations impacting the management of protected health information; not to exceed \$25,000 from May 22, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

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 May 23, 2025, through June 29, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to decrease the maximum amount of funding for year two for JCDH to participate in activities in partnership with ADPH in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) state program in the amount of \$343,863 (year two amended); not to exceed \$1,127,487 from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) for a grant to enhance surveillance of resistant N. gonorrhoeae in the United States and increase the state and local capacity to detect and monitor resistant gonorrhea; not to exceed \$78,463 from February 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Above Training, Inc./StateFoodSafety.com (payor) for online food safety education to develop and support online training platform and provide certification to

user. Contractor to pay \$10 per student to JCDH; not to exceed \$30,000 from March 31, 2025, through April 1, 2028.

Health Officer Report

Report from State Health Officer – May and June 2025

Dr. Hicks presented to the Board for their information, a summary report for the months of May and June 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.

Departmental Vacancies Update

Dr. Hicks introduced Wesley Willeford, MD, MPH, as the Department's new Deputy Health Officer following the resignation of Allury Lal, MD. Dr. Willeford has been serving in the role of Medical Director of Disease Control for the past six years and will continue to perform both duties until a decision is made on the Medical Director position.

Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Preparation

Dr. Hicks reminded the Board that the Department's annual budget for Fiscal Year 2026 will be presented to the Board at the August meeting.

Landscape Analysis Update

Dr. Hicks noted the Department created a Business Plan to maximize the use of Western Health Center to best serve the healthcare needs of the community based on the recent healthcare system landscape analysis. There are certain services that we plan to continue to provide. The Plan was disseminated to some healthcare partners, and the Department has received proposals on how a partner would collaborate with us to meet these needs. The proposals are under review by the Executive Management Team and any recommendation for partnership will be sent to the Board for endorsement.

Organizational Assessment Update

Dr. Hicks reported the Executive Management Team members have completed their leadership assessments facilitated by Blankenship & Seay Consulting Group and will be creating individual development plans. The Department recently surveyed staff to assess their understanding of proposed changes and satisfaction with internal communication. Additionally, face-to-face meetings have commenced with some staff to gather additional feedback on proposed changes. New staffing positions under the new Prevention and Wellness Division will soon be posted.

Collaboration with City of Birmingham Police Department

Dr. Hicks stated that Environmental Health division has been working with the City of Birmingham Police Department to shut down illegal food vendors particularly in areas with higher rates of crime. Jonathan Stanton, Director of Environmental Health, answered questions from the Board.

Bluestone Coke Settlement Funds Consent Decree Update

Dr. Hicks met with City of Birmingham officials on June 23, 2025, to discuss suggested uses of settlement funds for the respective neighborhoods and to garner feedback on ways to best facilitate planning. Dr. Hicks participated in a Collegeville neighborhood meeting on July 7, 2025, to provide an update on their proposed environmental project plan.

American Diabetes Association's Project Power Youth Program

Dr. Hicks reported that the American Diabetes Association's Project Power Youth Program had 236 participants from Barrett Elementary School and Wylam Elementary School. He reported the following outcomes from the Project Power Youth Program intended to increase knowledge of physical activity and nutrition by using a standardized curriculum:

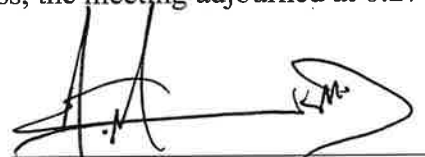
- 15% increase in knowledge of healthy eating patterns and physical activity recommendations;
- 3% increase in confidence to make healthy physical activity and nutrition choices;
- 6% increase in healthy behaviors;
- 73% reported high satisfaction with the program.

Dr. Hicks will send the report to the Board.


Birmingham 2025 World Police and Fire Games

Dr. Hicks reported that the Department provided food safety operations and public health education during the Birmingham 2025 World Police and Fire Games held June 26–July 6.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Room. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.


Andre' McShan, MD, Secretary

Approved:


Michele Kong, MD, Chair