



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.

5th Floor Board Room

Present: Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD, Andre' McShan, MD, Alison Heaton, MD, and Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

Absent: Michele Kong, MD and Weily Soong, MD

Others Present: David Hicks, DO, Loretta Hicks, Rodney Holmes, Kim Bullock, Bryn Manzella, Senitra Blackburn, Khalilah Brown, MD, David Maxey, Esq., and Terrie Hartley

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Turnipseed.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the May 13, 2026, meeting were approved as distributed.

May 2026 Financial Statements

Dr. Turnipseed stated the May 2026 Financial Statements were included in the Board material. There were no questions from the Board.

Contracts

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

A new contract with Eventful Media Group, Inc. (payee) for karaoke and disc jockey for Employee Team Day on October 5, 2026; not to exceed \$1,250.

A new contract with Any Reason to Plan, LLC (payee) to assist JCDH with planning the Employee Team Day and will also produce and manage the event; not to exceed \$22,665 from May 1, 2026, through October 5, 2026.

Renewal of a contract with Fiesta (payee) for JCDH to be a Patron Level sponsor for Fiesta 2026; not to exceed \$5,000 from September 16, 2026, through October 1, 2026.

A new contract with the Jefferson County Commission (payee) to facilitate the purchase of Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatography-Triple Mass Spectrometer for the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office; not to exceed \$413,938 from May 4, 2026, August 31, 2026. Dr. Hicks provided background information on this contract and answered questions from the Board.

A new contract with the City of Birmingham (payee) for transfer of funds to administer the inpatient Violence Intervention and Prevention Partners program, a hospital-linked violence intervention

program; not to exceed \$1,154,574 from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Dr. Hicks, in response to a question from the Board, stated JCDH has provided funds totaling \$1.4 million and the City of Birmingham \$2.1 million for the first three years of the program. Bryn Manzella, Quality Improvement Officer, provided additional background information regarding the Hospital-linked Violence Intervention Program.

A new contract with the ESB Group, Inc. (payee) to provide maintenance and support services for the audio/visual systems within JCDH; not to exceed \$15,200 from April 1, 2026, through May 30, 2027.

Renewal of a bid contract with Command Link, LLC (payee) to provide primary and secondary internet access solution, next generation firewall with SD-WAN according to RFP #26-03-07 at a cost of \$29,024.84 monthly; not to exceed \$1,044,894.24 from August 2, 2026, through May 1, 2029.

Renewal of a contract with Vertiv Corporation (payee) to provide professional yearly maintenance to the uninterruptible power systems in the data center; not to exceed \$8,315 from May 23, 2026, through May 22, 2027.

A new contract with Carrier Corporation (payee) for replacement of A2 compressor on chiller at Eastern Health Center; not to exceed \$43,402.70 from May 4, 2026, through September 5, 2026.

A new contract with S & G Waldrop Electric (payee) to repair thirty canopy lights in the JCDH parking deck; not to exceed \$12,705 from May 7, 2026, through April 23, 2027.

A new contract with Kirkpatrick Concrete, Inc. (payor) for Release Agreement for a notice of violation #3693, closing the enforcement action; not to exceed \$20,000 from April 27, 2026, through May 31, 2026.

An amendment to a contract with the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payor) to extend the contract to provide chest x-rays for UAB international medical students at a cost of \$45 per chest x-ray; not to exceed \$60,000 from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2028.

A new contract with Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency for JCDH to provide a storage place for the Community Emergency Response Team trailer and equipment with no exchange of funds from May 1, 2026, through April 30, 2029.

Report of the Health Officer

Department Civil Actions Report

Dr. Hicks provided for the Board's review a report from legal counsel of civil actions the Department has taken regarding businesses in violation of Board of Health regulations. The Board discussed the report and requested a quarterly update. David Maxey, Esq., Spain & Gillon, provided information on Environmental Health Division procedures for notice of violations.

Personnel Update

Dr. Hicks announced the resignation of Johnathan Stanton, PE, Environmental Health Director, following nineteen years of service. Mr. Stanton's last day was June 5. Dr. Ekta Choudhary, Prevention

and Wellness Director, will serve as Acting Director, with support from Program Managers, until a decision is made regarding the position.

Reportable Diseases Update

A significant Ebola outbreak declared a global public health emergency is ongoing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, involving a strain with no approved vaccine or targeted treatment and resulting in hundreds of cases and dozens of deaths to date; however, no cases have been identified in the United States or Alabama, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) assesses the risk to the U.S. public as low. Ebola spreads only through direct contact with bodily fluids of symptomatic individuals—not through the air—further limiting community transmission risk. For Jefferson County, this translates to minimal immediate risk, with any potential cases expected to be travel-related and detected through established screening protocols. The Department and local healthcare partners, in coordination with the Alabama Department of Public Health and CDC, maintain robust preparedness capacity—including screening, isolation, laboratory coordination, and surge planning—and have recently conducted multi-agency readiness discussions to ensure rapid response capability if needed.

The previously reported hantavirus outbreak linked to a cruise ship has resulted in a small number of confirmed cases and deaths internationally. To date, no cases have been confirmed in the United States or Alabama related to this outbreak, and the overall risk to the U.S. population as extremely low. Hantavirus is typically transmitted through exposure to rodent urine, droppings, or saliva, with most U.S. cases historically sporadic and geographically limited rather than outbreak driven. For Jefferson County, this translates to minimal immediate risk, with no evidence of local transmission and any potential cases expected to be identified through travel monitoring and clinical screening. There are no known at-risk persons in Alabama.

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

Dr. Hicks participated in the Gun Violence Awareness Day Press Conference and City Council meeting held at Birmingham City Hall on June 2, where he provided formal remarks in support of gun violence prevention initiatives. In his remarks, he emphasized the designation of gun violence as a public health problem and reaffirmed the Jefferson County Department of Health's commitment to evidence-based prevention strategies, community engagement, and collaboration with local government and public safety partners.

Public Swimming Pools and Spas Rules and Regulations

Discussion was held regarding proposed amendments to the Public Swimming Pools and Spas Rules and Regulations to require closure of public pools for nonpayment of annual inspection fees until such fees are paid, to establish an appeals process for permit denials or revocations, and to exempt nonprofit governmental agencies and charitable organizations that do not charge fees for services from such fees. Commissioner Stephens expressed concern that closing public pools for nonpayment by a municipality would have a deleterious impact on citizens.

Potential Update to Clinic Fee Schedule

The Department is currently reviewing and assessing potential updates to our fee schedule, including but not limited to travel clinic immunization services. This review is being conducted to ensure continued compliance with the requirements of the Fee Statute and to align our fee structure with current costs, service delivery considerations, and public health best practices.

Depending on the outcome of this review, adoption of a revised fee schedule may require formal action by the Board, including approval through a Resolution. Additional details and any proposed changes will be presented to the Board for consideration at a future meeting.

Bluestone Coke Settlement Funds Consent Decree Update

The Fairmont, Harriman Park, and Collegeville neighborhoods have each identified their preferred use of the settlement funds. The proposed projects are located on property owned by the City of Birmingham and operated by the Birmingham Park and Recreation Board. On June 3, the Birmingham Park and Recreation Board approved the Fairmont Park project; the remaining two neighborhood projects are still pending approval. Board of Health approval will also be required before an intergovernmental agreement can be executed with the City of Birmingham, which is expected to administer the projects on the Department's behalf.

Public Health Advised Fund Request

Dr. Turnipseed inquired regarding the status of a Public Health Advised Fund request undergoing further review to assess any potential conflict of interest involving the Board of Health. Dr. Hicks stated that the request remains on hold pending completion of that review and that he will provide an update to the Board Chair.

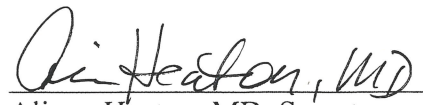
Infant Mortality

Dr. Turnipseed discussed Jefferson County's infant mortality rate, previously reported by Dr. Hicks, and requested that infant mortality remains a standing agenda item for Board discussion. Dr. Hicks reminded the Board of Department-supported programs that address birth outcomes, including From Day One, and noted that he connected Dr. Heaton, who has expressed interest in birth outcomes, with Kristen Rezek, Population Health Program Manager in Prevention and Wellness, who oversees JCDH's Maternal and Child Health Program. Dr. Khalilah Brown, Director of Clinical Services, provided additional information on the From Day One Program and will forward meeting information to Dr. Heaton and Dr. Turnipseed. Additional engagement with partners (e.g., Maternal & Child Health Roundtable, Alabama Perinatal Quality Collaborative) was recommended.

Unidentified Remains at the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office

Commissioner Stephens reported that currently there are twenty-nine unidentified persons at the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office. A meeting was held this week with a forensic specialist who could help identify the remains through specialized DNA testing. The cost is \$15,000 per person with a total cost of \$435,000.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Room. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.


Alison Heaton, MD, Secretary

Approved:


Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD, Chair