



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
Wednesday, September 12, 2018 - 5:00 p.m.
5th Floor Board Room

PRESENT: Max Michael, III, M.D., Yocunda Clayton, M.D., Sylvie Stacy, M.D., and Hernando Carter, M.D.

ABSENT: Commissioner Jimmie Stephens and Joshua Miller, D.O.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Mark Wilson, M.D., David Hicks, D.O., Hank Black, Senitra Blackburn, Kim Cason, Rodney Holmes, Bryn Manzella, David Maxey, Esq., Chris Osborne, Jonathan Stanton, and Denisa Pridmore

Call to Order

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

Minutes

Minutes of the August 8, 2018 meeting were approved as distributed.

2017 – 2021 Strategic Plan Update

Dr. David Hicks, Deputy Health Officer, presented the JCDH Strategic Plan Implementation for the 1st and 2nd Quarters of 2018. He highlighted tasks that were completed in each Strategic Plan Objective during this time frame.

August 2018 Financial Statements

Dr. Michael noted the August 2018 Financial Statements were included in the Board package. There were no questions from the Board.

Holiday Schedule

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Jefferson County Board of Health that the official holidays for eligible Jefferson County Department of Health employees for fiscal year 2018-2019 shall be the same as adopted by the Board of Health for 2018 including two variable days for a total of twelve holidays.

Write-Off Uncollectible Accounts

On the motion of Dr. Carter, and seconded by Dr. Clayton, the following resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of Health (the "Board") provides Primary Care and Dental services to primarily two categories of patients; those covered by the Alabama Medicaid insurance program and to the uninsured and,

WHEREAS, the uninsured have very limited financial resources and are often unable to pay the sliding fee portion of the fees charged for services provided by the Board and,

WHEREAS, it appears to the Board that writing off and ceasing collection efforts for aged, uncollectible accounts serves the public purpose by avoiding the costs associated with perpetually carrying of such accounts on the books;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that accounts receivable balances representing Primary Care and Dental services prior to October 1, 2016 are deemed to be uncollectible after reasonable collection efforts and shall be written off of the Board's financial records.

The detail account information in support of Primary Care and Dental accounts written off (\$165,000.00 or less) shall be available upon request for auditing and internal control purposes.

Public Health Advised Fund – Recovery Resource Center Funding

Dr. Wilson discussed the following resolution that will authorize JCDH to transfer funds to the Public Health Advised Fund, managed by the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, to support the Recovery Resource Center of Jefferson County. He reminded the Board the center will provide assistance to people with substance abuse assessment, referral information and navigation to treatment. The Board previously approved funding for the Recovery Resource Center in the FY 2018-2019 budget.

On the motion of Dr. Carter, and seconded by Dr. Clayton, the following resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of Health (Board), on August 10, 2005 resolved to establish the Public Health Community Projects Fund (PHCP Fund) and provide that certain Jefferson County Department of Health funds be transferred to the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (CFGB) to manage and administer grants under CFGB Fund Policies; and,

WHEREAS, CFGB and Board entered Advised Fund Agreement, dated August 14, 2006, that established the terms that CFGB will manage the Jefferson County Public Health Fund (Advised Fund) and administer grants from the Advised Fund to preserve, protect and enhance the general health and environment in Jefferson County, Alabama; and,

WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the State of Alabama, Honorable Troy King, on February 13, 2007 issued the Attorney General Opinion 2007-047, concluding:

“The Jefferson County Board of Health may enter an agreement with the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham under which, and subject to the required annual budget review and approval process, the Board will provide funds to the Community Foundation of

Greater Birmingham for use in public health work projects in Jefferson County if the Board determines that the agreement will further the Board's purposes;" and,

WHEREAS, a coalition of community stakeholders in Jefferson County including the Jefferson County Health Officer, substance abuse treatment providers, and advocates for people with addiction, has determined that there is a need for a centralized location where people with addiction and their families can obtain information about addiction treatment resources and assistance in navigation to those resources; and,

WHEREAS, on August 10, 2016 the Board approved the Department's 2017-2021 Strategic Plan including work with partners to develop capacity to offer information and navigation services to Jefferson County residents in need of substance abuse treatment; and,

WHEREAS, on August 8, 2018 the Board approved the Department's fiscal year 2019 budget, which included Two hundred fifty-seven thousand nine hundred sixty-one dollars (\$257,961) in expenses for a Recovery Resource Center program to offer information and navigation services to Jefferson County residents in need of substance abuse treatment; and,

WHEREAS, the CFGFB intends to offer grants to help sustain a Recovery Resource Center program in Jefferson County; and,

WHEREAS, the Department requests the Board to authorize the Department to transfer funds to the Advised Fund to fund grants for the Recovery Resource Center in the projected amount of Two hundred fifty-seven thousand nine hundred sixty-one dollars (\$257,961) for fiscal year 2019;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Jefferson County Board of Health authorizes disbursement of Jefferson County Department of Health funds as specified above to the Jefferson County Public Health Fund of The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (Advised Fund) for funding of the Recovery Resource Center program in Jefferson County to further the Board's public health work in Jefferson County.

Contracts

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

A new contract with New Solutions Group (payee) to provide pressure washing services and re-striping for the upper deck of the Guy Tate building, as well as installation of speed breakers, for a rate not to exceed \$13,631 from August 6, 2018 through August 6, 2019.

A new contract with Central Station, Inc. (payee) to provide fire alarm equipment for JCDH at a rate not to exceed \$18,399 from August 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

A new contract with J. J. Morley Enterprises, Inc. (payee) to provide labor and material to remove and replace expansion joint cover at pedestrian bridge at the Guy Tate building for a rate not to exceed \$3,150 from August 6, 2018 through September 6, 2018.

A new contract with TruMed Systems, Inc. (payee) for automated vaccine management system to control inventory, temperature, and reporting for vaccines for a rate not to exceed \$600 per month per refrigerator; not to exceed \$2,400 per month, from July 27, 2018 through July 27, 2019.

Renewal of a contract with Curvature Newco, Inc. (payee) to provide maintenance services for StorageTek L700E Tape Drive/Library for a cost not to exceed \$4,992 from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

A new contract with The Cross Cultural Health Care Program (payee) to provide training, certification, and license agreement for Adriana Valenzuela to host equity and inclusion trainings for a cost not to exceed \$3,000 from October 5, 2018 through October 5, 2020.

A new contract with Fiesta (payee) for JCDH to provide sponsorship of Fiesta: space in the Health & Wellness Village for a tent, tables and chairs, at a rate not to exceed \$3,000 from September 29, 2018 through September 29, 2018.

A new contract with Carmine Communications, LLC (payee) to provide event hosting/emcee services for the JCDH Team Building Training Event at the Birmingham Crossplex for a rate not to exceed \$500 on November 9, 2018.

A new contract with The City of Birmingham/Crossplex (payee) to allow use of the facility for the JCDH Team Building Training Event on November 9, 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$500.

Renewal of a contract with Sheila Moore (payee) to provide training and consultation to JCDH employees in human research policy and regulations for a rate of \$60 per hour; not to exceed \$30,000 from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

A new contract with Consolidated Analytical Systems (payee) to provide a shelter/building for equipment and personnel at the North Birmingham Monitoring Site. Installation of a modular roof railing system and roof grating system at the site. The amount of this contract shall not exceed \$21,083 from July 11, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

Renewal of a contract with Pediatric Radiology Associates (payee) for professional interpretation of pediatric radiographs at a rate of \$12 per film interpreted from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Renewal of a contract with Jefferson, Blount, St. Clair Mental Health/Retardation Authority (payee) to provide mental health access and services to JCDH patients who participate in the Child Health Primary Care Program for a rate not to exceed \$70,000 annually from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

An amendment to a contract with the Jefferson County Board of Education (payee) for the repair of a walking track at Warrior Elementary School for an additional \$10,360, and total amount of contract \$95,108, from October 1, 2017 through October 1, 2019.

Renewal of a contract with the University of Alabama in Huntsville (payee) to provide ongoing operational maintenance and upgrades for the Birmingham Air Quality website at an amount not to exceed \$18,200 from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Renewal of a contract with Servco, LLC (payee) to provide HVAC refrigeration services to JCDH at a rate of \$945 per quarter; not to exceed \$4,300, from September 15, 2018 through September 15, 2019.

Renewal of a contract with UAB School of Optometry to utilize space at JCDH to see JCDH and non-JCDH patients, with no funds exchanged, from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2021.

Renewal of a contract with Delbert H. Hahn, MD, P.C., to provide professional interpretation of adult radiographs and professional support for radiology services, with no payment for services, from February 1, 2018 through January 31, 2021.

Renewal of a contract with Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (payor) whereby JCDH will produce and issue daily forecasts of particle pollution in Jefferson and Shelby Counties, and to facilitate these responsibilities, will enter into contracts for meteorological data subscription services, and for maintenance of the Birmingham Air Quality website. JCDH will be reimbursed for those contracts at 80% of expenses. Total cost of this contract shall not exceed \$72,000 from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health/Health Promotion and Chronic Disease (payor) to provide tobacco prevention and control programs for Jefferson County at a rate not to exceed \$80,500 from March 29, 2018 through March 28, 2019.

Health Officer Report

Hurricane Florence

Dr. Wilson reported some requests have been made for Alabama's assistance in preparation for Hurricane Florence. It is uncertain at this time of how much JCDH will be involved.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

Dr. Wilson stated the JCDH EOP provides the necessary guidance to organize and direct the Department's operations during an emergency or disaster. The plan integrates the Department's total capabilities into a city or county disaster response as outlined in the Jefferson County Alabama Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The EOP allows the Department to effectively manage additional responsibilities it agrees to assume during an emergency or disaster, as well as effectively coordinate response efforts of other response partners when needed for surge capacity.

The JCDH EOP is currently in the process of being updated. We do not yet have the timeline since this will be a time consuming project.

North Birmingham and Pollution Issues

Dr. Wilson stated ABC Coke in Tarrant has submitted its Title V permit application and draft permit for approval. We are currently in the public comment period. The comment period is normally 30 days and would end on September 21, 2018. JCDH has received requests to extend the comment period and to hold a public hearing. We have granted both requests. The comment period has been extended until November 15, 2018. Two public hearings will be held on November 15, 2018: one session at 10:00 a.m. and one session at 7:00 p.m. in order to accommodate people's schedules and potential transportation limitations. JCDH has also sent over one hundred notices to key stakeholders, elected officials, and placed notices in public places including convenience stores for the general public to see. The permit application and draft permit may be viewed on the JCDH website. We are making an extra effort to get public input since this has been an area of concern with regard to environmental justice.

ERP Coke (previously Walter Coke until they went into bankruptcy and were bought out) is expected to submit a permit renewal application in the next few months.

Birmingham Mayor Randall Woodfin sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) asking that the North Birmingham Superfund Site (known as the 35th Avenue Superfund Site) be placed on the National Priority List for completion of soil testing and cleanup. The mayor's office, along with Representative Terri Sewell and other elected officials who represent that area, held a press conference along with a representative of the EPA Superfund, to encourage residents to get their soil tested so the EPA could finish the job. The EPA reaffirmed its commitment to complete the job. However, it was announced yesterday that the EPA decided not to put the 35th Avenue Site on its National Priority List.

All of these circumstances have brought concerns about pollution related health issues back to the forefront. JCDH, along with the EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) were very involved in North Birmingham several years ago – specifically in the neighborhoods of Harriman Park, Collegeville and Fairmont – addressing these concerns in various ways with a high level of community engagement. Dr. Wilson summarized some of the findings for the Board since they were not on the Board of Health during that time.

US EPA requested that ATSDR conduct an evaluation on arsenic, lead, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) found in residential surface soil in these communities. They did find some potential risk of health problems for a few properties that had high levels of these compounds for young children who intentionally eat dirt, or people who have a high prolonged exposure to the dirt; but not as much with eating garden produce. This was the justification for soil testing and clean-up; removing contaminated soil and replacing it.

The EPA also published a North Birmingham Air Toxics Risk Assessment in 2013, looking at levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), and metals in the air in that area.

Results for the chronic cancer risk assessment (constant exposure over 70 years) indicates that each of the four of the monitoring sites has a total or "cumulative" risk of 1×10^{-4} (one potential

additional cancer case in 10,000 exposed people). In general, the US EPA considers excess cancer risks from 1×10^{-4} to 1×10^{-6} acceptable. Cancer risks calculated at each of the four monitoring sites fell within EPA's range of acceptability. In this study, the chemicals that contributed most to the total cancer risk were benzene and naphthalene.

Approximately four years ago, JCDH asked the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) to run an analysis of the Alabama Cancer Registry data for the 35207 zip code for a ten year period. They found no statistically significant excess incidence of cancers potentially related to environmental toxins for blacks in that zip code compared to age and sex matched blacks in the rest of Alabama. They did not look at whites because the population of whites living in the 35207 zip code was too small for analysis. JCDH also looked at ten years of infant mortality data for that area and found no difference. JCDH looked at death certificate data for causes of death for various diseases including lung disease, cancer, heart disease, and stroke, and found no excess deaths for the area.

JCDH was asked by Congresswoman Terri Sewell's office about childhood lead levels. We looked at ten years of our own data; JCDH screens all children in our clinics at age 9-12 months and at age 2. For zip code 35207 – 8% over 5, 1.6% over 10; and this did not stand out. There were other zip codes with percentages about the same or higher. We are seeking additional data from Children's Hospital and other primary care practices that serve these areas.

JCDH is reaching out to newly elected officials to share this information and help them understand what role JCDH plays in the situation. A meeting is scheduled with Birmingham City Schools Superintendent Dr. Lisa Herring and the Leadership Team of Mayor Randall Woodfin's office.

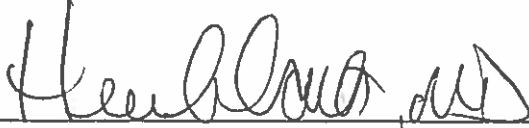
Nurse Family Partnership

Dr. Wilson reported the Nurse Family Partnership has begun recruiting a 5th and 6th nurse. A Mental Health Nurse Practitioner has been selected to help with their clients who have mental health needs.

Syringe Service Bill (Needle Exchange)

Dr. Wilson stated the Syringe Service Bill has failed to pass in the Alabama Legislature for the past two years. He has been working with the National Governor's Association team, which includes the Governor's Senior Health Policy Advisor, to revise the bill to require approval from the local City Council and County Commission. Getting their input in the beginning could make the bill easier to pass and make a local program more sustainable.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Room. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.


Hernando Carter, M.D., Secretary

Approved:


Max Michael, III, M.D., Acting Chair