



**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Wednesday, July 8, 2020 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**5th Floor Board Room**  
**Via Telephone Conference**

**Present on Call:** Yocunda Clayton, MD, Sylvie Stacy, MD, Hernando Carter, MD, Kenny Murray, MD, Susan Walley, MD, and Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

**Others Present**

**On Call:** Mark Wilson, MD, David Hicks, DO, Senitra Blackburn, Kim Cason, Rodney Holmes, Bryn Manzella, David Maxey, Esq., Corey Masuca, PhD, Jonathan Stanton, and Denisa Pridmore

**Call to Order**

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

Minutes from the May 13, 2020 meeting were approved as distributed.

**April and May 2020 Financial Statements**

Dr. Stacy noted that the April and May 2020 Financial Statements were included in the Board package. Rodney Holmes, CPA, Director of Finance, answered questions from the Board.

**Title V Permit Fees**

Dr. Stacy said the following resolution will approve the rate for Fiscal Year 2020 Title V permit fees for Major Source Operating Permit Fees. The rate has increased from last year's fee of \$67.16 per ton to \$97. Dr. Wilson said the increase is necessary to properly fund direct and indirect costs for operating the Title V program. The resolution was discussed and the Board decided the fee increase was appropriate.

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

WHEREAS, the Federal Clean Air Act and the Jefferson County Board of Health Air Pollution Control Rules and Regulations require that the Title V operating permit program fees be established to adequately fund the Title V operating permit program's responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, that the Title V permit fees may be used only for the Title V permit program; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that for Fiscal Year 2020, Title V permit fee revenues, based on a fee of \$97 per ton will adequately fund the **direct** and **indirect** expenses of the Title V permit program for fiscal year 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ORDAINED, ORDERED AND ENACTED BY THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH THAT:

Title V Operating Permit fees will be assessed at the rate of \$97 per ton for the release of each ton of regulated pollutant as specified in Chapter 16 of the Jefferson County Board of Health Air Pollution Control Rules and Regulations for calendar year 2019 emissions, which fees will be payable in fiscal year 2020.

**Contracts**

On the motion of Dr. Walley, and seconded by Dr. Murray, the following contracts were approved:

Renewal of contracts for the following individuals (payees) to serve as Hearing Officers for contested cases regarding environmental and public matters with JCDH, at a rate of \$180 per hour; minimum of 10 hours from May 11, 2020 through May 11, 2023:

Honorable J. Scott Vowell, Honorable Edward B. Vines, Honorable Arthur J. Hanes, Honorable Julie A. Palmer, and Honorable James Hard.

A new contract with Kimberly Richardson Consulting, LLC (payee) to provide grant writing services to JCDH, at a rate of \$150 per hour; not to exceed \$30,000 from February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2023.

Renewal of a contract with Camisha Williams Spencer (payee) to provide telephone support for breastfeeding Women, Infants and Children participants, at a rate of \$10.19 per hour; not to exceed \$11,000 from March 1, 2020 through March 1, 2021.

A new contract with Lamar Outdoor Advertising-Birmingham (payee) to provide three poster billboards and production of promotion with relevant information on the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day event; not to exceed \$1,575 from July 10, 2020 through July 24, 2020.

A new bid contract with MXI Environmental Services, LLC (payee) to provide comprehensive household hazardous waste collection including processing, transportation and management of recycling and disposal, per bid amount, from July 25, 2020 through July 25, 2020.

Renewal of a contract with Cision US, Inc. (payee) to provide media-related products for JCDH; not to exceed \$14,945 from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

A new contract with Flash Forward Media (payee) to provide wrapping of the medical needs shelter trailers; not to exceed \$7,500 from May 7, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

Renewal of a contract with Klipfolio, Inc. (payee) for access to large departmental plan-performance management platform; not to exceed \$8,388 from May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2020.

A new contract with Brice Consulting Group, LLC (payee) to provide design and budgeting services of a new zoned Voice Over Internet Protocol-activated intercom system at the Guy M. Tate building, including bid documents and construction oversight; not to exceed \$8,750 from March 23, 2020 through December 23, 2020.

A new contract with Brice Consulting Group, LLC (payee) to provide design and budgeting services of a new Direct-View LED digital sign video display system in the Guy M. Tate building lobby, including bid documents and construction oversight; not to exceed \$7,750 from March 23, 2020 through December 23, 2020.

A new contract with American Trainco, LLC (payee) to provide virtual training workshop on basic electrical services for JCDH maintenance staff; not to exceed \$14,980 from June 8, 2020 through June 11, 2020.

A new contract with Allsteel Fence Company (payee) to remove and replace damaged posts at JCDH Annex parking location; not to exceed \$1,995 from May 14, 2020 through June 14, 2020.

A new contract with Lab Works, LLC (payee) to provide COVID-19 medical laboratory services to uninsured Jefferson County residents, at a rate of \$101 per test from May 11, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

A new contract with One Roof (payee) to provide staffing and supplies at quarantine site for persons experiencing homelessness in Jefferson County due to COVID-19 pandemic during state of emergency, at a rate of \$28,380 per month; not to exceed \$229,040 from May 5, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Renewal of a contract with Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency (payee) to assist JCDH with performing Cities Readiness Initiative activities; not to exceed \$32,308.91 from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

An amendment to a contract with the Alabama Department of Health-Center for Emergency Preparedness (payor) to provide grant funds for JCDH Cities Readiness Initiative activities at the local level. Amendment will extend contract terms through June 30, 2020 with no increase in funds; not to exceed \$87,062 from April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

A new contract with Toni Bellina (payee) to provide training and consulting services to JCDH employees in Finance and Administration Division, at a rate of \$66 per hour; not to exceed \$15,000 from June 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020.

A new contract with GoldenPoint Solutions, LLC (payee) to provide COVID-19 medical laboratory services for persons located in Jefferson County during COVID-19 pandemic, at a rate of \$101 per COVID-19 test performed from June 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

A new contract with Ross Bridge Medical Practice (payee) to provide community COVID-19 testing services to non-insured Jefferson County residents, at a rate of no more than \$100 per COVID-19 test performed from May 11, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

A new contract with NovaMedicos, LLC (payee) to provide staffing for COVID-19 community testing services, at a rate of \$14 per hour per staff member from May 11, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

A new contract with Aletheia House (payee) to provide community COVID-19 testing services to non-insured Jefferson County residents, at a rate of no more than \$100 per COVID-19 test performed from June 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

A new contract with Alabama Regional Medical Services (payee) to provide community COVID-19 testing services to non-insured Jefferson County residents, at a rate of no more than \$100 per consultation from June 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Renewal of a contract with Power Secure Services, Inc. (payee) to provide semi-annual generator maintenance inspection services at a rate of \$3,160 annually; not to exceed \$9,480 from April 1, 2020 through April 1, 2023.

A new contract with Quadient Leasing USA, Inc. (payee) to provide postage meter rental and maintenance on postage equipment in JCDH mailroom at a rate of \$9,765.48 annually; not to exceed \$29,296.44 from May 12, 2020 through May 12, 2023.

A new contract with Trane (payee) to provide and install a new Trane CH530 module on chiller at Western Health Center; not to exceed \$3,337.09 from June 1, 2020 through July 1, 2020.

A new contract with NZS, Inc. (OneScreen) (payee) to provide GoSafe temperature scanning devices for JCDH; not to exceed \$3,879 from June 8, 2020 through June 8, 2021.

A new contract with Abba Contract, Inc. (payee) to install awning at Guy M. Tate Building; not to exceed \$22,000 from June 20, 2020 through July 31, 2020.

A new contract with Stericycle, Inc./Shred-It (payee) to provide paper shredding services for the Household Hazardous Waste event on July 25, 2020 at First Baptist Church of Gardendale; not to exceed \$822.50 from July 25, 2020 through July 25, 2020.

A new bid contract with Harold A. Burdette Dental Laboratories, Inc. (payee) to provide dental laboratory services for JCDH, per bid award #20-05-11 from May 20, 2020 through May 30, 2023.

A new contract with QueCentric, LLC (payee) to provide software development services in support of the Overdose to Action (OD2A) grant project; not to exceed \$4,750 from June 15, 2020 through August 31, 2020.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) for UAB staff and associates to provide clinical support to the JCDH Sexually Transmitted Disease program; not to exceed \$62,000 from October 1, 2019 through October 1, 2020.

A new contract with Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation Foundation (payor) for funds donated to support the Household Hazardous Waste event on July 25, 2020; not to exceed \$45,000 from June 10, 2020 through September 30, 2020.

Renewal of a contract with Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to provide early detection of breast and cervical cancer for women; not to exceed \$180,000 from June 30, 2020 through June 29, 2021.

Renewal of a contract with the University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Medicine (payor) to provide support for JCDH Sexually Transmitted Disease/HIV Training Center; not to exceed \$23,379 from April 1, 2020 through April 1, 2021.

**Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding Reimbursement**

Dr. Wilson noted the resolution below will confirm the Board of Health’s approval for JCDH to apply for CARES funding from the Jefferson County Commission to offset some expenses responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

**[AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR CARES ACT FUNDING REIMBURSEMENTS]**

**WHEREAS**, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been detected in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, in Jefferson County, community transmission of COVID-19 poses significant risk of substantial harm to a large number of people; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Board of Health has designated COVID-19 to be a disease of epidemic potential, a threat to the health and welfare of the public, or otherwise of public health importance; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has posed and continues to pose a significant public health threat in Jefferson County, requiring the unbudgeted expenditure of funds and resources by the Jefferson County Department of Health as detailed in the application County Health Officer Mark Wilson proposes to submit to the Jefferson County Commission for reimbursement from the “Coronavirus Relief Fund” (“CRF”) apportionment to Jefferson County, Alabama made by the U.S. Treasury pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”); and,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Wilson and the Health Department have determined that the costs for which reimbursement is sought meet the criteria of the CARES Act in that those costs are (1) necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19;

(2) were not accounted for in the Health Department’s FY 2020 budget (being the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020) as set forth in U.S. Treasury Coronavirus Relief Fund Guidance because either the cost cannot lawfully be funded using a line item or allocation within that budget, OR the cost is for a substantially different use from any expected use of funds in such a line item, allotment, or allocation; and (3) were or will be incurred during the period that began on March 1, 2020 and which will end on December 30, 2020; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that any funds requested to reimburse the Health Department for projects funded through private, charitable, and 501(c)(3) organizations comply with applicable authorities cited in the “Guidance for Counties and Municipalities” issued by the Alabama Attorney General on April 7, 2020 regarding compliance with Section 94 and Amendment 772 of the Alabama Constitution in that each such project serves a public purpose, and that the benefits conferred by each project is a direct public benefit of a reasonably general character to a significant part of the public; and,

**WHEREAS**, all costs for which the CRF application seek reimbursement satisfy other requirements of Alabama law, including, without limitation, statutes describing the authority and duties of the County Health Officer and Department of Health to have sole direction of all public health work in the County, and to take measures to abate communicable diseases (*see, e.g.*, Ala. Code §§ 22-3-2—5);

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,**

That the County Health Officer and the Jefferson County Department of Health are authorized to submit the proposed CRF application to the appropriate officials within the government of Jefferson County designated to receive such applications and to take such other and further steps as necessary to support the application to the end of obtaining reimbursement for all costs incurred that meet the CARES Act criteria as set forth above.

This resolution is effective immediately.

**Report of the Health Officer**

**Status of COVID-19 Disease**

Dr. Wilson reported that COVID-19 cases in Jefferson County have been worse the last couple of weeks with an average of over 190 new cases a day this week. The 13% positivity rate on new cases is at an all-time high. COVID-19 cases in nursing homes are currently under control. The cases now appear to be driven by the younger population of 20-50 year olds. Hospitalizations are on a parabolic curve right now going up dramatically in Jefferson County and much of Alabama. In Jefferson County there were 250 COVID-19 hospitalizations at one point within the past week and this is double from the first half of June. Projections based on trends from an epidemiologist at UAB School of Public Health predict that within the next two weeks or so hospitals in Alabama will be at capacity. Currently there are enough ventilators.

### **Contact Tracing**

Dr. Wilson stated that approximately 70 JCDH staff have been reallocated to work on contact tracing for COVID-19. A contingency plan is being activated to use an outside employment agency to hire people to perform contact tracing for JCDH due to the high volume of numbers stretching our resources thin.

### **Health and Human Services (HHS) Visit**

Dr. Wilson reported that HHS sent a team called the COVID-19 Response Assistance Field Team (CRAFT) to Jefferson County today to offer assistance. Jefferson County has been identified as an area in the United States that is emerging as a hotspot. They were at JCDH this afternoon to review our data, what JCDH is doing, and checking on any needs we may have. The team commended JCDH for our work and offered some good tips. State-wide policy support was discussed and may be a recommendation to Governor Ivey.

### **Testing**

Dr. Wilson stated that a lot of COVID-19 testing is being performed in Jefferson County but more testing is needed due to the high positivity rate for new cases. JCDH is exploring a child-friendly test site, in partnership with Children's Hospital, for our local pediatricians to have another place to send children to be tested.

UAB plans to apply for CARES Act Funding from Jefferson County to expand their COVID-19 testing, as well as their community testing. UAB has been reviewing these plans with Jefferson County Commission representatives and JCDH.

### **Forestdale Fire**

An illegal dump site has caused an underground fire in the Forestdale area. The burning has taken place for the past few weeks off of Interstate 22. Multiple agencies are involved with trying to put out the fire under the dangerous circumstances.

### **Air Monitoring Network**

Dr. Wilson reported that JCDH Environmental Health staff has submitted its air monitoring network plan to EPA, along with comments that were received during the public comment period.

### **Family Planning Title X Audit**

Dr. Wilson said JCDH has received the final results of the Title X Family Planning Program review that was conducted in February 2020. The final report was received and JCDH has submitted a Corrective Action Plan to address the audit concerns. The overall audit results were positive for JCDH.

### **Family Planning 340B Audit**

Dr. Wilson noted that Eastern Health Center was recently selected for a 340B Drug Pricing Program audit by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Audit results are unknown at this time.

### **Back to School Rush**

The back to school vaccination clinics will be held outdoors this year at the JCDH Annex parking lot. Staff will be providing immunizations and Certificate of Immunization (COI) for children heading back to school and individuals needing vaccinations for college. In previous years the clinics were conducted in Conference Room A at the GMT building. Due to COVID-19, the clinics will be held outdoors this year.

### **JCDH Adult Primary Care Clinics**

Dr. Wilson stated that JCDH has had challenges with the recruitment and retention of physicians for the Adult Health Clinic, patient numbers have been dwindling over the years, and there is limited access to specialty and diagnostic services. Other factors include the creation of a University Healthcare Authority with UAB Health System to manage Cooper Green Mercy Health Services (CGMHS) and an increase in the number and capacity of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). For several years JCDH leadership has been discussing the sustainability of the Adult Health Clinic and has come to the conclusion that JCDH will discontinue provision of comprehensive Adult Health primary care services before the end of August.

JCDH is looking at other plans for using resources to make sure we are supporting the overall system of care by filling in certain gaps in population health affecting adults. JCDH will be working with CGMHS and FQHC partners for an overall strategic plan for adult health patients.

Notification of service discontinuation will be provided to Adult Health Clinic patients at least 30 days in advance of this change, along with information about how to access care at other medical practices. JCDH staff will be notified. Dr. Wilson has talked to FQHCs by telephone to let them know and everyone has been very gracious and supportive.

### **August Budget Presentation**

The Fiscal Year 2021 budget will be presented for the Board's approval at the August meeting. JCDH anticipates a loss of funds. A draft Fiscal Year 2021 budget was submitted to the Jefferson County Commission by the mandated July 1, 2020 deadline but it may be necessary to amend those figures after the August Board of Health meeting.

### **Initiative for Masks**

Dr. Walley discussed an initiative of the Jefferson County Pediatric Society (JCPS) leadership related to the importance of masks especially with children going back to school in the fall. They have created masks with the message "I wear a mask to protect you" for members and others to wear. Dr. Wilson thanked Dr. Walley for sharing this news with the Board of Health.

Dr. Wilson stated he will be convening some local pediatricians and Infectious Disease physicians for a consensus on whether children should wear a mask as schools reopen. Currently schools are not included in Dr. Wilson's Order for mandated face masks. A call will be scheduled with the Jefferson County School Superintendents afterward.

Dr. Stacy discussed the importance of including all ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 such as six feet social distancing, correct etiquette for coughs or sneezes, washing hands frequently and wearing face masks. Public Relations at JCDH does emphasize all of these important ways in its



messages. Dr. Wilson asked Dr. Walley to let him know if JCDH can assist with public messaging for the JCPS initiative.

**COVID-19 Vaccination Planning**

Dr. Stacy inquired about JCDH’s preparations for a COVID-19 vaccination when it becomes obtainable and ways to be proactive. Dr. Wilson said JCDH plans a strong campaign for influenza vaccinations this year. Conversations are underway on how to rapidly distribute a COVID-19 vaccination once it is available. JCDH’s Emergency Preparedness program has experience with our community partners to give mass vaccinations in Jefferson County.

Dr. Hicks stated that he has contacted an acquaintance at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for information on their planning for an eventual COVID-19 vaccination campaign and offering JCDH’s willingness to be a pilot site.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Room or via telephone conference (announcement will be made prior to the meeting date). There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Susan Walley, MD, Secretary

Approved:

  
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Sylvie Stacy, MD, Chair