



Fairfield County
**Health
Department**

R. Joseph Ebel RS, MS, MBA
Health Commissioner

BOARD OF HEALTH RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Fairfield County Health Department
Minutes of the Board of Health
February 12, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: Fairfield County Health Department (FCHD), 1550 Sheridan Dr., Ste. 100, Lancaster

The meeting was called to order by Brian Oliver at 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Brian Oliver
Dr. Michele Morrone
Tina Childers
Dr. Teresa Wood
Dr. Allen Shaw

Board Members Absent

STAFF PRESENT

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner; Rachel Moresea, Environmental Health Director; Mary Smith, WIC Director; Baylie Blevins, Health Promotion and Planning Director; Jamie Ehorn, Administrative Services Director; Gale Neville, Nursing Director; Landon Spangler, Community Health Worker, Dr. Steven Kapetansky, Medical Director; Kipchoge VanHoose, Health Educator

OTHERS PRESENT

N/A

A quorum was established. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes from the board meeting on January 8, 2025, were presented for approval. The minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

Gale Neville introduced Landon Spangler as our new Community Health Worker.

HEARINGS & VARIANCES

Rachel Moresea, Environmental Director, presented a variance for 3349 Stringtown Rd., Lancaster for the tank size requirement. The system was installed approximately 3 years ago. The wrong size tank was installed, however, the system is currently working. This may require the tank to be pumped more often.

Dr. Allen Shaw made a motion to approve the variance from OAC 3701-29-12(C)(1) for 3349 Stringtown Rd., Lancaster for the tank size requirement. Dr. Michele Morrone seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Moresea presented a variance for 13204 Queen Rd. NE, Thornville for the distance requirements for a well. A power line is near where the well needs to be installed. Attempt was made to contact AEP with no response. Dr. Wood recommended sending a registered letter to AEP.

Tina Childers made a motion to approve the variance from OAC 3701-28-07 for 13204 Queen Rd, Thornville for the distance requirements for a well. MM seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Moresea presented a variance for Tim Fiske, Fiske Sewer and Septic for continuing education requirements. Mr. Fiske misunderstood the rules regarding continuing education and missed the deadline.

Dr. Teresa Wood made a motion to approve the variance from OAC 3701-29-03(C)(5) for Tim Fiske, Septic Hauler and Service Provider for continuing education requirements. Tina Childers seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Environmental Health Report

Mrs. Moresea provided a written report to the Board. Less than 20 inspections remaining for the inspection year in the Food Services program. Investigated two Legionella cases, nothing came up of concern. Received two recent complaints regarding Roosters restaurant, we will be reviewing food safety guidelines with upper management. First ServSafe class will be held in March at the Ag Center. Limited to 20 attendees for the first class. We received approval for a NEHA intern and have a candidate that has agreed to intern with us this summer.

Update on the issue with Mr. Hattan: Neighbors lines are on his property. The prosecutor suggested we provide the neighbor options for corrections.

FEATURED PRESENTATION

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner, reviewed the final 2024 budget and the preliminary 2026 budget. Specific items reviewed included the following:

- 2024 Year-End Fiscal Report
- Funding Diversification
- Expense Classifications
- 2024 Financial Highlights
- 2024 Grant Awards
- New Grants for 2025
- Annual Cash Flow Projections
- 2026 Revenue and Expenditure Budget
- 2026 Budget Highlights
- Valuations and Assessments

DIVISION REPORTS

Nursing Report

Gale Neville, Nursing Director, provided a written report to the Board. Madeline Cook is doing well as our new Communicable Disease Specialist. Landon Spangler was recently hired and is excited to start the new Community Health Worker program. Crystal Warner, Public Health Nurse, has resigned, her last day will be February 21st. Shannon Mentzer, Public Health Nurse, is interested in moving into Mrs. Warner's position. Four Newborn Home Visits were completed last month. Mrs. Mentzer has been training with Judy Scali on the Help Me Grow program. Last month there were eight outbreaks in five different facilities, three were Long Term Care facilities and two were in childcare locations. Flu cases are high this month. Flu education has been posted on our social media accounts to assist in prevention.

WIC Report

Mary Smith, WIC Director, provided a written report to the Board. Caseload increased again in January. Looking at expanding clinic days in Pickerington from two to three. Requesting approval to hire a nutrition assistant to help with the expansion and the increased caseload.

Tina Childers made a motion to hire a WIC Nutrition Assistant. Dr. Teresa Wood seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Planning and Promotion Report

Baylie Blevins, Health Promotion Director, provided a written report to the Board. We were recently awarded the CIAG Drowning Prevention grant. Kipchoge VanHoose, Health Educator, will be working on the new grant which will provide swimming lessons for local children. Compliance checks started today for the tobacco grant. Two stores allowed underage children

to purchase tobacco. Mr. VanHoose explained the compliance check process. Mrs. Blevins is working on several grant applications right now. All re-accreditation documents are in progress.

Health Commissioner's Report

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner, provided a written report to the Board. Had a call with Richard Hodges to discuss becoming an academic health department. Not a lot will change for us, since we already work with Interns, but it will provide additional resources for the health department, such as full access to their library. HB 257 passed, so in April we would be allowed to have a virtual meeting. The prosecutor's office has been contacted to help create a policy regarding the new bill.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND BILLS

Jamie Ehorn, Administrative Services Director provided financial reports and a bill list to the Board for approval.

Dr. Michele Morrone made a motion to approve the financial report and bill list. Dr. Allen Shaw seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The 2026 preliminary budget was presented for approval.

Dr. Teresa Wood made a motion to approve the 2026 budget. Tina Childers seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Dr. Teresa Wood made a motion to approve Out of State Travel for Joe Ebel to attend the NACCHO Conference in Anaheim, CA, on July 15-18. Dr. Allen Shaw seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Allen Shaw made a motion to approve Out of State Travel for Baylie Blevins to attend the Alzheimer's Risk Reduction Workshop in Chicago, IL, on March 5-6. Dr. Teresa Wood seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Tina Childers made a motion to hire a summer mosquito Intern. Dr. Michele Morrone seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

End of Probation - Kipchoge VanHoose, Health Educator
Resignation of Crystal Warner, Public Health Nurse

MEDICAL DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

N/A

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Dr. Teresa Wood will not be seeking renewal as a board member.

Dr. Shaw expressed his concern about federal funding and how we will be prepared for emergencies in the future if we lose funding.

Brian Oliver would like to visit Birth/Death Certificate fees and requested issuance numbers at the next board meeting.

Brian Oliver would like the board to consider starting conversations on a Levy in the future.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: March 12, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Fairfield County Health Department, 1550 Sheridan Drive, Ste. 100, Lancaster

DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING: March 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Fairfield County Records Center, 138 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster

ADJOURN The Board of Health Meeting adjourned on a motion by Tina Childers. Dr. Teresa Wood seconded the motion at 5:46 p.m. Motion passed.

Approved:

Signature and Date on file _____ Date: _____ Brian Oliver, Board President

Signature and Date on file _____ Date: _____ R. Joseph Ebel, Health Commissioner