



CITY OF MIDDLETOWN  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
Minutes  
February 9, 2021

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in remote session at 7:30 AM on February 9, 2021.

Members Present

Mayor Nicole Condrey, BS, President  
Jeff Bonnell  
Margie Davis, RN  
Ruth Lolli  
Dr. Ken Patrick, DVM  
Dr. Anita Scott Jones, Ed.D., MBA, BS  
David Schul

Health Department Staff Present

Jackie Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN  
Carla Ealy, RS  
Chandra Corbin, BSN, RN  
Amanda McDonald

Absent and Excused

Charlene Kurtz, BSN, RN

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ROLL CALL

Motion: Dr. Scott Jones moved, seconded by Dr. Patrick to excuse Ms. Kurtz.

Roll call vote: Yes-6(Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Patrick, Jones, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-January 2021

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to approve the January 2021 Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes-5(Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Dr. Scott Jones abstained. Motion passed.

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT- January 2021

Ms. Phillips Carter noted that the financial report only shows revenue through January 22, 2021.

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Mr. Schul to receive and file the January 2021 Financial Report.

Roll call vote: Yes-5(Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Dr. Scott Jones abstained. Motion passed.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION- Convalescent Plasma

Dr. Jennewine educated the board about convalescent plasma. Plasma is a clear or straw colored liquid portion of the blood. By infusing patients with plasma containing antibodies, passive immunity is shared. Passive immunity may be an effective therapy for patients that have not developed their own antibody response. Passive immunity is temporary, unlike developing antibodies on your own which is known as active immunity. Convalescent plasma is usually used in emergency situations, when there are no other options.

Convalescent plasma was first used in the diphtheria epidemic of 1892, by infusing patients with the whole blood of animals. It was again used in 1918 to treat patients with the Spanish Influenza and in the 1920's to treat scarlet fever. During World War II, doctors discovered how to separate out plasma.

Convalescent plasma was routinely used in the 1970's and 1980's to treat tetanus, SARS, influenza, etc. Studies proving efficacy are hard to find. Studies tend to be small with no controls.



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There are certain cases in which convalescent plasma cannot be used, such as dengue fever. The infusion of convalescent plasma triggers a viral replication and risks introducing a new illness while trying to treat the original disease.

There was an initial interest in convalescent plasma infusion in China during the early days of the COVID pandemic. There was a study of 5 patients who showed great improvement after treatment, this brought convalescent plasma to the forefront of treatment worldwide.

In order to be a plasma donor, one must have a PCR test confirming positivity of infection, be recovered, symptom free for 14 days and then test negative. Vaccinated individuals cannot donate plasma. Recipients of plasma have to have a severe/life threatening illness, making plasma treatment necessary. Criteria for when and who to give it to will be refined. This will not be given as a blanket treatment across the board.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **COVID**

Ms. Corbin stated that current COVID cases for city of Middletown residents is 4,150. Currently 2,156 vaccines have been administered by CMHD. Cases have now slowed to the same rate as they were in October before the uptick after holiday gatherings. Ms. Condrey asked if there have been any changes made in the way that cases are being reported. Ms. Phillips stated that there have been no changes.

Ms. Phillips informed the board that vaccine clinics were originally going to be held outside. Due to inclement weather, CMHD is now looking at utilizing Middletown High School for indoor clinics.

At this time CMHD is still using the Moderna vaccine. There are two more vaccines on the horizon, but have not yet been approved for emergency use.

### **PHAB**

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the site visit dates are scheduled for May 25-27, the board will be made aware of what days they will need to be present.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Travel Authorizations

None.

### **2020 Annual Report**

The 2020 CMHD Annual Report was submitted to Ohio Department of Health on the regularly scheduled deadline of January 15<sup>th</sup>. At the time of submission, CMHD was the only health department in the state to have submitted. The normal deadline was postponed due to COVID.

## REPORTS

### **Health Commissioner**

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that vaccines were made available to all Middletown schools. Approximately 800 doses were given to teachers and staff.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that we are now looking into reaching the Hispanic population and looking at who may have been missed. Most of phase 1A and phase 1B have been vaccinated.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that there has been a few issues with the Syringe Exchange Program (SEP). There was a resident that requested SEP be moved from the Crawford Street location. In response, SEP will now be held behind The Gathering at the same time (Tuesdays, 10am-1pm). This location is subject to change after June.

Ms. Condrey inquired about articles included in the board packet. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that public health tries to capture all issues pertaining to the health and well-being of citizens. Ms. Condrey stated that the articles chosen could appear one sided and to include opposing views if controversial articles are going to be included in the packet in an effort to ensure that the Board of Health does not look biased.



#### Medical Director

Dr. Jennewine reported the January communicable diseases.

Chlamydia infection	28
COVID-19	805
Gonococcal infection	17
Hepatitis A	1
Hepatitis B	4
Hepatitis C	7
Salmonellosis	1

#### Director of Nursing

Ms. Corbin states that we will continue to see ups and downs in the number of COVID cases reported. Ms. Corbin informed the board that CMHD has received 3,300 vaccine doses, with another 100 doses scheduled to arrive today. 2,176 doses have been administered. Just under half of those doses have been administered to Middletown city residents. Ms. Condrey inquired about the legality of other health departments requiring recipients to be residents of that jurisdiction in order to receive vaccinations. Ms. Corbin stated that Ohio Department of Health states that local health departments cannot restrict vaccine recipients to their jurisdiction, it is a state program.

#### Environmental Director

Ms. Ealy informed the board that sanitarians are currently completing their last round of food inspections. Inspections will be completed by the end of February.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that CMHD is currently in the process of receiving food license renewal applications and fees. Ms. Ealy stated that there are approximately nine residents that have failed to connect to sanitary sewer, these residents will be taken back to court to face further legal action until they comply with state orders.

Ms. Ealy states that sanitarians continue to conduct septic inspections.

Ms. Condrey inquired about CMHD resuming level one food safety training. Ms. Ealy stated that we will get classes scheduled either through ZOOM or in person depending on class size and COVID restrictions.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00AM. The next meeting will be held on March 9, 2021 at 7:30 AM.

Jacquelyn D. Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN  
Secretary

Nicole Condrey, President  
City of Middletown Board of Health