

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
Minutes  
July 13, 2021

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on July 13, 2021.

**Members Present**

Mayor Nicole Condrey, BS, President  
Jeff Bonnell  
Margie Davis, RN  
Ruth Lolli  
Sally Kash, MS, RN  
Charlene Kurtz, BSN, RN  
Dr. Ken Patrick, DVM  
David Schul

**Health Department Staff Present**

Jackie Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN  
Carla Ealy, RS  
Chandra Corbin, BSN, RN  
Dr. Paul Jennewine, MD  
Amanda McDonald

**Absent and Excused**

None.

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**ROLL CALL**

All members were present.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES-June 2021**

**Motion:** Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Kurtz to approve the June 2021 Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-7 (Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Kash, Kurtz, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

**RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-June 2021**

Question: Mayor Condrey inquired about negative money coming out of the vending account on the budgetary control report.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter explained that when money is mistakenly deposited into the wrong account, IE: a vending license fee is deposited as an FSO license fee, it is corrected by moving the money back into the right account which shows as a negative transfer on the budgetary control report.

Question: Mayor Condrey inquired about the Health Department COVID Expenses line item being in the red.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter explained that the money will be reimbursed by miscellaneous funds received for COVID. The health department budget carries over annually.

**Motion:** Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Ms. Davis to receive and file the June 2021 Financial Report.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-7 (Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Kash, Kurtz, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

### EDUCATION PRESENTATION-Hepatitis

Dr Jennewine explained to the board that hepatitis is an inflammation of liver tissue. The inflammation can be caused by toxins, genetic disorders, obesity, autoimmune disorders and infections. Viral Hepatitis is the most common type of hepatitis. The five most common viruses that cause hepatitis are: A, B, C, D and E. Hepatitis is diagnosed by blood tests which detect liver enzymes, viral antigens and antibodies. Acute Hepatitis can cause flu-like symptoms and can lead to jaundice and liver enlargement. Fulminant Hepatitis is rare but can be life threatening causing massive cell death. Hepatitis A is an acute illness that is usually self-limited. It does not progress to chronic disease. Although rare, it can develop to fulminant. Hepatitis A is most often seen in developing countries and is spread by fecal-oral transmission. Groups with highest risk factors are: travelers, illicit drug users and those with poor sanitary conditions or access to water. There is a vaccine available for Hepatitis A.

Hepatitis B can be either acute or chronic, most of the time it is self-limiting. Five percent of Hepatitis B cases progress to chronic infections and twenty percent of those cases progress to cirrhosis or liver cancer. Hepatitis B is transmitted through blood or bodily fluids. Those at risk for contracting Hepatitis B are: IV drug users, those with multiple sex partners, men having sex with men and those that are in close contact with someone known to have Hepatitis B infection. Though treatment for Hepatitis B has varying results, a vaccine is available to prevent the infection.

Hepatitis C can be either an acute or chronic disease, though most cases lead to chronic infection. Hepatitis C is the second most common cause of cirrhosis in the United States. Hepatitis C is transmitted through blood and bodily fluids similar to Hepatitis B. While there is no vaccine available for Hepatitis C, there are newer antiviral treatments available since 2011.

Hepatitis D is considered a defective virus, as it cannot live alone and requires Hepatitis B to replicate. It is only found as a co-infection with Hepatitis B. Hepatitis D is transmitted through blood or bodily fluids and increases the risk of chronic infection and fulminant hepatitis in B infections. There is no good treatment or vaccine available for Hepatitis D.

Hepatitis E is very similar to Hepatitis A, it is an acute illness that is self-limited and never chronic. It is spread through fecal-oral transmission. Hepatitis E is more concerning in pregnancy.

### Discussions

Feedback: Ms. Phillips Carter stated that vaccinations for Hepatitis B begin at birth. Dr. Jennewine added that the goal is to have everyone vaccinated before they are at risk. Ms. Carter Phillips stated that anyone working in healthcare is required to receive hepatitis vaccines, requiring vaccinations is not new.

Question: Ms. Ealy asked if a booster shot was needed for the Hepatitis B vaccine.

Answer: Dr Jennewine stated that the Hepatitis B vaccine is a series of three shots and provides life-long immunity.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### COVID

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that we are still in the midst of the pandemic, but it appears we may be coming out of it.

Ms. Phillips Carter stressed the need for vigilance as the first case of the Delta variant of COVID-19 has been diagnosed in Butler County.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that she had an interview with channel 5 news about a possible outbreak at Abilities First. Ms. Phillips Carter met with the Middletown City School District Superintendent and informed him that all the COVID guidelines and recommendations from last school year are still in place for the 2021-2022 school year, however; the guidelines are not mandated by the state and will fall back on the school systems. There have been discussions of allowing local level mandates, currently the health department has some authority on the positive patient when it comes to requiring quarantine.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that 49% of Ohio residents have received their first dose of COVID vaccine and 46% are fully vaccinated. Individuals ages 19 to 39 have the lowest vaccination rate. ODH has come out with new directives that allow local health departments to give out grant money as a vaccine incentive in the form of gift cards.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that all three health departments: Butler County General Health District, Hamilton City Health Department and City of Middletown Health Department will be holding a large COVID vaccine Point of Dispensing (POD) prior to the start of the school year. City of Middletown Health Department will continue holding weekly vaccine clinics in Council Chambers from 12pm-1pm every Thursday as well as continuing home visits for home-bound patients.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Travel Authorizations

None.

#### Approval of Agreement between Butler County General Health District and CMHD-COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Grant

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that ODH has increased the award and changed the name of the grant and is focusing on targeting vulnerable populations.

**Motion:** Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Davis to approve the Vaccine Equity Grant.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-7 (Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Kash, Kurtz, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

#### Approval of Agreement between Butler County General Health District and CMHD-Epidemiology Services

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that this contract is renewed annually. Butler County General Health District is paid out of the PHEP Grant to conduct epidemiology services for City of Middletown.

**Motion:** Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Mr. Schul to approve the Epidemiology Services Agreement.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-7 (Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Kash, Kurtz, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

#### Approval of Agreement between Butler County General Health District and CMHD-PHEP Grant

Ms. Phillips Carter explained that we have been receiving the PHEP Grant since 2001 allowing us to exercise, prepare and plan for an emergency.

**Motion:** Ms. Davis moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to approve the PHEP Grant.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-7 (Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Kash, Kurtz, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

#### Approval of Agreement between Hamilton County General Health District and CMHD-Harm Reduction

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the Syringe Exchange Program (SEP) Harm Reduction extension is at no cost to the city. Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that SEP will no longer be held at The Gathering and is set to move to Access Counseling, located on Cincinnati-Dayton Road, at the end of July.

#### Discussions

Question: Mayor Condrey asked who wanted it moved.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter stated it was the city manager.

Question: Mayor Condrey asked Ms. Phillips Carter to Explain.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter stated that when SEP first began data was obtained to see where the most overdoses and deaths were occurring. Crawford Street was selected because of the amount of calls they were receiving to that area. There were no issues with that location until recently when a man started filming the patrons visiting SEP and posting videos on Facebook. There was no police presence at SEP and the decision to move to The Gathering on Clinton Street was made. A citizen began making complaints wanting the location moved. Ms. Phillips Carter arranged to have the location moved. Another Access Counseling said SEP could move to their location on Cincinnati Dayton Road.

Feedback: Mayor Condrey stated that she would like it added to public record that she imagines the same request has resulted in the Mindfully Healing Center being attacked. This is an organization that helps women with addiction get off of drugs and get their children back. They had received a grant from the city to replace their roof, the city has now asked for the grant money back, citing permit issues. Mayor Condrey stated that the city manager is listening to what Kevin

Kimener would like done in downtown Middletown and when it comes to health, this will be an issue for anyone in that area.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that she is available to sit down and talk about resolving these types of situations in a collective manner. Ms. Phillips Carter states that she is not in support of continuing to give syringes to people without wrap-around care. She would like to go back to a one-to-one needle exchange. Giving syringes value helps the community by eliminating used needles being discarded in places such as public parks. Ms. Phillips Carter continued that the city manager does support the syringe program, but does not want it to be continually harassed.

Mayor Condrey stated that the issue here is that we are not addressing the issue. We can't just move it out of downtown. Mayor Condrey went on to state that she believes the city manager is listening to one citizen, who is the husband of a downtown business owner and also has a seat on City Council.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that as mayor, Ms. Condrey could call together a meeting to address the City's plans.

Ms. Kash inquired about the number of treatment centers located in town.

Mayor Condrey stated that there has been a moratorium of six months placed on a methadone clinic that wanted to open on Central Avenue. Mayor Condrey stated that we can't just continue to move these programs because someone doesn't like it. Mayor Condrey asked the board if they thought a community-wide meeting would accomplish anything.

Ms. Kash replied that maybe the Board of Health needed to come up with a plan from the health department before the meeting.

**Motion:** Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Ms. Kash to approve the Harm Reduction Agreement.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-6 (Davis, Lolli, Kash, Kurtz, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion passed.**

## 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report

Mayor Condrey asked if, in addition to the 2020 quarterly report, previous years could be included as well so that a more accurate year-to-year comparison could be made in light of the 2020 COVID pandemic influencing all statistics.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that we will pull 2018 and 2019 quarterly reports in addition to 2020 and 2021 reports for comparison.

## REPORTS

### Health Commissioner

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that Hamilton County has extra funds and want to give additional money towards HIV initiatives. The money coming from Hamilton County must be spent by December 31, 2021. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that she and Ms. Corbin will be present at SEP to aid in the HIV initiative and will bill their time accordingly.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that there will be a county-wide vaccination event held at the Butler County Fairgrounds. We are waiting on the fairgrounds to give us an exact date. All three Butler County health departments; City of Middletown, Hamilton City and Butler County will be present. Free public transportation will be provided to this event.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that CMHD will be offering vaccines at the Balloon Challenge and National Night Out.

### Discussions

Question: Dr. Patrick asked if the Infant Mortality Initiative was still underway.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the initiative is still underway. Infant mortality rates have been declining; however, there is still a disparity in rates among minorities. The first Infant Mortality meeting of the year was held last Thursday (July 8, 2021).

Feedback: Dr. Patrick asked for a copy of the Infant Mortality Report.

### Medical Director

Dr. Jennewine stated that HIV cases are up considerably from last year, maybe more than triple. Seventy percent of all reported HIV cases are from reported IV drug users.

Dr. Jennewine reported on the communicable disease numbers for the month of June.

Chlamydia infection	10
COVID-19	31
Giardiasis	1
Gonococcal infection	2
Haemophilus influenzae	1
Hepatitis C	1
Lyme Disease	1
Streptococcal-Group A-invasive	3
Streptococcus pneumoniae	2

### Director of Nursing

Ms. Corbin informed the board that there has been a total of 4,913 COVID cases among Middletonians. There were 32 confirmed/probable cases reported in June. To-date (July 13, 2021), there have been 8 cases reported in July. Most cases have had household linkages. Ms. Corbin stated that there was an outbreak at a summer camp located in Montgomery county. Ms. Corbin stated that the state keeps rolling out new and improved reporting tools.

There were 350 vaccines given in May, 366 in June and 50 in July (to-date).

Ms. Corbin informed the board that she looks forward to starting back up with Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH) in August.

### Environmental Director

Ms. Ealy informed the board that all food license fees have been collected, the extended deadline was July 1, 2021. All pools and spas have been permitted and inspected.

Ms. Ealy stated that Ms. Mourer has had to disapprove a couple of plans for businesses wanting to open, we continue to work with those businesses to get their plans approved. Ms. Ealy stated that CMHD is working with Steak 'N Shake to get their plans approved. The Square has submitted plans to expand their menu.

Ms. Ealy stated that we are still waiting to receive plans from several places such as Taco Bout Crab and Delhi Diner.

Ms. Ealy added that Cintas on Yankee Road has added a micromarket. Micromarkets offer more of a variety than vending machines, comparable to a convenience store without a cashier attendant.

A septic system has been approved to be installed at a new construction at 6817 Manchester Road.

Ms. Ealy will be conducting temporary food inspections at the Balloon Challenge this weekend (July 16, 2021).

### Discussions

Feedback: Mayor Condrey stated that she has heard plans of a new country bar coming to town.

Ms. Ealy stated that it is DC Roadhouse and will be located on Vail Avenue, we have not received plans for them at this time.

Mayor Condrey asked if CMHD is aware of White Dog Distillery's plans to expand, adding outdoor seating and serving.



City of Middletown Health Department  
Middletown, Ohio

*A Connected and Healthy Community to Live, Work and Play*

Ms. Ealy stated that she has spoken to the owner of White Dog Distillery. Ms. Ealy added that we are seeing a couple of businesses that want to have open-air dining, we still need them to submit plans to the health department before doing so.

Mayor Condrey stated that she had noticed Gracie's has added seating and a bar outdoors.

Ms. Ealy stated that CMHD worked with Gracie's on approving the bar.

Mayor Condrey asked if the bar was opened before getting approval.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated yes.

Feedback: Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that there has been talk about connecting the Amanda area to city sewer. She and Ms. Ealy will be meeting with Public Works to discuss this further.

Question: Mayor asked who is in charge of issuing liquor licenses and permits.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter stated that zoning, city council and the police chief has to approve.

Feedback: Ms. Ealy added that in order to have a liquor license, you must also have a food license.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17AM. The next meeting will be held on August 10, 2021 at 7:30 AM.

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

Nicole Condrey, President  
City of Middletown Board of Health