

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
Minutes  
August 8, 2023

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on August 8, 2023.

Members Present

Mayor, Nicole Condrey, BS, President  
Jeff Bonnell  
Ruth Lolli  
Joseph Richmond, MBA  
Amy Sibcy  
Dr. Scott Zollett, MD  
Absent  
Sally Kash, MS, RN

Health Department Staff Present

Jackie Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN  
Carla Ealy, BS, REHS  
Chandra Corbin, BSN, RN  
Dr. Paul Jennewine, MD  
Amanda McDonald, Vital Statistics Registrar

ROLL CALL

Motion: Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Ms. Sibcy to excuse Ms. Kash from the Board of Health meeting.

Roll call vote: Yes-5 (Bonnell, Lolli, Richmond, Sibcy, Zollett). No-0. Motion Passed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 2023

Motion: Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Ms. Sibcy to approve the July 2023 Board of Health meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes-5 (Bonnell, Lolli, Richmond, Sibcy, Zollett). No-0. Motion Passed.

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-July 2023

Motion: Mr. Richmond moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to receive and file the July 2023 Financial Report.

Roll call vote: Yes-5 (Bonnell, Lolli, Richmond, Sibcy, Zollett). No-0. Motion Passed.

Education Presentation- Mosquito-Borne Illness-Dr. Jennewine

Dr. Jennewine provided the board with an overview of mosquito-borne illnesses. Mosquitos can carry parasites such as: protozoa, botflies, helminths and viruses. Viruses transmitted by mosquitos in the United States include: West Nile Virus, Zika Virus, Chikungunya Virus, Equine Encephalitis, St. Louis Encephalitis, Dengue Fever and La Crosse Encephalitis.

Malaria is an illness caused by a protozoa carried by mosquitos.

Mosquitos spread parasites by biting an infected animal, obtaining a parasite and then biting a human or another animal.

Symptoms of a mosquito-borne illnesses include: non-specific flu-like symptoms, headache/neck pain and confusion.

The most common mosquito-borne illness in the United States is West Nile Virus. The virus can infect humans, horses and birds. Eighty percent of those infected are asymptomatic.

Equine Encephalitis is rare in the United States. The virus can infect humans, horses and birds. While this is the most serious mosquito-borne illness with the highest mortality rate, the outbreaks are usually infrequent and localized.

The Zika Virus is typically found in the Caribbean and Central/South America. Most cases found in the United States are among individuals that have traveled to one of those locations. Most cases have mild or no symptoms, however; the virus is transmitted from mother to fetus and can cause serious complications for the fetus.

Chikungunya and Dengue are very rare in the United States and when cases are diagnosed in the States, it is typically travel related. These viruses are commonly found in tropical and subtropics such as Africa and Asia.

Malaria is a parasite that can have up to a 20% mortality rate if left untreated. There are 600,000 deaths world-wide annually. Approximately 2,000 travel-related cases occur in the United States annually. In 2023, there have been 8 US contracted cases confirmed. Malaria requires urgent treatment.

Treatment for viruses includes supportive care and Malaria requires oral/IV medications. Preventative care includes draining standing water to prevent mosquito breeding grounds, covering doors and windows to keep mosquitos out of the home and repellants such as DEET or Picaridin.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### PHAB

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the first edition of the Community Health Assessment (CHA) has been finished and is currently in the process of being edited. Once the CHA is completed it will be distributed to the public, community partners and published on all three (City of Middletown Health Department, Butler County General Health District and Hamilton City) health department websites. The three topics of focus in the CHA are mental illness, chronic disease and infant mortality.

##### Tobacco 21 (T21)

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that everything is on schedule for tobacco retail licenses to begin in January 2024. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that she is moving forward with efforts to control the selling of tobacco to minors and considering "capping" tobacco retailers to the current number of stores now operating within the city. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that other surrounding areas are capping as a measure to impact the density of tobacco retailers.

#### Discussions

Mayor Condrey stated that Hamilton City does not have a cap on tobacco retailers.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated they have zoning restrictions in place restricting the proximity a shop can be in relation to schools or parks.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that an additional tobacco retailer has applied to open a store in Middletown.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that CMHD has requested funding from Interact for Health to help offset the costs of implementing the Tobacco Retail Program; licensing, education and enforcement.

#### BOH Vacant Position

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that City Council has approved Ms. Miller to serve the remainder of Dr. Patrick's term. Ms. Miller is an infectious disease nurse at Atrium Medical Center and will be joining the board at the September BOH meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Travel Authorizations

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the AOHC Fall Conference will be held September 13-15<sup>th</sup> in Columbus, Ohio. ODH has not yet released the agenda for the conference so the travel request will be on the September BOH agenda.

Motion to Read MBHE Ordinance No. 2023-01 & 2023-02 by Title Only.

Motion: Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Mr. Richmond to read MBHE Ordinances No. 2023-01 & 2023-02 by title only.

Roll call vote: Yes-5 (Bonnell, Lolli, Richmond, Sibcy, Zollett). No-0. Motion Passed.

First Reading of MBHE Ordinance No. 2023-01 An Ordinance Amending Fees for the Licensing of Food Service Operations, Mobile Food Service Operations, Temporary Food Service Operations, Vending Machine Locations, Retail Food Establishments, Mobile Retail Food Establishments, and Temporary Retail Food Establishments.

First Reading of MBHE Ordinance No. 2023-02 An Ordinance Amending the License Fees for Recreational Vehicle Parks, Recreational Camps, Combined and Temporary Park-Camps.

#### Board Member Topic-Open Discussion

Ms. Sibcy stated that the City Council meeting regarding the City purchasing Central Connections left a lot of questions to be answered.

Ms. Sibcy asked what the plan was moving forward.

Ms. Phillips Carter will be overseeing the daily operations of Central Connections in the interim. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the intent is to continue as many activities as accustomed and see if this organization can be sustainable on its own. Mayor Condrey stated that through a tax levy, Middletown citizens have already spent \$7 million on Central Connections. Citizens would like to keep the facility and services available for elderly residents.

Ms. Sibcy stated that many volunteers and citizens would be willing to step up and help.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that she believed a meeting allowing people to meet and vent followed by meetings with community partners may help identify future funding or expertise opportunities and may be beneficial to the center.

Mayor Condrey stated that right now the thought is to use ARPA funds to purchase the building.

Mayor Condrey stated that most of the Central Connections staff has now filed for unemployment, the goal is to bring them back to work at the center.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the silver lining to this situation is seeing the community come together.

#### REPORTS

##### Health Commissioner

Ms. Phillips Carter reminded board members that as of September 1<sup>st</sup>, the Syringe Exchange Program (SEP) will no longer be operating in Middletown. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the community can expect to see an uptick in infections, such as endocarditis and overdoses. Butler County has been approved for a needle exchange mobile unit that can be used. Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that there will be a Spanish Heritage Festival held in Middletown and stated that there is a large growing Latina population.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that Middletown Connect will hold a press conference on August 31<sup>st</sup> providing a summary of the information and data collected by Phase 1 of OHIZ Grant.

**Medical Director**

Dr. Jennewine reported the July Communicable Disease cases.

Chlamydia infection	20
COVID-19	42
CP-CRE	3
Cryptosporidiosis	1
Gonococcal infection	7
Hepatitis B	3
Hepatitis C	5
Malaria	1
Streptococcal-Group A (invasive disease)	2
Syphilis	2
Varicella	1

**Director of Nursing**

Ms. Corbin informed the board that she is following up on the Malaria case that Dr. Jennewine reported on in his Communicable Disease report. Ms. Corbin stated that CMHD is preparing for flu season and still awaiting COVID vaccine guidance from ODH.

**Environmental Director**

Ms. Ealy informed the board that plans have been approved for Verity Lodge Head Start Program, plans for Rosa Parks Head Start Program are currently being reviewed. Plans for Yankee Drive Thru have been approved.

Ms. Ealy explained to the board that Ms. Chaney conducted an inspection of Runaway Taco. Upon inspection it was discovered that the restaurant installed a makeshift shower and bedroom in the facility which were a direct violation of the food safety code. Ms. Ealy instructed the owner to remove all items and she would follow up on Monday. She also requested that they not reopen until all items had been removed and the owner agreed to remain closed. Ms. Ealy returned to the facility with Ms. Chaney and the City of Middletown Building Department. The restaurant has removed all items in violation.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that she will possibly be revising the CMHD Animal Bite Policy after an inspector was bitten by two dogs in July and another inspector was bitten in April. Ms. Ealy stated that she would like a policy that would better protect CMHD employees as she has also been bitten twice while releasing dogs from quarantine .

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Personnel Discussion, under the authority of O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

**Motion:** Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Ms. Sibcy to move to executive session at 8:49AM.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-5 (Bonnell, Lolli, Richmond, Sibcy, Zollett). No-0. Motion Passed.

Executive Session Ended at 9:29AM



City of Middletown Health Department  
Middletown, Ohio

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29AM. The next meeting will be held on September 12, 2023 at 7:30AM in Conference Room 2C.

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

Nicole Condrey, President  
City of Middletown Board of Health