

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes
March 11, 2025

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on March 11, 2025.

Members Present

Mayor, Elizabeth Slamka
Ruth Lolli
Jeff Bonnell
Joseph Richmond, MBA
Tiffani Baggett
Dr. Scott Zollett, MD
Emily Miller, BSN, RN

Health Department Staff Present

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

Absent and Excused

Amy Sibcy

ROLL CALL

Motion: Mr. Richmond moved, seconded by Ms. Miller to excuse absent board members.

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

Ms. Lolli arrived at 7:31AM.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –February 2025

Motion: Mr. Richmond moved, seconded by Ms. Baggett to approve the February Board of Health minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes-6 (Lolli, Bonnell, Richmond, Zollett, Miller, Baggett). No-0. Motion Passed.

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-February 2025

Motion: Dr. Zollett moved, seconded by Ms. Miller to approve the February financial report.

Roll call vote: Yes-6 (Lolli, Bonnell, Richmond, Zollett, Miller, Baggett). No-0. Motion Passed.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION-Measles-Dr. Jennewine

Dr. Jennewine provided the board with an educational presentation about measles. Measles is also known as morbillivirus, a single stranded RNA virus with no antiviral treatment. There is an effective vaccine available. Measles is highly contagious and airborne. Symptoms begin 10-14 days after exposure and last 7-10 days. Measles is contagious for four days prior to and four days after the rash. Measles is typically viewed as a childhood illness, but can occur at any age. Symptoms of measles include: fever, runny nose, cough, conjunctivitis and a flat rash that typically begins on the face and spreads to the rest of the body. Complications that frequently occur with measles include: pneumonia, otitis media and diarrhea. More rare symptoms of measles include: hearing loss, blindness, seizures and 1 in 100,000 suffer from fatal encephalitis.

Treatment for measles is limited to supportive care such as: fluids, fever reducers and antibiotics if a second bacterial infection is present. No antiviral has proven effective or beneficial.

Measles affect about 20 million people worldwide. Measles is primarily seen in Africa, Asia and a small portion of South America. It is the leading cause of vaccine preventable death worldwide. Measles caused 630,000 deaths in 1990, decreasing to 158,000 in 2012 and down to 107,500 in 2023. In the United States, there were 3,000 cases per million in the 1960's, down to 13 cases per million in the 1980's and 1 case per million by 2000. The United States was declared free of circulating measles in 2000.

The measles vaccine was introduced in 1963. The vaccine is very effective with a 93% antibody response with the first injection and 95-98% response to the second injection. Originally the vaccine was live and was just one injection, but fever reactions were high and immunity waned. An attenuated vaccine was developed and a later booster recommended. The current vaccine schedule is 12-15 months with the booster at 4-6 years old.

In 2019 the United States experienced our largest and longest outbreak since 1994. From January 1st -May 10th there were over 1,200 cases reported in 23 states. 13 outbreaks accounted for 94% of those cases. There were no deaths among any of the cases.

There have been 222 cases in the U.S. in 2025, to date. These cases are linked to 4 outbreaks across 11 states. Texas and New Mexico account for 208 of those cases and 2 deaths have been reported.

Dr. Jennewine explained that the number one cause for this most recent outbreak is the dropping vaccine rate due to parental concerns. It is estimated that measles vaccine rates are still at 94% nationwide. Herd immunity is considered effective at 92% vaccine rates. There is no data on smaller populations, many of the cases are linked to immigration, travel and global business.

NEW BUSINESS

Travel Authorizations

None.

2nd Reading of MBHE Ordinance No. 2025-01-Allowing Health Commissioner to Suspend a Food Service or Retail Food Establishment License

Motion: Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Ms. Baggett to read MBHE Ordinance No. 2025-01 by title only.

Roll call vote: Yes-6 (Lolli, Bonnell, Richmond, Zollett, Miller, Baggett). No-0. Motion Passed.

MBHE Ordinance No. 2025-01-An ordinance authorizing the health commissioner to take action that may be taken by the Board of Health as a licensor pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 3717.29(D)(1) to suspend a license issued to a retail food establishment or Ohio Revised Code section 3717.49(C)(1) to suspend a license issued to a food service operation.

2nd Reading of MBHE Ordinance No. 2025-02-Allowing Health Commissioner, Any Registered Environmental Health Specialist or Environmental Health Specialist-In-Training to Take Non-Emergency Enforcement Action.

Motion: Mr. Richmond moved, seconded by Ms. Miller to read MBHE Ordinance No. 2025-02 by title only.

Roll call vote: Yes-6 (Lolli, Bonnell, Richmond, Zollett, Miller, Baggett). No-0. Motion Passed.

An ordinance authorizing the Health Commissioner, any Registered Environmental Health Specialist or Environmental Health Specialist-In-Training employed by the Board of Health to take action that may be taken by the Board as licensor pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 3717.29(C)(1) in a retail food establishment or Ohio Revised Code section 3717.49(B)(1) in a food service operation.

2025 Public Health Week, April 7th-13th

Ms. Phillips Carter explained that City Council will be issuing a proclamation to CMHD at the April 1st council meeting celebrating Public Health Week.

Ms. Corbin added that a table will be set up in the main lobby of the City Building with public health information to celebrate Public Health.

REPORTS

Health Commissioner

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that following up to last month's discussion, board member names appear in two different places on the city website. The first is on the health department page and second is on the meeting minutes that are posted after each meeting.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed board members that Ashley Combs has officially been named the City Manager.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that Middletown Connect held an excellent meeting regarding tenant rights and housing concerns. Clean- up and managing neighborhoods were discussed with more clean-ups scheduled.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that Middletown Connect and Walk With a Doc go hand in hand and welcomed Ms. Lolli to provide an update on the March Walk With a Doc.

Ms. Lolli informed the board that a UC doctor and cancer survivor would be leading this month's walk, providing information as well as sharing her own personal experience.

Ms. Phillips Carter thanked Mr. Bonnell for bringing the state's indigent reimbursement program to our attention at last month's BOH meeting. City of Middletown Health Department submitted 6 indigent applications for reimbursement and all six were approved. CMHD will be receiving a check in the coming weeks.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that YWCA hosted an event, HERstory & HERitage, a tribute to the transformative stories of women who have shaped our past and continue to inspire change. Ms. Phillips Carter was honored and received a proclamation from the Hamilton City Manager as well as Governor Dewine. Board members congratulated Ms. Phillips Carter on her achievement.

Mayor Slamka asked Ms. Phillips Carter to touch on the Hamilton initiative "17 Strong." Ms. Phillips Carter explained that 17 Strong was a product of a committee comprised of resident volunteers. The city then provided staff and funds to expand the effort. One of the tools used by 17 Strong is "The Cube." The Cube is a box that is maintained by the city that houses rakes, shovels, gloves, etc. used to clean-up and beautify communities. Community members are able to use the products and then leave them and any trash collected in The Cube and the city picks it up and restocks it.

Medical Director

Dr. Jennewine reported the February communicable disease case numbers.

C. auris	2
Campylobacteriosis	1
Chlamydia infection	18
COVID-19	128
CPO	2
Cryptosporidiosis	1
Gonococcal Infection	7
Hepatitis C	8
HIV	1
Influenza-associated hospitalization	57
Aseptic Meningitis	1
Invasive Strep Group A	1
Invasive Streptococcus pneumoniae	1



City of Middletown Health Department
Middletown, Ohio
Connected and Healthy Community to Live, Work and Play

Director of Nursing

Ms. Corbin informed the board that the disease report was unavailable from Butler County General Health District epidemiologists this month due to technical issues, however; she was able to pull the data for Dr. Jennewine by looking at each individual disease reported.

Ms. Corbin informed the board that she was tasked by Ms. Phillips Carter to set up a health fair for Middletown. Ms. Corbin stated that she has been meeting monthly with Ms. Lolli and a core group in preparation of the health fair and is excited to announce a date has been selected. The Middletown Health Fair will be held August 2, 2025. Ms. Corbin will provide the board with more details as they become available.

Ms. Corbin informed the board that she has just finished the 3rd quarter PHEP deliverables.

Environmental Director

Ms. Ealy informed the board that one set of mobile plans and one set of retail food establishment plans were received, and one retail food establishment was licensed in February.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that 130 thirty-day notices were issued for unpaid septic system permits. Fees will be assessed to property taxes if left unpaid.

Ms. Ealy stated that all but approximately 20 food operators have paid for their licenses. Staff will call and send second notices this week.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that CMHD received the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF). The WPCLF grant is \$150,000 principal forgiveness grant and is income-based. The grant can assist homeowners with replacing or repairing failing septic systems and/or connecting to city sewer systems. Funding is set for July.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that staff continues to complete Accela trainings as we move closer to the go-live date in May. Ms. Ealy stated that ODH is funding Accela at no cost to local health departments, whereas it would have cost CMHD ~\$40,000 to continue using HealthSpace. Accela will be a public-facing program, allowing vendors to apply and pay for licenses online. Ms. Ealy added that CMHD staff continues to attend Accela trainings Monday, Wednesday and Fridays for a question and answer session.

Board Member Open Discussion

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34AM. The next meeting will be held on April 8, 2025 at 7:30AM in Conference Room 2C.

Jacquelyn Phillips Carter Elizabeth Slamka
Jacquelyn D. Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN Elizabeth Slamka, President
Secretary City of Middletown Board of Health