

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes
May 13, 2025

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on May 13, 2025.

Members Present

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

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

None.

ROLL CALL

All board members were present.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –April 2025

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

Roll call vote: Yes-7 (Lolli, Bonnell, Sibcy, Baggett, Zollett, Miller, Richmond). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-April 2025

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that CMHD submitted the Annual Financial Report (AFR) and will be planning a short orientation for the finance committee (Ms. Sibcy, Mr. Richmond, Ms. Baggett and Mayor Slamka). A presentation will then be made to the board.

Motion: Ms. Baggett moved, seconded by Ms. Miller to approve the April financial report.

Roll call vote: Yes-7 (Lolli, Bonnell, Sibcy, Baggett, Zollett, Miller, Richmond). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

EDUCATION PRESENTATION-Data Visualization for Public Health-Chandra Corbin, BSN, RN

Ms. Corbin provided the board with a presentation by Kent State on data visualization for public health. In the video shared by Ms. Corbin, Dr. Diana Kingsbury and Dr. Enrico Gandolfi from Kent State University College of Public Health discuss data visualization concepts and provide examples of their application to public health practice. Data visualization is the process of transforming information into accessible and tangible meaning. Data visualization is a way to visualize knowledge and data, share knowledge and make knowledge and data accessible. Data visualization dates back to as early as the 1600's and included geographic maps, thematic maps and data maps. Today's data visualization provides infographics and is multivisual through storytelling, interaction and elegance.

The data visualization process includes: setting goals, understanding your audience, selecting and creating your database and selecting the most appropriate way to visualize the data being shared.

Links to data visualization tools were shared, including: Tableau, Gephi, VisualizeFree, Google Data Studio, Chartjs and RawGraphs.

NEW BUSINESS

Travel Authorizations

None.

Review of Tobacco Enforcement Smoke Free Investigations Provider Agreement (6/2025-6/2027)

Ms. Ealy explained that there are no changes to the agreement, it renews with Ohio Department of Health (ODH) every two years. It was further explained that this agreement with ODH provides monetary compensation to CMHD for each smoking complaint investigation. Complaints are first made to ODH and then passed on to the local health department to investigate.

REPORTS

Health Commissioner

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that Middletown Connect had a core group meeting which focused on defining and differentiating mental health and mental illness. Indications of good mental health include: a sense of well-being, the ability to manage and express emotions appropriately, healthy relationships and resilience in the face of stress. The Association of Health Commissioners (AOHC) Conference also focused on ways to support emotional well-being. Ms. Phillips Carter explained that “niksen” is one such way to practice emotional well-being. The Dutch concept, “niksen” is a verb that translates to “doing nothing,” the practice involves deliberately setting aside time to relax and do no specific task, as a way to relieve stress.

Medical Director

Dr. Jennewine reported the April communicable disease case numbers.

C. auris	2
Chlamydia infection	31
COVID-19	62
CPO	1
Gonococcal Infection	3
Hepatitis A	1
Hepatitis B	1
Hepatitis C	8
Lyme Disease	2
Pertussis	1
Shigellosis	1
Streptococcal-Group A-invasive	2
Syphilis	2
Tuberculosis	2
West Nile virus disease (also current infection)	2

Director of Nursing

Ms. Corbin informed the board that final deliverables for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant have been submitted to Ohio Department of Health.

Ms. Corbin stated that two cases of tuberculosis have been reported in Middletown. One case was reclassified (not tuberculosis) and the second is an active case in a patient who was born in a country where tuberculosis is endemic.

Ms. Corbin informed the board that \$50,000 was awarded to CMHD for PHAB by ODH as part of the workforce development grant.

Environmental Director

Ms. Ealy informed the board that in the month of April CMHD received two sets of plans, approved two sets of plans and licensed three facilities in April.

There are 124 unpaid septic permits, all unpaid fees will be submitted to the auditor in September to be assessed to property taxes. Ms. Ealy states that she is planning to begin septic inspections this summer.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that the new environmental program, Accela, goes live May 16th. This new program will allow customers to submit plans and pay for their licenses online.

Ms. Ealy stated that there are still four pools that have not paid for their licenses. Payments were due April 30th.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that ODH will be conducting a sewage audit June 3rd. The last audit was conducted in 2019.

Board Member Open Discussion

Ms. Lolli informed board members that the next Walk With a Doc will be held May 17th and is combining with Middletown Connect at New Era Baptist Church on Yankee Road. This month's speaker will focus on mental health and the stigma behind mental health.

Discussion about advertising Walk With a Doc followed. Mayor Slamka suggested utilizing city businesses and their facebook pages, especially Downtown Middletown Inc. and Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Slamka informed the board that a new fire chief, Brian Wright, has been appointed and open houses will be held at the new fire headquarters on Wednesday, May 14th.

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. Miller to move to executive session at 8:35AM.

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

REGULAR SESSION

Motion: Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Ms. Miller to resume regular session at 8:48AM.

Roll call vote: Yes-7 (Lolli, Bonnell, Sibcy, Baggett, Zollett, Miller, Richmond). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48AM. The next meeting will be held on June 10, 2025 at 7:30AM in Conference Room 2C.


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


Elizabeth Slamka, President
City of Middletown Board of Health