



HURON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
May 4, 2023, at 1:00 PM

Present: Dr. Gottfried, Greg Polachek, Dane Howard, Jeremy Loose, Ron Robinson

Absent: Kim Stults, Lisa Reer, Lisa Nedolast, Kathleen Butler

HCPH Staff: Tim Hollinger, Karen Boose, Nicole Marks, Eric Cherry, Chris Cherry, Melissa Caranfa

Guest(s) In Person: Matt Roche-Norwalk Ohio News

The Board of Health of Huron County Public Health (HCPH), Huron County, Ohio met at a regular meeting of the Board on May 4, 2023, at HCPH Conference Room 1. Board President, Dr. Gottfried called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm. Dr. Gottfried requested a roll call. Mrs. Marks completed a roll call.

Dr. Gottfried opened the meeting with a public comment period. With no public comments, Dr. Gottfried presented Resolution 2023-36, Approval of Minutes from the last Board meeting. Mr. Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-36 and Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried presented Resolution 2023-37, a resolution to approve the payment of the monthly expenditures with prior approval. Dr. Gottfried requested a motion to present and approve Resolution 2023-37. Mr. Loose made a motion to approve the payment of the monthly expenditures with prior approval. Mr. Howard seconded the motion. The motion carried upon a roll call vote. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard-Aye, Mr. Polachek-Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried presented Resolution 2023-38, a resolution to approve the April 2023 budgetary transactions. Dr. Gottfried requested a motion to present and approve Resolution 2023-38. Mr. Polachek made a motion to present and approve Resolution 2023-38, approval of the April 2023 budgetary transactions. Mr. Loose seconded the motion. Mrs. Boose gave further information on Resolution 2023-38, reviewing all appropriation adjustments for the month of April. The motion carried upon a roll call vote. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard-Aye, Mr. Polachek-Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried presented Resolution 2023-39, Health District Updated Fees. Mr. Loose made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-39, Health District Updated Fees. Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. Mrs. Boose explained that this is an overview of all the procedures and fees at the health department; fees were sent to Board members for review prior to the meeting. Mrs. Boose also explained that she sent a letter explaining that the fee for credit cards presented to the Board last month in Resolution 2023-33 was incorrect and that this resolution would rescind Resolution 2023-33 and the correct credit card fee of 3.64% of the total charge plus a \$0.15 fee will remain. With no questions the motion carried upon a roll call vote. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard-Aye, Mr. Polachek-Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried presented Resolution 2023-40, Request to apply for, accept funding from, and appropriate grant funds for the COVID-19 Enhanced Operations Grant for Fiscal Year 2023 (EO23). Mr. Loose made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-40, Request to apply for, accept funding from, and appropriate grant funds for the COVID-19 Enhanced Operations Grant for Fiscal Year 2023 (EO23). Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. Mrs.

Marks reviewed the new grant that ODH is offering for continued COVID-19 response. Mrs. Marks quoted the continuation solicitation that instruct grantees “to apply for amount you think you can spend” during the budget period of August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024. Mrs. Marks explained that the grant budget is still being finalized, but Management would like to request approval to apply for up to \$500,000. With no questions the motion carried upon a roll call vote. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard-Aye, Mr. Polachek-Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried presented Resolution 2023-41, Request decision about provision of fentanyl test strips in harm reduction vending machine. Mr. Polachek made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-41, Request decision about provision of fentanyl test strips in harm reduction vending machine and Mr. Howard seconded the motion. Mrs. Marks gave further information on Resolution 2023-41, explaining that these test strips are used as a harm reduction tool to test for fentanyl in all kinds of drugs. She explained that Ohio Senate Bill 288 recently exempted fentanyl test strips from the definition of drug paraphernalia, therefore decriminalizing the test strips in Ohio. The test strips would be free through Project DAWN (ODH). Mr. Hollinger explained to Board members what the fentanyl test strips were and how they are used. After some discussion among the Board members, the motion to order the test strips through Project DAWN and stock in the harm reduction vending machine carried upon a roll call vote. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard-Aye, Mr. Polachek -Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried then moved on to Resolution 2023.42, Request decision to address retail food establishment license of Ice Box Drive Thru, Plymouth, Ohio. Mr. Polachek made a motion to hear Resolution 2023-42, Request decision to address retail food establishment license of Ice Box Drive Thru, Plymouth, Ohio and Mr. Loose seconded the motion. Mr. Cherry then presented information on the resolution. He also had a PowerPoint with exhibits showing notifications sent in this case. Mr. Cherry emphasized that even with a potential Board decision for a license suspension or revocation, this motion does not put anyone out of business. He explained that the Environmental staff is not having any luck with the operator of the establishment in renewing its Retail Food Establishment license as required by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3717.29 (B). HCPH sends license renewals in March of every year. The REHS responsible for the facility has reached out and also done an inspection with no response from the owner. When there was nothing from the owner by March 29, 2023, a legal notice was sent to the owner that also had information on the appeal process. The appeal time came and went with no response from the owner. On April 4, 2023, the REHS was sent to inform them that they were operating without a license. On May 1, 2023, the REHS went back to the facility to ensure they were still open and at that time determined that the facility actually has such a small amount of food in the facility that they meet an exemption in the rule saying they would not have to have a license anymore. It was verified that the facility has under 200 cubic feet of non-TSC prepackaged food in the facility and the owner would not need to renew the license. HCPH has tried to notify the owner of this by text and with two phone calls. If the owner would be in contact with HCPH's REHS, so that staff could explain the exemption and that if they go over the 200 cubic feet in the future, she would need the license again. Unfortunately, the facility owner has not returned any correspondence from HCPH. Mr. Cherry has been in contact with the Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Huron County, Randal Strickler, and the Ohio Department of Agriculture, and they all agree that her license still exists in the state of Ohio's eyes and is just delinquent. So in order to clean this up HCPH has to take action on the license to make it either valid or invalid. The Board has the choice to suspend or revoke the license. The owner would be notified that if they would exceed the 200 cubic feet they would have to apply for a new food license. A question was asked if we revoke the license will HCPH still monitor the establishment. Mr. Cherry explained that yes, a REHS would stop in periodically to monitor. Dr. Gottfried asked if there were any more questions and with there being none, Mr. Polcheck made the motion to revoke the license and Mr. Loose seconded the motion. A roll call was taken. Dr.

Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard- Aye, Mr. Polachek-Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried asked for a motion to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(2). Mr. Loose made a motion to go into executive session and Mr. Howard seconded the motion. A roll call was taken. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard-Aye, Mr. Polachek-Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried upon a roll call vote.

Dr. Gottfried asked for a motion to come out of executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(2). Mr. Loose made a motion to come out of executive session and Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. A roll call was taken. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard-Aye, Mr. Polachek-Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried asked for a motion to discuss the fiscal report. Mr. Loose made a motion to hear the fiscal report and Mr. Howard seconded the motion. Mrs. Boose then reviewed the fund balance report. Mrs. Boose then reviewed the General Fund outstanding advance and the total of all funds. She also went over the general fund budget performance and covered some April expense highlights. With no questions for Mrs. Boose, Dr. Gottfried asked for a roll call. Dr. Gottfried-Aye, Mr. Howard- Aye, Mr. Polachek- Aye, Mr. Loose-Aye, Mr. Robinson-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gottfried asked for a motion to hear the Communicable Disease and School Absenteeism Report. Mr. Polachek made a motion to hear the Communicable Disease and School Absenteeism Report. Mr. Loose seconded the motion. Melissa Caranfa then presented the report. Mrs. Caranfa reported there were seventeen reportable disease cases reported in April, and reviewed highlights for communicable disease reporting, COVID-19 and school absentee surveillance. Mrs. Caranfa explained that Huron County had its first "Candida Auris (C. auris) case. Mrs. Caranfa reminded Board members that the COVID-19 public health emergency will be ending on May 11, 2023. Mrs. Caranfa discussed her attendance at the National Preparedness Summit in Atlanta last week on a full scholarship. With no questions Dr. Gottfried asked for all those in favor of accepting the Communicable Disease and School Absenteeism Report as presented to say Aye and all opposed Nay. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hollinger then discussed a new report they are developing that will show the results of COVID-19 wastewater monitoring. HCPH is working with Norwalk and a couple of the villages on this. It will not show the number of cases, but it will show trends. Once this is ready to be rolled out it will be shared with the Board.

Dr. Gottfried then informed the Board members they would move on to the announcement of the 2022 Gold Plate Awards. Mr. Cherry explained that this program was suspended during COVID-19 but has been started again. He then explained this is a voluntary program and it is based off food establishments inspection scores throughout the year. He explained he just wanted to acknowledge the 2022 Gold Plate Award winners for their achievement. This was also posted on social media.

Dr. Gottfried then informed the Board members they would be moving on to Board of Health education. Education began at 2:30PM. Mrs. Marks introduced the project for the Vaccine Hesitancy Grant. HCPH was 1 of 3 public health departments to be awarded this grant in the United States. The grant is focused on vaccine hesitancy. Mrs. Marks explained what was required through the grant and what HCPH has completed so far. By looking at current data and completing the community survey we were able to determine areas of focus for the workplan. We identified objectives and created a workplan to address vaccine hesitancy. Mrs. Marks discussed

our plan to send out informational postcards to households in Huron County. HCPH will also be creating an educational video with a professional videographer. She informed the board that Dr. Gottfried has graciously offered to be a part of the video.

With no additional business, Dr. Gottfried asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Polachek made a motion to adjourn the May 2023 meeting. Mr. Howard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.