

**THE FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF HEALTH OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2022**

The Five Hundred Sixty-first meeting of the Baltimore County Board of Health was held October 28 at 9:30 a.m. via WebEx.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Adelsberger, Dr. Samuel Havrilak, Judy Kistner, Katie McElroy, Winona Matthews, Camille Smith,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Barbara McLean

OTHERS PRESENT: Della Leister; Deputy Health Officer, attended as Secretary Pro Tem, Laura Culbertson; Chief, Quality Improvement, Samantha Allen; Accreditation Coordinator, Cynthia Brindle; Quality Improvement and Kathy Wynn, Executive Secretary to the Director.

Dr. Havrilak opened the meeting. Should it be necessary to close the meeting, the Chair will conduct a recorded vote on a motion to close. A closing statement will also be prepared that cites the part of the Open Meetings Act that contains the applicable exception, lists the topics to be discussed in the closed session and give the public body's reason for excluding the public.

I. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

To approve the minutes of September 23, 2022.

Motion:	Ms. Kistner
Second:	Ms. McElroy
Decision:	Unanimous Approval

**II. COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CHIP) 2022
REVIEW BOARD OF HEALTH:**

Laura Culbertson provided a review via Power Point on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). One of the things learned in going through accreditation is that communication to the Board needs to be more specific. (See attached Power Point)

Quality Improvements collects data on referrals to resources. Examples:

- We collect data from Northwest Hospital, Medstar Franklin Square, GBMC and the University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center to include referrals to chronic pain, tobacco cessation, mental health treatment and connection to peers.
- Our own bureaus referred 400 people through the reach system to all kinds of referrals.
- Case management referrals from the hospitals reached in the thousands. They are working on their Medicare population not being readmitted in 30 days. Case management has grown for chronic disease.

Challenges:

- Medstar Franklin Square collects data on a yearly, not quarterly basis. They were not able to meet our community outreach to populations experiencing disparities because they are not in the community outreach focus group world at this time. We are working to grow that in the health department where we have a lot of focus group community engagement. Medstar Franklin Square has hired community health workers related to food insecurities. This is a growing area where that qualitative data piece of talking to people with the lived experience is in its infancy in the hospital system.
- We were recently at a health fair with Medstar Franklin Square where we collected data in a focus group about the barriers to resources.

Next Steps CHIP version 3:

We have to add two new areas to the CHIP, one is related to homelessness and the other is related to food insecurity. For the food insecurity addition, we received grant funds from the Maryland Department of Health. We have a person working in that position to gather all the resources that regarding food starting with COVID.

Once Ms. Culbertson has her next meeting with the hospital group in November and they agree to the CHIP revisions, she will bring back to the Board the new version.

Ms. Brindle collects all the data with her team in the Community Health Improvement Plan. She tracks health insurance, bilingual health resources, case management, health services, referrals to primary care, dental care, specialty care, and FQHCs. It is a huge undertaking for us to collect all this data.

III. ACCREDITATION

Ms. Culbertson thanked the members of the Board in participated in the PHAB exit interview. Some areas of opportunity for communication with the Board are around policies. They asked about the Board's role in our policy development. That is an area of opportunity that we are going to try to start to grow today and would like the Board's input on how to continue with that.

Ms. Allen reviewed with the Board two policies updated within the past year, the Health Equity policy and Training policy- PHAB accreditation wants the Board to participate in policy development. Any input or feedback board members can forward to Ms. Allen or Ms. Culbertson by next Friday.

First policy – #011 Health Equity

This policy updated in regards to definitions and how we choose to plan what we find after we evaluate health equity.

#008 Training

Defines the new employee orientation and onboarding process for the staff. There were some discrepancies among departments. This revision ensures that everyone no matter what department receives the same onboarding.

During the exit interview, they mentioned a number of strengths one of which was our QI performance management system. Clinical Services and all of the bureaus received kudos.

Opportunities for improvement mentioned were expand and operationalize the health equity department, expand data analysis and use for policy system change and developing a more robust system of policy review where we include community partners. The Board represents community partners, which is why policies were reviewed today and input requested.

Dr. Havrilak also thanked Ms. McElroy and Ms. Matthews for participating in the PHAB interviews.

IV. DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION BY THE SECRETARY

FLU

Flu season is early this year. An employee flu clinic was held on October 13 for county employees. A press event was held at that clinic with the County Executive attending. The flu campaign started last Saturday and continues through this weekend. We do not have number of vaccines given yet. Unfortunately, numbers are down. There are plans for additional flu vaccine clinics.

COVID

COVID – approval has been received for bivalent as a single booster dose in younger age groups. That means we have many different formulations of vaccine at our clinics. We are continuing to have clinics scheduled two days a week with walk-ins accepted. We will work toward transitioning those to a different unit in the department. Right now, we have a cross department response to COVID.

MONKEYPOX

Monkeypox vaccine is available. Maryland has 700 cases. Baltimore County has 62 cases. As of this week, only five of those were active meaning we were actively monitoring and they were in isolation. We have distributed 2,254 doses of Monkeypox vaccine that includes 1,490 first doses. Baltimore County has the fourth highest numbers in the State. The State of Maryland continues to increase phases of who can receive the vaccine. The State has a registry; Baltimore County continues with our registry. We have pulled all the names from both registries. Numbers have leveled off.

In partnership the Baltimore City Health Department, last week we went to a city bar that is popular among the LGBTQ community in, trying to reach the population that we are trying to serve. It was very successful. We gave over 100 Monkeypox vaccines. We are going back to administer second doses in three weeks. It was a great collaboration with Baltimore City Health Department and the owner of the bar.

Program Updates

- Monkeypox vaccines have enhanced clinics to include other services. We are providing HIV testing and HCV testing. A first time positive HIV client was discovered at one of those clinics. We get clients into care and a steadier form of health care. We are also

providing Naloxone and DIS workers are at the clinics. Individuals have a number of services available when they come to a clinic.

- We continue to offer online and in person Naloxone trainings.
- National Rabies Day was September 28. We gave 235 rabies vaccinations along with 85 microchips.
- October 21 was National Pets for Vets day. Fees were waived for Veterans that day.
- You will be sent or have received a very nice thank you letter from the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing students thanking Teresa Messler and her department for all the work done with the nursing students.
- Tomorrow is the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. In Baltimore County, every day is prescription take back day. Drug drop boxes are located at all of our ten police precincts. They are outside. Medications can be dropped off 24/7. The only thing we ask the public not to do is place sharps or liquids in the drop box. Sharp containers are located at our health centers.
- We received notice that in March and April we were the benefactors for the HIGH's campaign for keeping the change. The department received \$350 for Animal Services. HIGH's came to us; we did not request this campaign. Funds will be used for the animals and some of our volunteer activities.

Personnel Updates:

- Carrie McCloskey is the new Chief of Animal Services. Kayla Francowski is the new Deputy Chief. Both are internal candidates having worked diligently at Animal Services. We were very pleased to be able to promote them and are actively working to recruit their positions.
- The Bureau Director position for Behavioral Health remains vacant. We continue to recruit for this position.
- Dr. Agueh, Director of Clinical Services, resigned accepting a position in her home country. Her position has been posted. We are looking for a high-level physician administrator and hope to begin interviews this month.

Facility Updates:

We continue to look for a new location for the Cockeysville Health Center. Site visits for a new location for the Reisterstown WIC continue. This will remain a lease arrangement

Trainings/Events/Awards:

- National Veterinarian Technician week was October 16-22.

- Dr. Branch presented a virtual CME presentation on Monkeypox to the Baltimore County Medical Association on October 18.
- Ms. Leister attend the Department of Aging's Age of Expo yesterday. The event was very well attended. During the opening ceremonies, the County Executive and the department chair for the Department of Aging presented a certification of recognition to HHS for advocacy and service during COVID, specifically as it related to connecting older adults with vaccine and testing.

Employee Recognitions:

Lisa Logan – Ms. Logan is one of our prenatal and early childhood nurses. She works incredibly hard with her clients. She also stepped right in and did much clinic leadership work for our COVID clinics. Ms. Logan continues to work extra hours at our clinics, running command for us. She is dedicated, caring, and hardworking consistently going beyond the call of duty.

Cheryl May – In addition to performing her normal duties, Ms. May also worked on COVID response with the hotline, testing sites and vaccine. She is also part of the leadership team managing the various COVID sites. Ms. May helped out with Camp Connect checking medications prior to kids getting on the bus.

Natalie Stevens – Ms. Stevens received the award for her dedication to the animals at the shelter, making sure they receive appropriate enrichment, housing and care. Ms. Stevens has great ideas and new ideas to make the animal's lives better. We have used many of those ideas.

Marilyn Zunikoff - for going beyond taking all of the responsibilities for Hepatitis B investigations solo as all of her coworkers were tied up in COVID response and now Monkeypox response.

Ethics Training:

A reminder to please complete the ethics training course. Ms. Wynn will send a reminder including the link to those due to take this class.

Ms. Leister thanked the Board members who participated in the PHAB accreditation interview.

Dr. Havrilak inquired about the 2500 children that did not have all their required vaccinations for school and what has happened since that report. Are they receiving some type of online education at home? Ms. Leister stated the number is down to less than 300. Many of those children are not returning to school because they are out of district or other issues. Ms. Leister will find out from the school system what happens to the children regarding their education who are excluded from school.

V. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

VII. REMARKS OF THE CHAIRMAN

November and December meetings are combined. The next virtual meeting of the Board is December 2.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Motion: Ms. McElroy
Second: Ms. Matthews
Decision: Unanimous Approval



Della J. Leister, R.N.