

**LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 5, 2020**

Voting Members Present: Dr. Karen Cost, Margaret Handmaker, Dr. Kate Probst, Dr. Maria Nota, Dr. Tony Zipple, Dr. Erin Frazier, Dr. Paula Grisanti

Advisory Board Members Present: Bill Wagner, Dr. Sarah Moyer, Dr. Craig Blakely, Natalie Johnson, Vincent James, Dr. Monalisa Taylor

Others Present: Matt Rhodes, Connie Mendel, Rui Zhao, Dr. Jim Jackson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am

Approval of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes

- ***MOTION:*** *To approve the January 2020 meeting minutes*
- ***MOTION APPROVED***

FHC Reappointment: Bill Wagner

Reverend Katherine Doyle would like to be reappointed to the FHC Board of Governors. She would be the 14th out of 15 possible members.

- ***MOTION:*** *To reappoint Rev. Katherine Doyle to the FHC Board of Governors*
- ***MOTION APPROVED***

Novel Coronavirus Update: Rui Zhao

There are 11 cases in the US, mostly people who traveled to China and one is a family member of someone who traveled to China. Currently the CDC is the only organization that can test for novel Coronavirus, although they are working on distributing the test. Standard panels can't detect this strain. Thirty-six states have individuals that are being tested. Globally 17,000 individual cases are confirmed, mostly in China. There have been two deaths outside of China. N95 masks are not sufficient unless they have been fitted. Asymptomatic people coming from China are being asked to self-monitor. Here in Louisville, we have a lot of travelers and international students. Novel Coronavirus has a 14-day incubation, and most international students returned to Louisville over 14 days ago. People currently entering from China with a fever are being quarantined at a military base. Transmission is believed to be airborne and droplet. LMPHW's website has lots of up-to-date information.

LMPHW Director's Report Highlights: Dr. Moyer

LMPHW's Health Education Specialist, Rebecca Coates appeared as a guest on WDRB and WAVE TV news promoting Radon Action month, providing information for residents on how to obtain free radon test kits. She participated in 4 EPA Radon online workshops and conference calls, participated with the APCD multipollutant stakeholder outreach and education meeting Jan. 16 and 24, participated in the Raytheon employee health fair on Wednesday Jan. 22 and attended the Build, Renovate and Remodel Home Show Jan. 24-26, promoting Radon Action month, Lead and mosquito control.

The Healthy Louisville 2025 dashboard will go live on Feb 7th at www.healthylouisville2025.com with a press conference to be held on at 10am on February 11th to announce the public launch of the plan. Board members are encouraged to attend. HL2025 is the culmination of a four-year process and focuses on housing, environmental equity, transportation and connecting schools to health.

The announcement of the 2019-nCoV outbreak in China and subsequent discovery of a very minimal number of cases in the mainland US (all at this point related to direct travel in the affected Chinese region) has reignited the interest in finalizing the draft Communicable Disease Response Plan (CDRP) to address the process and protocols for any potential events at international ports of entry such as UPS's cargo facilities and the SDF airport. Meetings with the Airport Authority Public Safety Director, other community representatives (medical and law enforcement), and key LMPHW personnel have resulted in a focus on continuing the effort to complete final comments and revisions required to complete the plan for inclusion of the CDRP in the LMPHW Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) either as a separate annex or an addition to the current Disease Outbreak Response Plan (DOSP).

The MORE Center will be moving to a larger location in March, which will double their capacity.

It is still flu season. Flu B was high early in the season which is unusual because flu B typically signals the end of the flu season.

HB129

The purpose of 2020 House Bill 129 is to codify what public health work is and how it should be funded. It allows a one-time increase in fees above the 5% annual maximum in Kentucky statute. Money allocated to local public health departments will be based on population. This bill specifies what staff should be doing (core public health functions) and not doing (such as providing home healthcare services or corrections medical services). It is modeled after LMPHW's Public Health transformation. Currently, about one third of Kentucky's local health departments (LHDs) are facing bankruptcy. HB129 helps most LHDs because it allows an increase in fees (which currently only cover half the cost of some statutorily mandated inspections). HB129 mandates 1 Full Time Equivalent employee for every 5,000 people. Currently LMPHW has 120 positions funded by general funds, and according to the formula, it should have 155, so it would mandate Metro Government to increase LMPHW's funding. Half our budget currently goes to other departments, mostly to corrections. Almost all LHDs in KY are supportive of the bill. The bill passed out of the Health committee quickly and is now in the Appropriations committee.

The Board of Health can express support to their state legislators. Representative Moser is sponsoring the bill. Local Louisville legislators can be educated on the bill. The Board can express that social determinants will reduce the amount of corrections healthcare needed. The Board should acknowledge the short-term challenges, but stress that it will provide long term savings.

- ***MOTION:*** *To send a letter on behalf of the Board to Jefferson County legislators supporting HB129.*
- ***MOTION APPROVED***

Individually, board members can contact all Jefferson County legislators. Amanda will send out list of member's legislators. Dr. Cost will craft a letter and send it out. Amanda will distribute Dr. Cost's talking points to Board.

Vaccinations Work Group Update: Dr. Probst

Mandatory reporting is a larger barrier to small independent business entities than to large health systems. There is currently a grant to help offset costs, but there is still resistance. The Board can advocate for Electronic Health Records and taking advantage of the grants. The Board can reach out to providers who are not yet on board and ask about barriers. The Board can also advocate for help with historical data entry.

ACA Committee: Bill Wagner

The ACA Committee meets Monday at 4:00. The enrollment periods are over. The members of the ACA Committee are working with the new administration. Governor Beshear is looking at increasing child coverage through KCHIP and reducing barriers. The Public Charge Rule was upheld by the courts and will go into effect. FHC and others are educating the community that it does not apply to healthcare. They are watching state bills which could have a chilling effect on people seeking care. Public Health and FQHCs may be excepted.

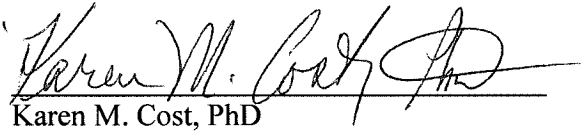
Information Sharing

- FHC is winding up the fiscal year and making reports to the federal government. There was a 3% increase in patients served, showing incremental growth. There was also an increase in the number of uninsured patients. This year 22% of patients were uninsured.
- SB50 is a pharmacy bill sponsored by Max Wise which would carve the pharmacy benefit out of MCO contracts and have state administer them directly. This would increase fees for independent pharmacies and would have serious unintended consequences for FHQCs, school-based health clinics and rural clinics.
- There is a Call for Speakers for a Substance Use conference. The conference is grant funded (there are no fees) and is focused on harm reduction strategies, reducing stigma, e-cigarette use, local trends and resources etc.
- The Healthy Louisville 2025 Press Conference is Tuesday at 10:00am in the Mayor's Gallery
- The Board's letter regarding the tree canopy was sent to Metro Council.
- The Census is coming up, an accurate count is critical to getting appropriate resources. The Board should encourage groups to reach out to people to be counted.

The next BOH meeting will be March 4, 2020.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen M. Cost, PhD", written over a horizontal line.

Karen M. Cost, PhD

Chairperson