

**LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**June 3, 2020**

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

**Advisory Board Members Present:** Dr. Sarah Moyer, Natalie Johnson, Dr. Dr. Monalisa Taylor, Bill Wagner

**Others Present:** Matt Rhodes, T Gonzales, Connie Mendel, Amanda Clark

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am. This was a virtual meeting as per an Executive Order for social distancing due to Covid-19. All voting members were visible and audible on WebEx. A quorum was reached.

As per open meetings requirements, the meeting information was posted 24 hours in advance, the public was able to call in or join with video and the meeting was live-streamed to LMPHW's Facebook page.

**Approval of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes**

***MOTION:*** To approve the May 2020 meeting minutes

***MOTION APPROVED***

**Dr. Nota's meeting with Hispanic Faith Leaders**

Dr. Nota met with faith leaders in the Hispanic community to discuss Covid-19 prevention. She provided education on the virus and contact tracing. They supported following the public health recommendations and can be champions of the public health message. However, there is a lack of trust between some in the community and government. Some people will not answer the phone.

Faith leaders also expressed that some people, particularly undocumented people, do not feel safe at work. Dr. Nota explained how to use the anonymous complaint line.

Some people also feel that they are being pushed to open too early and Dr. Nota requests that LMPHW make a list of affordable resources for masks, sanitizer, cleaning supplies etc. available.

Dr. Nota also requests that LMPHW put out a short video in Spanish educating people about asymptomatic transmission which could be hosted on the website of the Office for Globalization.

Dr. Nota shared the link to apply for contact tracing positions because Lacuna is actively seeking bilingual individuals. Hiring Hispanic people is important not just for language but for trust and cultural sensitivity.

### **LMPHW Director's Report Highlights: Dr. Moyer**

Currently, sixty-four (64) regular open full-time positions are in process to hire. We had several recent promotions including Robyn Dickerson, Community Health Manager, WIC, Robin Gillespie, Nutrition Manager, WIC, Rebecca Hollenbach Covid-19 Executive Admin, Rui Zhao, Epidemiology Administrator, CD/Immunizations and Taylor Ingram, Executive Admin, Health Services.

LMPHW is in the midst of fiscal year 2021 budget preparation. Dr. Moyer will be giving her presentation on June 10th at 3:45pm. Once all hearings have occurred, Metro Council will vote to pass an ordinance approving the Mayor's Recommended Budget (with or without changes), and funds are available for agency spending on July 1.

LMPHW's expected FY21 budget has increased compared to the FY20 budget in personnel services, which is a direct result of the expansion that is under way

Our communications team works closely with the Mayor's Office of Communications to provide timely, accurate response to news media questions, to provide daily updated information to the public through social media, the website, news briefings, and public service announcements. Our team also creates educational materials to share including materials in numerous languages. We continue to work closely with the Office of Globalization to get accurate, timely, and culturally competent information on COVID19 to all ESL communities.

The Health IT team is engaged in a number of ongoing initiatives designed to improve the Health department's response to staff and citizens. IT is currently supporting staff who perform telework (as well as those who are on premise) to ensure accessibility to the agency COVID-19 database for contact tracing. This support includes hardware/software/network accessibility. The IT team is also enhancing the reporting protocols related to the opioid epidemic and researching the state's Lighthouse system in preparation for joining the system.

LMPHW normally certifies over 1200 lifeguards and qualified pool attendants each year, with about 50% of those being new certifications and about 50% renewals. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, LMPHW has not been able to provide lifeguard skills testing and certification examinations or food manager certification courses.

To prepare for the reopening of public swimming pools, the Environmental Health Division has amended the Louisville and Jefferson County BOH Sanitary Code Chapter 901 to extend the BOH Lifeguard I, II and Qualified Attendant certifications scheduled to expire between March 1st and July 15th 2020 to October 1st, 2020. Several national lifeguard certifying agencies, such as the American Red Cross and American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI), which provide the prerequisite training for BOH certifications such as First Aid, CPR and lifeguard skill certifications are also extending expiration dates up to 150 days. The extension will only be granted to individuals who are current with the prerequisite trainings. BOH Sanitary Code Chapter 900.0501 will return to the requirement for a Lifeguard I to recertify every (1) year and Lifeguard II and Qualified Attendants every (3) years after October 1, 2020.

Similarly, 150-day extensions will be granted for the BOH Food Manager Certification mandated in LMCO 118 FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS – “No food service establishment shall do business in the county unless such establishment has in its employ at least one food service manager who holds a valid current certificate issued by the Board”. LMPHW-approved online food safety training will be required for new operators or facilities without previously certified employees.

Changes are currently being implemented to provide both the Lifeguard written exam and Food Manager Certification training and exam online.

All the Mosquito Control Program Environmentalists have returned from COVID -19 duties and have initiated larvicide pre-treatment activities of areas historically known to breed mosquitoes.

The local Girl Scouts of America branch is finalizing a “Mosquito Control” program and badge in coordination with our team. The focus will be on eliminating standing water on residential properties and educating residents on best practices to reduce mosquito breeding.

Both vehicular accidents and chemical releases at production facilities have increased. The change in work environs, due to the Covid-19 guidelines, may be influencing the recent increase of hazmat incidents and requests for emergency response for our HazMat team. The increase in the number of people staying home has also led to an increase in complaints for our Indoor Air quality team to investigate as well.

During the 3rd Quarter of FY2020 (January to March) Plan Review staff reviewed 466 building construction plans (403 commercial buildings, 43 onsite systems, residential pools, 20 community pools). This is an increase of 35% over the same quarter last year. Staff also reviewed 111 Development Review Plans and collected \$42,125, which is an increase of 32% over the same period last year.

CLPPP staff are continuing to handle cases and outreach via phone. CLPPP program supervisor is working with the state CLPPP program manager to develop protocols on how to safely continue services in the coming months, including creating a virtual outreach option for primary care providers. The program has a temporary computer science intern position available to assist with the deliverables for the Health in All Policies grant which received an extension until September due to COVID-19 delays.

The Food Safety Program continues to support Louisville Metro’s response to COVID-19 by conducting complaint investigations for businesses that are reported to be non-compliant with the Governor’s Executive Orders. The Program conducted 363 complaint investigations and issued 29 orders for corrections of violations last month.

The Program also had the privilege of assisting local food establishments meet the Governor’s orders with the distribution of 23,500 face masks. The face masks were well received by our food service establishments and provided staff the opportunity to educate operators on the requirements for reopening in-person dining and see the processes first-hand. The Program applied a health equity lens when determining which establishment would receive the masks.

The Onsite Sewage Program performed 15 site evaluations for the installation of onsite sewage systems and 8 final onsite sewage systems inspections, reviewed 9 additional applications for future Site Evaluations, issued 5 Construction Permits and issued 3 onsite sewage systems repair permits.

Staff also provided approximately 70 septic system phone consultations with Septic Installers, homeowners, real estate agents, developers, home builders, along with buyers and sellers of property.

The laboratory has been providing 24-36 hour turn-around time for COVID-19 tests seven days a week for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders and LMDC Corrections. The maximum capacity is 88 per day with current equipment and staffing. To increase testing capacity, additional PCR and extraction instruments and one additional technologist have been requested.

The laboratory reports daily test totals and positive results to KY DPH, weekly totals and capacity to FDA and weekly to KY DPH all tests done with demographic data.

Routine services for STD testing, blood lead screening, TB testing, and urine drug screen testing have been maintained along with response to COVID-19. The laboratory continues to work with mosquito control and recreational water programs to make plans for summer work.

The final report for the APHL grant to expand blood lead testing will be submitted by May 30, 2020.

LMPHW PHP personnel continue in FULL ACTIVATION mode supporting the LMG COVID-19 Response. As of May 11th, the LMPHW Operation commenced with the establishment of an ICS 207 Organizational Structure as public health focus moved back to direct responsibility of LMPHW. Three personnel from PHP stepped into leadership positions with the LMPHW Incident Management Team (IMT) in the Planning Section and Logistics Section. PHP remains engaged today in the overall operations of the COVID-19 response.

Additionally, PHP will begin focusing on the development of a Mass Vaccination Plan if and when a COVID-19 vaccine is made available. Significant planning already exists with the medical Countermeasures (MCM) Point of Dispensing (POD) Plan already in place under CRI. When the CDC releases more information, PHP will conduct advanced planning and Closed POD partner recruitment. PHP revised the LMPHW Pandemic Influenza Continuity Plan for use during the COVID-19 Outbreak. Full review and revision of the Business Continuity Plan (BCP) will resume post-COVID-19 response operations.

CHE Policy & Innovation staff continue full-time response efforts through various roles across IMT, including equitable recovery planning, contact tracing, and medical research.

This month, CHE submitted a draft of the FY20 Budget Equity Assessment for review to the Louisville Leadership Team. We received some feedback and will work with OMB and the Office of Equity to incorporate. This project assessed FY20 budget cut impacts and identified recommendations for future budget considerations. Once edits are final, we will share with Metro Council.

Recommendations in the assessment included protecting community needs from future budget reductions, LMG departments completing Racial Equity Tool to assess opportunities for budget

alignment with equity values, Participatory Budgeting being considered for equitable decision-making and Center for Health Equity, Louisville Forward, and community residents collaborating to develop an economic strategy that builds community wealth.

All CHE Performance and Population Health staff are assigned to COVID-19 response. Many CHE Partnerships team members are engaged in COVID-19 Pandemic Response as well. Partnerships staff have trained dozens of staff and volunteers for case-calling, ensuring daily contact with all confirmed cases to assess symptoms and determine the date of release from isolation. They have also developed plans to ensure comprehensive, safe, equitable, and health data-driven responses to the pandemic. Additionally, staff are coordinating processes to optimize speed of hiring new staff for public health expansion.

April Senior Medicare Patrol activities included nine active team members across the Commonwealth, with 169.5 training and work hours; and 4 individual issues resolved. Most of the month has been spent learning about COVID-19 scams and how the pandemic will impact volunteers and future outreach opportunities.

The MORE Center census is up to 175. They are developing referral relationship with 7 Counties (formerly Centerstone), UL Peace for higher level of care; UL for psychiatric care. They are also developing SOG and MOU with LMDC for detoxification services—coordination through State regulatory agencies.

Specialty Clinic saw 203 patients including 30 fast track patients and completed 167 HIV tests performed with 4 positive results. There were 87 HCV tests performed with 3 positive results, 27 positive Chlamydia, 27 positive Gonorrhea, 3 positive Herpes and 18 positive Syphilis RPR.

Communicable/Reportable Diseases interacted with multiple Covid19 cases including nursing home clusters. At the time the report was written, there were 2,376 cases with 154 deaths. The team is focused on the expansion, contact tracing and contract with vendor and training/introduction to Deloitte contact tracing system.

WIC numbers are up to 4,299 visits. In general, clients are amenable to telephonic visits and there is a waiver until end of June for ongoing telephonic program administration. 45 breastfeeding referrals were sent to peer counselors from WIC nutritionists and 108 contacts made by WIC peer counselors to WIC patients .

Healthy Start had 141 active clients and 29 new clients. Activities have been cancelled related to Covid19, but staff is working from home and contacting all clients and referrals. Incentive and safety supplies are being delivered by supervisors and manager.

HIV Prevention provided 700 condoms (200) to community, (500) syringe exchange and 10 PrEP referrals through Geo-Social Apps.

Syringe Exchange had 2,486 total visits, 1,740 unique participants, and collected 253,400 syringes. SEP is using express services to limit face to face interaction and some staff are assisting with Covid19 Response.

### **Testing Update: Bill Altman**

LMPHW is managing the pandemic professionally and with dignity, working incredibly hard under the capable leadership of Dr. Moyer.

Mr. Altman is leading the city's testing effort. He and his team have a three-point plan. One: Increase testing capacity to test every symptomatic person. Two: As we reopen, have the testing capacity to test asymptomatic people focusing on high risk groups such as healthcare workers, unhoused persons, workers in high risk industries such as meat packing and people in geographical areas where the outbreak is highest. Three: Conduct community insight testing to keep track of trends.

LMG is partnering with UofL's Co-Immunity Project. The project has two phases. Co-Immunity 1 is testing the healthcare workforce. Co-Immunity 2 is testing throughout Louisville in an effort to collect enough data to inform policy decisions.

LMG also has the ability to test wastewater through MSD, which will enable us to track trends over time more quickly than we can with lab testing due to lag time in lab results. We are one of thirteen cities in a consortium with UofL that are working on this.

The implementation plan has three aspects. First, Bill is working to get all the independent labs, hospitals and FHQCs onto a task force to bring testing to the community in a coordinated fashion. Second, there is Community Advisory Board led by Kendall Boyd, Chief Equity Officer, gathering input from the community. Third, the mayor has convened a group called SAFE Louisville led by David Jones Jr. which included Board member Heidi Margulis and also Karen Handmaker. SAFE Louisville is looking at the bigger picture and the future rebuilding.

### **Contact Tracing Update: Karen Handmaker**

Contract tracing capability and volume depends on the volume of testing. She is working with the contract tracing vendor for Louisville, Lacuna, which will have the first cohort of tracers up and running by next week. Lacuna received over 1500 applications and is hiring a diverse workforce including different education levels and languages spoken.

They are developing a communications campaign which will be sensitive to different cultural norms and make it easy to participate. When they call, the caller ID will say "Lou Health" and have a 502 area code.

She is working with Mark Carter at CFHS, meeting twice a week, to troubleshoot problems. They are also developing a city dashboard tracking state and Metro cases to identify canaries in the coal mine. She can be reached at [Karen.Handmaker@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:Karen.Handmaker@louisvilleky.gov).

Dr. Cost requests that she provide regular updates to the Board whether in person or through Dr. Moyer. Dr. Nota requests that she be involved in making sure communications are linguistically and culturally sensitive.

#### **Incident Management Team Update: Matt Rhodes**

The LMPHW IMT is meeting daily and continues to develop the Essential Needs Plan for people in quarantine, which can provide food, PPE, thermometers and oxymeters to people if they lack the resources to obtain these things themselves. This is to ensure that they are able to safely quarantine and stop the spread of the virus to the community.

LMPHW is on track to have 1/3 of our workforce be new (under one year with the department) and we are working on a hiring and onboarding process.

#### **Expansion Update: T Gonzales**

All expansion positions are now posted on LMG job opportunities website, along with several positions which were vacated due to retirements.

LMPHW is taking this opportunity to make the organization more representative of the community which will help us build relationships and trust with Louisville residents.

T recently presented on a NACCHO/CDC webinar on how to operationalize equity in response to COVID-19. CHE is a national leader assisting other communities around the country.

#### **ACA/FHC Update: Bill Wagner**

The ACA workgroup is moving the date of the next meeting, Bill will announce the new date when selected.

Family Health Centers has received a \$1.3M Federal grant to expand community testing and is an integral part of the city's testing task force. FHC is at 80% of its pre-COVID-19 volume, seeing more non-urgent patients and safely reopening.

#### **Mayor Fischer**

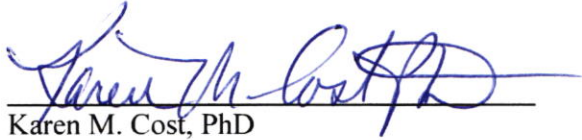
Current demonstrations in our city and around the country are highlighting the social determinants of health and creating an opportunity for change. The solution is an end to racism and poverty. We need to forge a pathway from where we are today to where we need to be. We all need to be warriors for change and it is our duty to achieve equity. Our public health response to COVID-19 has been one of the strongest in the US and he is proud of Dr. Moyer and the entire team.

Mayor Fischer presented a proclamation naming June 3, 2020 Matt Rhodes day for 25 years of outstanding service to Louisville.

**Open Forum**

- The Board requests that an update on flu and vaccines be presented at the next meeting, along with an update on the plan for the fall. Heidi Margulis would like to see the city partner with the private sector to increase access.
- The next Board meeting will be July 1 and will be virtual.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED**

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

Karen M. Cost, PhD  
Chairperson