



# Washtenaw County Board of Health

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## Minutes

June 24, 2022, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Learning Resource Center LRC

4135 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Superior Room

**Present:** James Carty, Gina Dahlem, Leon Golson, Justin Hodge, Maria Militzer, Carla Pretto-Kernahan, Carrie Rheingans, Katie Scott, Kathleen Stroud, Morghan Williams Boydston

**Absent:** Elisabeth Vanderpool

**Staff:** Jimena Loveluck, Ruth Kraut, Kristen Schweighoefer, Jennifer Brassow, Jeremy Lapedis, Russell O'Brien

**Guests:** Jennifer Green, Marta Larson

### 1. Call to Order

Gina Dahlem called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

### 2. Public Comment

None

### 3. Board Member Response to Public Comment

None

### 4. Approval of Agenda (Action)

*Motion by K. Scott, seconded by L. Golson, to approve the agenda.*

*Motion approved unanimously.*

### 5. Approval of May 27, 2022, Meeting Minutes (Action)

*Motion by C. Rheingans, seconded by L. Golson, to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2022, meeting.*

*Motion approved unanimously.*

### 6. Executive Committee Report from May 20, 2022

Board members received the Executive Committee minutes.

The NALBOH Spring Symposium and Michigan Premier Public Health Conference were mentioned.

### 7. Community Voices Report

Jennifer Green reported about the June 6<sup>th</sup> Community Voices Meeting. Derrick Jackson, representing the Community Violence Intervention Team, gave a presentation with statistics and anecdotal stories that highlighted the seriousness of gun violence in the county. Dr Paul Fleming, ARCC Towards Justice, gave a summary of the work they have been doing over the last month. The Community Voices team will be meeting with ARCC throughout the summer. Action projects include: a couple Ypsilanti neighborhoods working with the Community Violence Intervention Team to address youth mental health and gun violence; Latinx community and Macarthur neighborhood representatives are discussing activities to support mental health.

Marta Larson shared some of the goals of the Community Voices Team and asked for updated data to determine if they are making progress toward health equity. She also shared some slides showing the inequity of mortality rates



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and access to medical/mental health care. Marta discussed the Whitmore Lake Health Equity Dashboard and shared what progress has been made for more access to health/mental care, physical activity, and food.

### 8. Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Health Department Budget Presentation – Jennifer Brassow, Finance Administrator

Jennifer Brassow presented the fiscal year (FY) 23 proposed budget to the board, including a FY21 year-end update and FY22 update. Board members received electronic and paper copies of the presentation.

The Health Department (HD) contributed \$73,779 to fund balance at the end of FY21. Jennifer gave a quarterly budget update for FY22 that shows a use of fund balance of \$227,901 in quarter 2. She went over the influences that cause the projected use of fund balance to increase and decrease. FY23 items for consideration were discussed, including position requests and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Jennifer shared that the commitment from the County for maintenance of effort has remained the same since 1992 while allocated costs have increased from \$700,000 to \$1.9 million. Considering inflation, the maintenance of effort would be just over \$6 million in 2022. The net budget was shown as tables by function, by expenditure type, and by revenue type. The proposed use of fund balance for FY23 is \$636,843, but that is anticipated to go down after receiving more information from the State. Next steps include finalizing the draft budget, present final draft budget to Board of Health (BOH) in July, prepare cover memo/resolution for Board of Commissioners (BOC) in September.

Questions and comments:

Justin Hodge asked Jennifer to explain the difference between general fund and non-general fund departments. Jennifer said that general fund departments get an additional general fund appropriation to cover all cost increases while non-general fund departments do not. She also mentioned policy discussion at the Board of Commissioners (BOC) to talk about ways to roll additional funds to health and human service non-general fund departments.

### 9. Washtenaw Health Plan and Public Health Emergency – Jeremy Lapedis, WHP Executive Director

Jeremy Lapedis presented an overview of the Washtenaw Health Plan (WHP). The WHP is an independent nonprofit with their own board of directors that is closely aligned with the Health Department. Their mission is to help low-income and uninsured people access high quality health care and health promoting services. WHP employees are experts in navigating the bureaucratic systems of the state and health systems to get people into health care that they can use. Jeremy discussed the WHP Impact Model that described how they help people access healthcare and the impact on the individual and community. WHP sees about 6,000 people per year with 2,500 being members. They assisted with 2,500 Medicaid applications and 1,000 Marketplace applications. Other items that WHP assists with include billing/charity care issues, DHHS issues, Medicare assistance, and food assistance. WHP estimates insurance enrollment in the program brings \$10.5 million to healthcare providers in Washtenaw County each year. Jeremy shared a slide with WHP finances. The total revenue is \$2.3 million and total expenses are \$2.7 million. The deficit was covered by the fund reserve, but it is dwindling. Now is the time they need to close the budget deficit and are working to identify other funds.

Maria highlighted the opportunity for the WCHD and WHP to work together to obtain an 'larger and more detailed picture' of health needs to be assessed through the community health needs assessment. She also mentioned that WHP may provide data related to use/receipt of health services to supplement the self-reported data from the needs assessment

### 10. BOC Liaison Report



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Justin Hodge shared there will be community engagement before voting on the next ARPA funding package. The Community Violence Intervention Team continues to meet weekly, and they recently presented to the City of Ypsilanti. There has been conversation with the County administrator about a resolution at the July BOC meeting to commit some funding to rapid rehousing.

## 11. Old Business

- **Washtenaw Rescue Plan**  
Jimena will provide an update through email.
- **Gun Violence and Violence Prevention**  
Jimena Loveluck shared that additional community involvement will take place and hope to have resolution presented at the July meeting.
- **Nursing Recruitment and Retention**  
Jimena will provide an update through email.

## 12. New Business

- **COVID-19 Vaccine Plans for Children Under 5**  
Dr Juan Marquez shared that the FDA approved Pfizer and Moderna for ages 6 month to 5 years last week and the CDC advisory panel approved them over the weekend. Appointments will start next Thursday for children in that age range. Michigan Medicine, IHA, and the Corner Health Center are working through their plans for vaccinating children. Most of the surveys have shown that people want to go to their pediatricians, so the other big role the HD plays is providing vaccines to the pediatric offices as well as support information. The communications team has been working on updated materials and the HD shares materials the State developed.
- **Community Health Assessment**  
Jimena shared the draft workplan for the Community Health Assessment process. She proposed that the BOH form a subcommittee of 3 or 4 members to work with the HD staff in the implementation of the process. This would involve an initial training, reviewing materials, and a monthly meeting.
- **Kathleen Stroud**  
Kathleen Stroud asked the BOH to vote to send a thank you to the FDA for the Juul e-cigarette ban. She would like to add it to the agenda for the next meeting. Maria Militzer said that other products are still available from other companies and the ban is only on Juul. Justin Hodge said the BOH could put in the resolution to ban all e-cigarettes. Gina Dahlem said it will be considered for the agenda at the next meeting. James Carty said he is opposed to it because there are only so many resources and shouldn't ask for additional staff time.

## 13. Adjournment

*Motion by K. Stroud, seconded by J. Carty, to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion approved unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 AM.

Minutes taken by Russell O'Brien