

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING – JANUARY 29, 2025

Meeting called to order by Dr. Gregory Hall, President of the Board at 9:07 a.m. in the office of the Board, 5550 Venture Drive, Parma, Ohio, on Wednesday, January 29, 2025.

The following members were present: Dr. Gregory L. Hall, Mr. Douglas Wang, Ms. Sonja Rajki, Dr. Sherrie Williams, and Mr. Daniel Richards.

The reading of the minutes of the December 18, 2024 regular Board meeting was dispensed with as copies had previously been received by each member. Inasmuch as there were no corrections, it was moved by Mr. Richards, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the minutes be approved. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Mr. Richards, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to amend agenda items as highlighted on revised agenda. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried

Public Comments on Agenda Resolutions Only (three-minute maximum) – N/A.

Review of the Financial Statements – Ms. Wirsching reviewed the agency financials as outlined in the attached notes.

Legislative Updates – The Board had an extended discussion with Mr. Mills, General Counsel, concerning recent Executive Orders directed at reducing federal grant funding. It was discussed with Mr. Mills, Dr. Harris, and Ms. Wirsching that both current and proposed grants held by CCBH could be affected by the Orders. The Board requested more information on the number and manner of grants affected. The Administration shared the Board's concern that grant sub-grantees and community partners to CCBH could be left uncompensated for work that was otherwise performed as required. Mr. Richards and Ms. Rajki also requested information on potential legal risks to CCBH stemming from grant-backed agreements that CCBH could not cancel due to unavailable funds. Due to the ongoing nature of these developments, the Board and Administration reached a consensus that certain grant agreements on the Agenda must be tabled until more information is available.

Committee Reports – None

Approval of Resolutions/Motions:

**REGULAR ACTIONS OF THE BOARD:**

Ms. Rajki expressed concerns with how recent Federal Executive Orders would implicate the Board's DEI work. Dr. Harris indicated that the administration is assessing the implications of the Orders on CCBH's programming.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-001 be Tabled:

BE IT RESOLVED That the Cuyahoga County Board of Health confirms its compliance with Federal, State and Local laws regarding accessibility to services and protection from discrimination in providing services to the community or in employment decisions.

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-002 be Tabled:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with the Ohio Public Health Association under the 2023/2024 Enhanced Operations grant from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in the amount of \$43,680.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Ms. Eaton, Director of Nursing and Clinical Services, explained the Dental Sealant program provides dental tooth sealant with parent consent for students involved in the free and reduced meal programs. The award is a \$6,000 increase from the previous year.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-003 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025 Dental Sealant grant funding from the Ohio Department of Health from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in the amount not to exceed \$48,000.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-004 be Tabled:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into contract with Better World Advertising under the 2024/2025 STI Prevention grant from January 29, 2025 through February 28, 2025 in the amount not to exceed \$113,737.84. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Ms. Turcoliveri, Program Supervisor in Population Health, explained that the Ending the HIV Epidemic grant links clients to care in order to keep clients virally suppressed. Ms. Turcoliveri explained this is the first installment of total funding from HRSA. HRSA typically disburses these fund in at least two disbursements.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-005 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025/2026 Ending HIV Epidemic-Care grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration from March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$841,600.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-006 be Tabled:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contracts

with the Cavaliers Operating Company, LLC & Rock Entertainment Sports Network, LLC under the 2024/2025 Ending HIV Epidemic-Care grant from January 29, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount not to exceed \$66,500.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-007 be Tabled:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute contracts with the following agencies under the Cuyahoga County Overdose Data to Action LOCAL Initiative grant from September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025:

	Amount Paid Not to Exceed
Case Western Reserve University	\$479,650.00
The MetroHealth Systems	\$452,968.00

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Mr. Sobolewski, Interim Director of Environmental Health, presented multiple properties for lead remediation.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-008 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute contracts with Paragon CMS and Green Home Solutions for multiple properties for lead remediation work.

Property Address	Contractor	Not to Exceed	CRC Agenda Item
● 1227-1229 Cranford Ave., Up, Down, 3rd Floor. Lakewood, Ohio 44107	Paragon CMS	\$84,915.00	RFP 2024-02 & CRC 2024-215
● 1884 Windermere St., East Cleveland, Ohio 44112	Green Home Solutions	\$68,650.00	CRC 2025-003

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Ms. Wirsching, Chief Financial Officer, presented the following Then and Now resolution.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-009 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to authorize payment(s) for the contract(s) and/or order(s) with the following vendor(s):

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
SC Strategic Solutions	\$7,309.26	07/22/2024	Scanning Services

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

**BOARD ORDERS, RULES, FEES OR REGULATIONS**

Mr. Sobolewski, Interim Director of Environmental Health, explained the Ohio EPA asked the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to take over the inspection of three waste facilities in the City of Cleveland's jurisdiction. The Board asked several questions clarifying what that responsibility entails for CCBH and whether the City of Cleveland was in favor of the change. After discussion with leadership, it was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-010 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED To Authorize the Health Commissioner, his Successors or Designees, to administer and enforce certain solid and infectious waste programs and C&DD programs within the City of Cleveland. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

FIRST READING:

Ms. Geiss, Deputy Director of Nursing and Clinical Services, presented the need to add the RSV antibody vaccine for infants to our fee schedule, due to demand from the public.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-011 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED To Amend the CCBH Provider Fees for clinical services effective, February 3, 2025, as an emergency measure (ref enclosed). Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

SECOND READING:

None

THIRD READING:

None

After discussion between management and the Board, the Board agreed to amend the Consent Agenda and therefore tabled items b and c from Schedule D – Employee Training and Travel Expenses. It was also agreed that there would be an Ad Hoc committee to review board delegation items. Dr. Hall asked Ms. Rajki to participate in that Ad Hoc committee with Mr. Mills and other administration as necessary.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-012 be adopted as amended:

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be given of the Consent Agenda as amended in the attached schedules:

Schedule A Appropriation Measures.

Schedule B Cash Transfers.

Schedule C Routine Personnel Actions.

Schedule D Employee Training and Travel Expenses.

(Schedule D, Items b and c Tabled)

Schedule E Approval of Vouchers. (Available upon request)

Schedule F CRC Report and Other Contracts.

Ayes: 4, Nays: None, Abstained: Mr. Richards – motion carried.

## Health Commissioner's Report

Dr. Harris reported that the re-Accreditation documentation was uploaded in December. Dr. Harris went on to discuss the EPA Environmental Justice Grant. Pursuant to the grant, community conversations have been held with residents of Euclid and Maple Heights, to discuss perceptions on health impacts of climate change. They have also been recruiting residents for air sensor installations outside their home to monitor air quality and pollutants. Dr. Harris attended the National Council of Negro Women and was one of 30 participants in a listening session re: Vaccine hesitancy. Cleveland is one of 25 cities that will be hosting these sessions. Dr. Harris and Dr. Ganesh held their quarterly call with County DHHS leadership team members regarding infectious diseases updates on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Infectious Disease Update – see attached

Medical Director Update – Dr. Ganesh discussed the impact of funding freeze for the clinic. Dr. Ganesh mentioned his involvement in facilitating a public health challenge at the Hawke n School, and his ongoing tenure teaching for local MPH program.

Public and Staff Comments (three-minute maximum) – None.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that pursuant to Resolution 1993-43 and O.R.C. Sec 121.22 the Board Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss appointment, employment, promotion, discipline or compensation of a public employee, and to consider matters of collective bargaining. The roll call vote was called for Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki, Dr. Williams, and Mr. Daniel Richards.

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Executive Session began at 10:49 a.m.

Executive Session ended at 12:15 p.m.

Miscellaneous Business –

Thereupon, it was also moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-013 be approved:

BE IT RESOLVED to promote Matthew Johnson as Director of Environmental Public Health Services, Grade H, \$102,000.00 annually, effective February 3, 2025. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Thereupon, it was also moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-014 be approved:

BE IT RESOLVED to reject the report and recommendations of fact-finder Martin Fitts dated January 27, 2025. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried. The Board votes to reject the report and recommendations of the fact-finding conducted in SERB #2024-MED-11-1351.

Ms. Wirsching explained the full resolution needed a clause added if the instance ever arose where a bargaining unit employee was promoted to a non-bargaining unit position in order to apply the of vacation payout policy to said employee.

Thereupon, it was also moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2024-086 be approved as amended:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to issue a one-time payment of up to 112.5 hours of vacation leave to non-bargaining employees with vacation leave accrual in excess of the maximum allotment under the Personnel Policy Manual Vacation Leave Section 8.1.

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Thereupon, it was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Richards, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

**SCHEDULE A**  
**APPROPRIATION MEASURES**

1. Budget Establishment(s):

A. Establish a budget for the 2025 Dental Sealant grant in the amount of \$48,000.00 (ref. enclosed).

B. Establish a budget for the 2024/2025 Harvest of the Month grant in the amount of \$96,925.67 (ref. enclosed).

C. Establish a budget for the 2025/2026 Ending HIV Epidemic-Care grant in the amount of \$841,600.00 (ref. enclosed).

2. Budget Revision(s):

A. Budget revision for the 2024/2025 STI Prevention grant to increase the budget by \$252,621.00 (ref. enclosed).

**SCHEDULE B**  
**CASH TRANSFERS**

1. Operating Transfer(s):

None

2. Residual Equity Transfer(s):

None

**SCHEDULE C**  
**ROUTINE PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Unless otherwise specifically indicated, said appointments shall be effective as of the beginning of the next pay period following completion and satisfaction of any post offer requirements and signature as determined by the Director of Organizational Development.

1. Ratify Appointment(s):

A. Olha Oleksyuk, Account Clerk, Pay Grade A, \$31,200.00 annually, effective January 13, 2025.

B. Alanis Nayder, Public Health Nurse, \$51,772.50 annually, effective January 27, 2025.

2. Appointment(s):

C. TBD, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT)/Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Pay Grade C/Pay Grade D, \$42,710.00/\$48,951.00 annually.

D. TBD, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT)/Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Pay Grade C/Pay Grade D, \$42,710.00/\$48,951.00 annually.

3. Promotion(s):

E. Ashley Ruminski, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Supervisor, Pay Grade F, \$66,312.00 annually, effective January 13, 2025.

F. Gertrude Burtin, Grant Financial Supervisor, Pay Grade F, \$66,312.00 annually, effective February 3, 2025.

4. Increase in Hour(s):

G. Brian Athey, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), from 45 hours bi-weekly, \$40,128.89 annually to 75 hours bi-weekly, \$66,881.49 annually effective February 24, 2025.

5. Resignation(s):

H. Rebecca Karns, Grant Supervisor, effective January 3, 2025.

I. Kirsten Gatt, Payroll Specialist, effective January 10, 2025.

J. Caroline Lambrix, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), effective January 10, 2025.

6. Termination(s):

K. Ameer Jabr, Grant Financial Supervisor, effective December 23, 2024.

7. Job Description(s):

L. Human Resources Coordinator, new effective January 29, 2025 (ref. enclosed).



**SCHEDULE D**  
**EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES**

Administration

Environmental Public Health

- a. Heather Grisez and Rebecca Jewell to The Northeast Section of the Ohio Water Environment Association Industrial Wastes Seminar: February 20, 2025. Richfield, OH.

Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics

Nursing & Clinical Services

- b. **Item TABLED** - Danielle LeGallee to 2025 Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit: April 9 – 13, 2025. Atlanta, GA.

Population Health

- c. **Item TABLED** - Sonji Deal to the 2025 Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit: April 10 – 12, 2025. Atlanta, GA.

\*Professional education under ONA contract.

**SCHEDULE F**  
**CRC REPORT AND OTHER CONTRACTS**

A. CRC Report

1. December 17, 2024 CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2024-214: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office – Revise the end date from August 31, 2024 to August 31, 2025.

Tabled Items

CRC 2024-175: 1227-29 Cranford Ave, Up, Down, and 3rd Floor, Lakewood, Ohio 44107 – Rescinded, to go through the RFP process.

CRC 2024-196  
RFP 2024-01 Payment Card Merchant Services – No action today

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2024-215: RFP 2024-02 - Lead Removal Abatement Project – quotes provided to program staff for evaluation.

Contract Authorizations

CRC 2024-216: American Builders & Applicators - \$3,300.00.

CRC 2024-217: American Builders & Applicators - \$5,725.00.

CRC 2024-218: Shiloh Tool - \$21,575.00.

Contract Approval

CRC 2024-219: Addendum - Kelly Stake, MSN, APRN – increase the amount to be paid from \$78,000.00 to \$81,300.00.

CRC 2024-220: RELX Inc. –\$8,832.00.

CRC 2024-221: Addendum – MetroHealth System – increase the amount to be paid from \$363,430.00 to \$381,430.00.

CRC 2024-222: Addendums – to increase the amounts to be paid –

	From	To
AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland	\$ 133,787.00	\$ 157,787.00
Circle Health Services	\$ 159,425.00	\$ 160,725.00
Mercy Health Regional Medical Center	\$ 298,350.00	\$ 303,350.00
MetroHealth System	\$1,200,460.00	\$1,209,912.00

Neighborhood Health Care	\$ 190,095.00	\$ 205,095.00
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center	\$ 658,610.00	\$ 670,206.00
Signature Health, Inc.	\$ 335,890.00	\$ 345,890.00

CRC 2024-223: Addendum – Closerlook Search Services, Inc. dba ZED Digital – to increase the amount to be paid from \$86,100.00 to \$89,500.00

Contract Rescissions

Omega Bros., - \$62,100.00 – 1884 Windermere St., East Cleveland, Ohio 44112

2. January 7, 2025 CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2025-001: MOU – Haus of Transcendent - to distribute HIV self-test kits.

Tabled Items

CRC 2024-196  
RFP 2024-01 Payment Card Merchant Services

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2024-215: Paragon CMS - \$84,915.00 – to be submitted to Board for approval.

CRC 2025-003: Green Home Solutions - \$68,350.00 - to be submitted to Board for approval.

CRC 2025-004: RFP 2024-05 - Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Parts A and B – quotes provided to program staff for evaluation.

Contract Authorizations

CRC 2025-002: American Builders & Applicators - \$21,150.00  
CRC 2025-005: American Builders & Applicators - \$23,200.00  
CRC 2025-006: American Builders & Applicators - \$2,000.00

Contract Approval

CRC 2025-007: Addendum – American Builders & Applicators – to increase the amount to be paid from \$34,050.00 to \$34,600.00.

CRC 2025-008: Addendum – University Hospitals of Cleveland – to increase the amount to be paid from \$814,427.00 to \$823,879.00.

CRC 2025-009: Addendum –to decrease the amount to be paid.

	<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>
Cleveland Clinic Foundation		\$179,937.00	\$179,137.00

Lorain County Health & Dentistry	\$15,000.00	\$10,000.00
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CRC 20254-010: Muse Content Group– \$10,000.00

3. January 21, 2025 CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

Tabled Items

CRC 2024-196  
RFP 2024-01 Payment Card Merchant Services

CRC 2025-004  
RFP #2024-05 Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America  
Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Parts A & B

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2025-011: RFP 2024-03 - Ryan White Part - Direct Services – quotes provided to program staff for evaluation.

CRC 2025-012: RFP 2024-04 - Ryan White Part – Planning Council – quotes provided to program staff for evaluation.

CRC 2025-015: Green Home Solutions - \$40,050.00 - to be submitted to Board for approval.

CRC 2025-016: Green Home Solutions - \$51,200.00 – to be submitted to Board for approval.

Contract Authorizations

CRC 2025-013: American Builders & Applicators - \$22,700.00  
CRC 2025-014: American Builders & Applicators - \$34,950.00  
CRC 2025-017: American Builders & Applicators - \$8,900.00  
CRC 2025-018: American Builders & Applicators - \$16,950.00  
CRC 2025-019: American Builders & Applicators - \$14,300.00  
CRC 2025-020: American Builders & Applicators - \$22,000.00

Contract Approval

CRC 2025-007: Addendum – Install Tech – to increase the amount to be paid from \$4,710.00 to \$6,235.00.

CRC 2025-008: Addendum – Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office – to decrease the amount to be paid from \$308,403.00 to \$268,403.00.

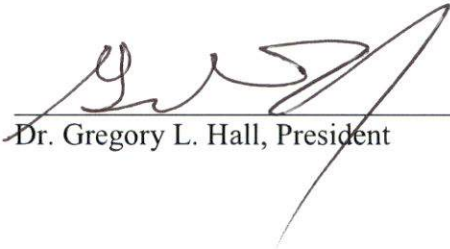
CRC 2025-008: Addendum – Cuyahoga County Senior and Adult Services to increase the amount to be paid from \$55,471.00 to \$65,471.00.

B. Other Contracts

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH



Roderick L. Harris, Secretary



Dr. Gregory L. Hall, President