

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF THE MEETING – FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Meeting called to order by Dr. Gregory Hall, President of the Board at 9:02 a.m. in the office of the Board, 5550 Venture Drive, Parma, Ohio, on February 26, 2025.

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

The Secretary called the roll:

Ayes: Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki, Dr. Williams, Mr. Richards.

The reading of the minutes of the January 29, 2025 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. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the minutes be approved. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

The reading of the minutes of the February 14, 2025 special Board meeting was dispensed with as copies had previously been received by each member. Inasmuch as there were no corrections, it was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the minutes be approved. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Mr. Hamilton stated two revisions to the agenda. The first is an edit to the address listed on Item F Resolution 2025-021 from 11854 Allendale to 1854 Allendale. The second revision is the addition of Resolution 2025-023 for the appointment of the local Registrar for the City of Lakewood Office of Vital Statistics.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Hall, 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. Alhamwi, Deputy Director of Finance, review the Financial Statements. Ms. Alhamwi explained any variance between projected and actual revenues and expenditures. Ms. Alhamwi stated that the first instalment of the payment from the municipalities for their contracts for public health services was received from Cuyahoga County. Ms. Alhamwi provided the figure of \$220,000.00 answering the question posed at the February 14, 2025 Special Board meeting regarding the total cost of a pay period for all staff. This figure includes salary, OPERS, and Medicare. The figure does not include the cost of any employee benefits.

Legislative Updates

Mr. Mills stated that there are currently 22 lawsuits pending challenging various Executive Orders, which includes Executive Orders of any funding freezes. Mr. Mills stated that some agencies are still withholding payment, but it seems to be few, and asked staff to keep all partners as updated as they can with regard to funding.

Committee Reports

None

Approval of Resolutions/Motions:

REGULAR ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Kolenz, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-016 explaining the program funds Disease Intervention Specialists who follow-up on new Syphilis and HIV infection cases, ensuring proper testing and treatment.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-016 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025/2026 STI Prevention grant funding from the Ohio Department of Health from March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$1,042,947.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Mr. Levar, Deputy Director of Population Health, introduced Resolution 2022-017, the program funds is the annual partial award for the start of the new year of the grant for our six county region. Mr. Levar also stated that this is the start of a new three year cycle of funding for which the Cuyahoga County Board of Health was awarded after receiving an excellent score of 96 out of 100 on the program's continuation application. Ms. Rajki asked if the program if any language restrictions were issued with any of the program guidance, to which Mr. Levar responded that the program has not received any restrictions of language in administering the Ryan White Part A program.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-017 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025/2026 Ryan White grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration from March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$888,143.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Ms. Lark-Turcoliveri, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-018, explaining the increase in funding is due to the receipt of carryover funds previously applied for. The funding is for increased support in the Medical Case Management and other Core Medical Service Categories.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-018 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute addendums increasing the amounts to be paid to the following agencies under the Ending HIV Epidemic-Care grant from March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025:

	<u>Amount not to exceed:</u>	
	From	To
MetroHealth System (Resolutions 2024-030 & 2024-102, CRC 2024-221)	\$ 381,430.00	\$ 464,430.00
University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center Special Immunology Unit (Resolutions 2024-030, 2024-091)	\$ 303,447.00	\$ 394,447.00

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

Mr. Levar introduced Resolution 2025-019 to support local nutrition strategies through hosting produce prescription workshops and food voucher prescription programs, conducting food system landscape analysis, and the creation of an App called Produce Path to connect residents with local farmer's markets.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Mr. Richards, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-019 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with Case Western Reserve University, Swetland Center for Environmental Health under the 2024/2025 REACH grant from September 30, 2024 through September 29, 2025 in the amount not to exceed \$180,257.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Mr. Sobolewski, Deputy Director of Environmental Public Health, introduced Resolution 2025-020 stating the funding will be available to approximately 30 low income family residences in the City of Cleveland Hts. for lead remediation. Responding to a question from Ms. Rajki about how the funds are managed in comparison to our other lead remediation grants, Mr. Sobolewski went on to explain that the Cuyahoga County Board of Health does not manage these lead remediation funds the same way in which it does for other smaller or similar communities because the City of Cleveland Hts. has the ability to invest in its housing stock.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-020 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with The City of Cleveland Heights under the 2024/2026 Lead Safe Ohio grant with all services completed by April 30, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.00. Ayes: 4, Nays: None, Abstained: Mr. Richards – motion carried.

Mr. Sobolewski introduced Resolution 2025-021 and the Board discussed how outreach was conducted to bring new properties into the program, which properties are given priority, and if there is enough funding and contractors available to complete all the work needed, and the process by which new contractors are being recruited and enrolled in the program and available to do the work.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-021 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
• 1854 Allendale Rd., East Cleveland, Ohio 44112	Green Home Solutions	\$40,050.00	CRC 2025-015
• 3600 Chelton Rd., Down/Up/3rd floor, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120	Green Home Solutions	\$51,200.00	CRC 2025-016
• 13400 Claiborne Rd., East Cleveland, Ohio 44112	Paragon CMS	\$47,630.00	CRC 2025-025

Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

Ms. Rush, Director of Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Informatics, introduced Resolution 2025-022 which will fund capacity building around brain healthy and healthy aging for our five county service area. Ms. Smith, Program Supervisor, added the funds will make available more local cognitive health data on our Healthy NEO data sharing platform.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Mr. Richards, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-022 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025 Healthy Brain Initiative grant funding from the Alzheimer’s Association from January 1, 2025 through September 29, 2025 in the amount not to exceed \$48,000.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

BOARD ORDERS, RULES, FEES OR REGULATIONS

Renee Mahoney, Finance Director for The City of Lakewood, asked for Board approval for the appointment of Michelle Lucente as local registrar to the City of Lakewood, office of Vital Statistics.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-023 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to appoint Michelle Lucente as local registrar to the City of Lakewood, Office of Vital Statistics, effective March 21, 2025. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

FIRST READING:

None

SECOND READING:

None

THIRD READING:

None

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-024 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be given of the Consent Agenda as set forth 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 E	Approval of Vouchers. (Available upon request)
Schedule F	CRC Report and Other Contracts.

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

Health Commissioner's Report

Infectious Disease Update

Mr. Soberano, Disease Investigator, presented the Infectious Disease Report - report attached.

Dr Williams asked for the department to request for the Ohio Department of Health data related to flu vaccination rates relative to this season's outbreak and deaths and hospitalizations. Mr. Wang and Dr. Williams asked for the same data as it related to vaccination rates for measles, due to the outbreak occurring in Texas and as the county comes up on increased travel due to the Spring Break season. Mr. Wang and Mr. Richards asked the Board to be proactive in its messaging about how measles can spread among the unvaccinated. Mr. Brown, Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, mentioned that his department has been working on a vaccine hesitancy curriculum to help residents understand the science of vaccines, improve health literacy, and to address any concerns around side effects, and is now searching for funding to implement the curriculum. Dr. Williams requested reports on the number of hits our Respiratory Dashboard receives, and the group had additional discussion on communications tactics and messaging to the public with respect to the importance of vaccination.

Medical Director Report

Dr. Ganesh, Medical Director, presented his Medical Director Report – see attached.

Child Fatality Review Presentation

Ms. Galicki, Program Manager, and Alexis Ipsaro, Epidemiologist, conducted a presentation on the Child Fatality Review program.

The Board discussed the intention and meaning of the Preventable vs. Non-Preventable language used in the report and asked the program staff to advocate for better language to explain the measure more appropriately. Additional discussion was had to understand why Hamilton County has such lower infant mortality rates in its disparate communities. Ms. Halko explained that Hamilton County has been recognized as a model program due to their efforts, and efforts to understand and model the program are currently underway.

Health Commissioner's Report

Dr. Harris provided a summary update of accomplishments of the Service Areas and other initiatives he has been working on.

Dr. Harris mentioned accomplishments of the U. S. EPA Government-to-Government grant.

- Nine community conversations have been completed, and a meeting was held to share the findings with our Environmental Justice Community Advisory Board.
- Common interests centered on pollution from railroads, indoor air quality, potable water quality, and tree canopy.
- The next step is to co-design an intervention that promotes healthier homes.

Dr Harris stated that he and Dr. Charles Modlin met to discuss the current landscape of men's health programming throughout the county.

Mayor David Smith (North Randall) met to discuss plans for the District Advisory Council meeting, which will be held on March 20th.

Dr. Harris presented some updates from the Environmental Public Health (EPH) department.

- Select EPH team members met with Mayor Ed Kraus and City of Solon officials on February 21st to discuss issues related to property maintenance, senior center outreach, and indoor air quality concerns.

Dr. Harris presented some updates from the Population Health department.

- The competitive application for the Ending the HIV Epidemic Prevention grant was submitted to ODH on 1/27/25. Proposed budget is \$1M.

Public and Staff Comments (three-minute maximum) – N/A.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, 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 Secretary called the roll:

Ayes: Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki, Dr. Williams, Mr. Richards.

Executive Session began at 10:56 a.m.

Executive Session ended at 11:24 a.m.

Miscellaneous Business

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-025 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a collective bargaining agreement with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Ohio Council Eight, as negotiated and ratified by the union on February 20, 2025, for a three year period from February 26, 2025 through February 26, 2028. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned at 11:26 a.m. Ayes: All, Nays: None – motion carried.

SCHEDULE A
APPROPRIATION MEASURES

1. Budget Establishment(s):

- A. Establish a budget for the 2025/2026 STI Prevention grant in the amount of \$1,042,947.00 (ref. enclosed).
- B. Establish a budget for the 2025/2026 Ryan White grant in the amount of \$888,143.00 (ref. enclosed).
- C. Establish a budget for the 2025 Healthy Brain Initiative grant in the amount of \$48,000.00 (ref. enclosed).

2. Budget Revision(s):

None

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. Jacob Bolten, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually, effective March 24, 2025.
- B. Alyssa Mills, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually, effective March 24, 2025.
- C. Ashley Johnson, Licensed Practical Nurse, Pay Grade D, \$43,991.00 annually, effective March 24, 2025.

2. Appointment(s):

- A. TBD, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), Pay Grade C, \$42,710.00 annually.
- B. TBD, Grant Supervisor, Pay Grade F, \$66,312.00 annually.
- C. TBD, Grant Supervisor, Pay Grade F, \$66,312.00 annually.
- D. TBD, Fiscal Assistant, Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually.

3. Retirement(s):

- A. Dane Tussel, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Program Manager, effective April 10, 2025.

4. Resignation(s):

- A. Traci Scott, Disease Intervention Specialist, effective January 31, 2025.
- B. Allison Takacs, Environmental Health Specialist in Training, effective February 7, 2025.
- C. Antoinette Mallory, Administrative Specialist, effective February 28, 2025.

SCHEDULE D
EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

Administration

Environmental Public Health

- a. EPH staff to attend the ODH Midwest Workshop & Principles Workshop: March 10 – 11, 2025. Columbus, OH.
- b. EPH staff to attend the Ohio Environmental Health Association Annual Education Conference: April 10 – 11, 2025, Dublin, OH.

Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics

- c. Sarah Szabo to On Aging 2025 Conference: April 20-25, 2025. Orlando, FL.
- d. Tatyana Khaled to OEI Technical Assistance meetings: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025. Various locations in Ohio.
- e. Tatyana Khaled to Ohio Infant Mortality Collaborative meetings: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025. Various locations in Ohio.
- f. Sarah Szabo to Healthy Northeast Ohio Partner meetings: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025. Various locations in Ohio.
- g. Kenya Moyers and Svetlana Zelenskiy to Ohio Department of Health Injury Prevention Partnership meetings: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025. Various locations in Ohio.
- h. ESI OD2A surveillance staff to the 2025 Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) Recipient Meeting: July 7-11, 2025. Atlanta, GA.
- i. ESI OD2A surveillance staff to Ohio's 2025 Mental Health & Addiction (OACBHA) Conference: June 8-10, 2025. Columbus, Ohio.
- j. Sarah Szabo to Teaching Prevention 2025 Conference: March 10-12, 2025. Cleveland, Ohio.

Nursing & Clinical Services

- k. Gladys Harris to Lorain County Health Department for Influenza vaccine: February 6, 2025. Mentor.
- l. Melissa Kolenz, Ahmad Shameem and LaJuanna White to DIS Supervisor meeting: March 25, 2025. Columbus, OH.

Population Health

- m. Monica Baker, Brittanie Evans, Melissa Hansen, Anastassia Idov to the 2025/2026 Ryan White program meetings: March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026. Various locations in Ohio.

*Professional education under ONA contract.

SCHEDULE F
CRC REPORT AND OTHER CONTRACTS

A. CRC Report

1. February 4, 2025 CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2025-024: Ohio Department of Health - HEPA vacuum

Tabled Items

CRC 2024-196

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

CRC 2025-004

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

CRC 2025-011

RFP# 2024-03 Ryan White Part A – Direct Services

CRC 2025-012

RFP# 2024-04 Ryan White Part A – Planning Council

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2025-025: Paragon CMS - to be submitted to Board for approval.

Contract Authorizations

CRC 2025-026: American Builders & Applicators - \$29,800.00.

CRC 2025-027: American Builders & Applicators - \$33,750.00.

CRC 2025-028: American Builders & Applicators - \$27,350.00.

CRC 2025-029: Paragon CMS - \$10,880.00

Contract Approval

CRC 2025-030: David W. Knight, D.D.S. - \$1,000.00.

CRC 2025-031: Muse Content Group –\$28,000.00.

2. February 18, 2025 2nd CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2025-032: MOU - Better Health Partnership

CRC 2025-033 Beachwood Community Center

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

CRC 2025-011

RFP# 2024-03 Ryan White Part A – Direct Services

CRC 2025-012

RFP# 2024-04 Ryan White Part A – Planning Council

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2025-034: American Builders & Applicators - \$50,075.00 – to be submitted to Board for approval.

CRC 2025-036: RFP# 2025-01 – Unarmed Security Guard Services – quotes provided to program staff for evaluation.

Contract Authorizations

CRC 2025-037: American Builders & Applicators - \$29,450.00

CRC 2025-038: Glass Block Headquarters - \$6,250.00

CRC 2025-039: American Builders & Applicators - \$33,930.00

CRC 2025-040: American Builders & Applicators - \$13,750.00

CRC 2025-041: Green Home Solutions - \$21,500.00

CRC 2025-042: American Builders & Applicators - \$30,425.00

Contract Approval

CRC 2025-043: Addendum – American Builders & Applicators – to increase the amount to be paid from \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00.

CRC 2025-044: Addendum – American Builders & Applicators – to increase the amount to be paid from \$34,950.00 to \$35,475.00.

CRC 2025-045: Addendum – Green Home Solutions – to increase the amount to be paid from \$40,050.00 to \$40,350.00.

CRC 2025-046: Addendum – American Builders & Applicators – to increase the amount to be paid from \$23,200.00 to \$25,300.00.

Revenue Generating Agreements

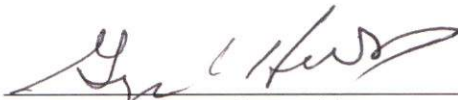
CRC 2025-047: Addendum – A.J. Boggs & IXN – to increase the amount to be paid from \$153,793.00 to \$166,998.19

B. Other Contracts

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH



Roderick L. Harris, Secretary



Dr. Gregory L. Hall, President