CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF THE MEETING – JULY 23, 2025

Meeting called to order by Dr. Gregory Hall, President of the Board at 9:05 a.m. in the office of the Board, 5550 Venture Drive, Parma, Ohio, on Wednesday July 23, 2025.

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

The Secretary called the roll:
Ayes: Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki, Dr. Williams.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to excuse Mr. Dan Richards due to a schedule conflicts at the time of the meeting.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

The reading of the minutes of the June 25, 2025 regular Board meeting was dispensed with as copies had previously been received by each member. Dr. Williams noted her absence at the June 25, 2025 Board meeting but the minutes still reflected her name in the roll call and asked for the minutes to correctly reflect her absence. Therefore, it was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the minutes be approved as amended.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: 3, Nays: None, Abstained: Dr. Williams, motion carries.

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

BE IT RESOLVED to amend agenda items as highlighted on revised agenda.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Public Comments on Agenda Resolutions Only (three-minute maximum)

Mark Adams Health Commissioner of Lorain County Public Health Department offered comment on the budget cuts to the MRC Strong grant and how the MRC Strong grant helps to bolster relationships between health departments. The cuts resulted in a $5,000 loss in funding and feels the funding should still go out to the regional partners and it funds are no longer available then how are those funds being used to bolster MRC Strong grant activities.

Adam Litke, Deputy Health Commissioner of Lake County General Health District also offered comment on the funding cuts from the MRC Strong grant. Mr. Litke iterated that the MRC Strong funding is that money intended to be sent out to regional partners and requested the ability to obtain CPR manikins that are being purchased for the region.

Review of the Financial Statements.

Ms. Alhamwi reviewed the financial statement notes for July 2025. Financial Statement notes attached.

Legislative Updates – None

Committee Reports

Mr. Wang reviewed and summarized the minutes from the June 25, 2025 Finance Committee meeting.

Approval of Resolutions/Motions:

REGULAR ACTIONS OF THE BOARD:

Mr. McRae, Chief Administrative Officer, introduced Resolution 2025-070, to return unspent funds from the 2022 contract with Cuyahoga County where the County gave CCBH $2.9 million for COVID response funding and Lead remediation funding. Of the $1.1 million dollars allocated to COVID response expired as of July 4, 2025 and CCBH will be returning up $381,000 of those funds back to the county. The remaining funds for the Lead remediation portion of the funds will have a no cost extension until December of 2026.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-070 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED To amend Resolution 2022-046 relating to American Rescue Plan (ARPA) grant funding from Cuyahoga County.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Benko, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-071 for the Maternal & Infant Vitality Initiative (MIVI), formerly known as OEI, which aims to reduce infant mortality and adverse birth outcomes by addressing their root causes in high-priority areas of Cuyahoga County, identified through population data. Supported by a two-year, $1.2 million grant, MIVI funds services such as neighborhood navigation for pregnant individuals, stakeholder engagement, data analysis, and state-level reporting. The initiative is carried out in partnership with the Neighborhood Leadership Institute, which leads navigation services, and the Center for Community Health Integration, which uses system dynamics modeling to guide strategic decision-making.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-071 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025/2027 Maternal and Infant Vitality grant funding from the Ohio Department of Children and Youth from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 in the amount not to exceed $1,204,416.00.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Benko, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-072 for the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) program, once part of the Ohio Equity Initiative, is now a standalone grant under the Ohio Department of Health. Its goal is to reduce infant mortality by reviewing fetal and infant deaths and developing community-based recommendations. Supported by a two-year, $68,750 grant, FIMR involves hospitals, managed care organizations, and community partners, and has implemented initiatives like emergency planning tools to improve care access for pregnant individuals.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-072 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025/2027 Fetal Infant Mortality Review grant funding from the Ohio Department of Health from the date when the contract is signed through June 30, 2027 in the amount not to exceed $68,750.00.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Mr. Levar, Deputy Director of Population Health, introduced Resolution 2025-073 with University hospitals who is a longtime partner focusing on Primary Care and Medical Case Management and wrap around services. CCBH received a second partial award for the Ryan White Part A program and the program is continuing to funnel the funds to the providers. A final Notice of Award with the remaining funds is still anticipated.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-073 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute an addendum to the contract with the University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center under the 2025/2026 Ryan White grant from March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026 to increase the amount to be paid to the University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center from $158,046.00 to $398,351.00 (Resolution 2025-038).

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Halko, Director of Population Health, introduced Resolution 2025-074 with Strategy Solutions. Strategy Solutions was selected through an RFQ process to support the completion of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), building on work previously led by Better Health Partnership. They will enhance the CHNA with equity-focused revisions, additional data analysis, and facilitate two community convenings and one partner meeting to guide prioritization and planning.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-074 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with Strategy Solutions, Inc. to update and finalize the 2025 Community Health Needs

Assessment, in the amount not to exceed $45,995.00.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries

Ms. Pannakal, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-075 with NACCHO. The NACCHO FLEX (Flexible Local Epidemiology for X-factor Emerging Diseases) grant provides training to strengthen leadership and capacity in managing infectious diseases. Participants, including Jackie Napolitano and Blaise Soberano, will engage in virtual communities and learn quality improvement tools to enhance public health materials.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-075 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the NACCHO FLEXED grant funding from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) from June 16, 2025 through July 31, 2025 in the amount not to exceed $5,694.17.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Mr. Sobolewski, Deputy Director of Environmental Public Health, introduced Resolution 2025-076 for lead remediation contractors.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-076 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with American Builders and Applicators, Croxton Tech, and Paragon CMS for multiple properties for lead remediation work:

Property Address	Contractor	Not to Exceed	CRC Agenda Item
• 14110-14112 Orinoco Ave. East Cleveland, OH 44112	American Builders and Applicators	$ 62,300.00	CRC 2025-131
• 16503 Maple Hts. Blvd./5335 Vine St. Maple, OH 44137	American Builders and Applicators	$ 48,900.00	CRC 2025-130
• 1620 Lewis Dr. Lakewood, OH 44107	Croxton Tech	$ 53,700.00	CRC 2025-143
• 1185-1187 Brockley Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107	Paragon CMS	$ 68,810.00	CRC 2025-142

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Mr. McRae, Chief Administrative Officer, introduced Resolution 2025-077 with a recommendation of a 12% increase to city contracts due to union costs and uncertainty in federal funding, suggesting more reliance on general revenue to sustain valued services. Dr. Williams asked how this compares to other health departments, and Mr. McRae noted that comparisons are difficult due to different funding structures, such as levies. Mr. Wang emphasized the importance of evaluating what makes sense for CCBH, given past increases and the value of its services, while Ms. Rajki advised clear communication with municipalities about the services provided. Mr. Wang also highlighted a shift in responsibility from federal to local governments, suggesting a growing need for local self-reliance.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-077 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED To set the per capita rate for public health services for the calendar years 2026 and 2027, as an emergency measure.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

BOARD ORDERS, RULES, FEES OR REGULATIONS

Megan Mementowski, REHS, introduced Resolution 2025-078 requesting an operational variance for entrance to pool to be left unlocked during pool hours. It is required for all public pools to have self-closing/locking barriers. The variance requires the facility to directly staff the entrance and monitor access. When the pool is closed completely, the entrance is locked and secured.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-078 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED To Grant a Variance from Ohio Administrative Code Section 3701-31-04 (B)(6)(S) for the City of Beachwood Family Aquatic Center at 25125 Fairmount Blvd., Beachwood, Ohio 44122.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

FIRST READING:
None

SECOND READING:
None

THIRD READING:
None

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-079 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED Approval 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.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Reports/Presentations –

Infectious Disease Update

Mr. Soberano, Communicable Disease Investigator, presented the July Infectious Disease Report, noting that there were no new measles cases. However, Lyme disease continues to trend upward in Ohio, with 26 cases reported as of June 2025—more than double the 11 cases reported at the same time last year. Although Ohio is not yet classified as a high-incidence jurisdiction, it is on track to meet the CDC's threshold of three consecutive years with at least 10 cases per 100,000 residents, potentially reaching that status within the next few years. Dr. Hall and Dr. Williams inquired whether the reported cases were confirmed or based on self-diagnosis. Mr. Soberano explained that many cases remain probable due to incomplete testing by primary care providers. He added that while becoming a high-incidence jurisdiction could streamline reporting requirements, it would not eliminate the need for clinical evaluation and diagnosis.

Full Infectious Disease Report attached.

Childhood Vaccinations Presentation

Ms. Geiss, Deputy Director of Nursing and Clinical Services, and Ms. Panakkal, Program Supervisor, delivered a presentation on childhood vaccinations. In response to a question from Dr. Williams, Ms. Geiss explained that while vaccinations are generally required for school attendance, parents may file exemptions. However, unvaccinated children may be temporarily excluded from school during outbreaks to protect their health, and schools have the authority to enforce such exclusions. Dr. Prakash added that some pediatric practices may choose to discontinue care for families who do not follow recommended vaccination schedules.

Ms. Rajki raised a concern about a slide showing vaccination rates by race, clarifying that the data reflected only the proportion of vaccinated individuals within each racial group, not the total population. Ms. Panakkal acknowledged the oversight and committed to reviewing census data to improve accuracy. Ms. Rajki also inquired about CCBH's current messaging strategies, social media outreach, and goals for increasing vaccination rates, particularly in light of rising infectious disease counts.

Dr. Williams expressed appreciation for the CCBH Mobile Health Unit's presence at the PRIDE in CLE event and emphasized the importance of visibility and accessibility as the back-to-school season approaches. She encouraged continued partnerships with local schools and municipalities to reduce barriers and promote convenient, one-stop access to health services.

Full Presentation Available on CCBH Website.

Medical Director's Report

Dr. Prakash provided a brief summary of the Medical Director Report.

Full Medical Director Report Attached.

Health Commissioner's Report

Dr. Harris, Health Commissioner, reported on several key activities and initiatives. He and Dr. Robert Brand met with East Cleveland's Interim Mayor and City Engineer to explore potential ideas for an Ohio Department of Natural Resources grant proposal, with a focus on tree planting and climate resilience. As a member of the First Year Cleveland Steering Committee, Dr. Harris participated in multiple meetings to review and score consultant proposals submitted in response to a request for proposals (RFP) for strategic planning facilitation.

Dr. Harris also met with County Councilman Michael Houser to discuss the councilman's priorities related to violence prevention and to share information about CCBH's past efforts in this area. Additionally, he joined fellow board members of the Cleveland Peacemakers Alliance in meetings regarding the search for a new Executive Director, as current director Myesha Watkins prepares to transition into her new role as Administrator of Cuyahoga County's Office of Violence Prevention.

In support of the Healthy Brain Initiative, CCBH formed a team for the Cleveland Walk to End Alzheimer's, scheduled for October 18 at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. The effort, led by Data Analyst Sarah Szabo, has attracted 19 participants and raised nearly $950 to date. This initiative was also promoted on CCBH's social media platforms.

Ms. Szabo also represented CCBH at the NACCHO360 conference in Anaheim, California, where she presented on building community capacity to support healthy aging and brain health through improved access to local data.

In Environmental Public Health (EPH) updates, several staff members participated in a full-scale mass casualty exercise at Progressive Field. Vector Program Manager Mason Leuthaeuser is scheduled for an interview and photo shoot with Signal Cleveland regarding mosquito control efforts. So far this season, summer staff have responded to 65 mosquito complaints—more than double the total from last year. Additionally, EPH launched a new Resident Camp Program and successfully licensed three residential campgrounds: Camp Cheerful, Camp George Forbes, and Hiram House Camp.

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

Miscellaneous Business

Ms. Rajki and Mr. Wang expressed interest in being present for the virtual PHAB Accreditation site visit scheduled for August 26. The Organization Development department send documents and an Outlook calendar invite to the Board members who are interested in attending the site visit.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

The Secretary counts the vote:
Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

SCHEDULE A
APPROPRIATION MEASURES

1. Budget Establishment(s):

   A. Establish a budget for the 2025/2027 Maternal and Infant Vitality (formerly Ohio Equity Initiative) grant in the amount of $1,204,416.00 (ref. enclosed).

   B. Establish a budget for the 2025/2027 Fetal and Infant Mortality Review grant in the amount of $68,750.00. (ref. enclosed).

   C. Establish a budget for the 2025 NACCHO Cuyahoga FLEXED grant in the amount of $5,694.17 (ref. enclosed).

   D. Establish a budget for the 2025/2026 ODH Bathing Beach Monitoring and Notification Program in the amount of $29,929.00. (ref. enclosed).

2. Budget Revision(s):

   A. Budget revision for the 2023/2025 ODNR Urban Canopy Restoration grant to redistribute funds (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.

Ratify Appointment(s):

A. Angela Garcia, Payroll Specialist, Pay Grade C, $43,991.00 annually, effective July 14, 2025.

B. Justine Taylor, Public Health Nurse, $51,772.50 annually, effective July 28, 2025.

C. Charmayne Johnson, Licensed Practical Nurse, Pay Grade C, $43,991.00 annually, effective August 11, 2025.

Appointment(s):

A. TBD, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Program Manager, Pay Grade E, $57,811.00 annually.

B. TBD, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT)/Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Pay Grade C/Pay Grade D, $43,991.00/$50,420.00 annually.

C. TBD, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT)/Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Pay Grade C/Pay Grade D, $43,991.00/$50,420.00 annually.

D. TBD, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT)/Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Pay Grade C/Pay Grade D, $43,991.00/$50,420.00 annually.

E. TBD, Accounts Payable Specialist, Pay Grade B, $37,599.00 annually.

F. TBD, Administrative Assistant, Pay Grade B, $37,599.00 annually.

Promotion(s):

A. Correction to June 2025 Schedule C Promotion(s) item B - Kriss Sargent, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Pay Grade D, $50,420.00 annually, effective July 28, 2025.

Resignation(s):

A. Margaret Case, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), effective July 4, 2025.

B. Brian Athey, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), effective July 18, 2025.

C. Sarah Bulic, Accounts Payable Specialist, effective July 23, 2025.

D. Monica Baker, Grant Supervisor, effective August 1, 2025.

SCHEDULE D
EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

Administration

Environmental Public Health

a. Stephanie McConoughey to 2025 ELI Workshop for IAQ Officials: September 18 – 21, 2025. Washington, DC.

Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics

b. Clarence Williams to 2025 EHE Technical Assistance Workshop: September 22-25, 2025. Washington, DC.

c. Michelle Jardine to AOHC Finance for Health Departments: October 14-16, 2025. Dublin, Ohio

d. Jana Rush, Takisha Fuller to AOHC Leadership Essentials for Health District Success: October 14-16, 2025. Dublin, Ohio

Nursing & Clinical Services

Population Health

e. Erin Janowski, Erin Lark Turcoliveri, Brian Lutz to the Ending the HIV Epidemic Technical Assistance Workshops: September 22 – 24, 2025. Washington, DC.

f. Anastassia Idov to the HRSA Administrative Reverse Site Visit: August 5 - 8, 2025. Rockville, MD.

g. Michele Benko, Erin Dodds, Kristyn Hajduk to Maternal and Infant Vitality program meetings: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027. Various locations in Ohio.

h. Alison Guzik, Alison Patrick, and Bailey Rieck to the Distributor-Embedded Value Chain Coordinators to Grow the School Food System program meetings: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028. Various locations in Ohio.

i. Melissa Hansen and Anastassia Idov to the US Conference on HIV/AIDS: September 3 – 7, 2025. Washington, DC

*Professional education under ONA contract.

SCHEDULE F
CRC REPORT AND OTHER CONTRACTS

A. CRC Report

1. July 1, 2025 CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2025-128 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The MetroHealth System effective June 17, 2025 to conduct Newborn Home Visiting (NBV) program activities at the main campus.

CRC 2025-129 Institutional Review Board (IRB) arrangement with University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center (UH) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) for the REDMAP project.

Tabled Items

CRC 2025-118
13815-13817 Beaumont Ave, Up/Down
East Cleveland, OH 44112

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2025-117: Strategic Solutions, Inc. - $45,995.00 to be submitted to Board for approval.

CRC 2025-130: American Builders & Applicators - $48,900.00 to be submitted to Board for approval.

CRC 2025-131: American Builders & Applicators - $62,300.00 to be submitted to Board for approval.

Contract Approvals & Authorizations

CRC 2025-123: Addendum – American Builders & Applicators – increase the amount to be paid from $22,700.00 to $23,850.00.

CRC 2025-132: American Builders & Applicators - $20,300.00

CRC 2025-133: American Builders & Applicators - $25,300.00

CRC 2025-134: American Builders & Applicators - $16,800.00

CRC 2025-135: Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation – fees set by Superintendent of Bureau.

CRC 2025-136: Public Health Services Council of Ohio - $16,500.00

CRC 2025-137: Addendum – American Builders & Applicators – increase the amount to be paid from $22,700.00 to $24,850.00

CRC 2025-138: Addendum – A.J. Boggs & IXN, Inc. – increase the amount to be paid from $50,085.00 to $66,285.00

CRC 2025-139: Addendum – Upward Spiral Coaching & Consulting – increase amount to be paid from $21,060.00 to $42,120.00

CRC 2025-140: Addendum – Muse Content Group – decrease amount to be paid from $28,000.00 to $24,500.00

2. July 15, 2025 CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2025-141: Addendum – Green Home Solutions – No cost extension.

Contract Withdrawals

CRC 2025-118
13815-13817 Beaumont Ave, Up/Down
East Cleveland, OH 44112

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2025-142: Paragon CMS - $68,810.00 – to be submitted to Board for approval

CRC 2025-143: Croxton Tech – to be submitted to Board for approval

Contract Approvals & Authorizations

CRC 2025-144: Lead Guru - $11,030.00

CRC 2025-145: Addendum - American Builders & Applicators – increase amount to be paid from $11,450.00 to $16,700.00

B. Other Contracts

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Roderick L. Harris, Secretary	Dr. Gregory L. Hall, President