



Fairfield County Health Department

R. Joseph Ebel RS, MS, MBA
Health Commissioner

BOARD OF HEALTH RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Fairfield County Health Department
Minutes of the Board of Health
May 14, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: Fairfield County Health Department (FCHD), 1550 Sheridan Dr., Ste. 100, Lancaster

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Michele Morrone at 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Brian Oliver
Dr. Michele Morrone
Tina Childers
Tina Anderson

Board Members Absent

Dr. Allen Shaw

STAFF PRESENT

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner; Rachel Moresea, Environmental Health Director; Mary Smith, WIC Director; Baylie Blevins, Health Promotion and Planning Director; Jamie Ehorn, Administrative Services Director; Gale Neville, Nursing Director; Dr. Steven Kapetansky, Medical Director

OTHERS PRESENT

N/A

A quorum was established. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes from the board meeting on April 9, 2025, were presented for approval. Tina Childers made a motion to approve the minutes, Brian Oliver seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

FEATURED PRESENTATION

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner, presented on the Ohio Public Health Basics 2025. The presentation included the following:

- 3 key findings for policymakers
- How public health is structured in Ohio
- Size of population served by Ohio LHD jurisdiction
- State public health funding per capita
- Overall public health spending
- Local health department revenue
- National Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) framework
- Average per capita local health department expenditures
- Ohio Department of Health revenue
- Ohio Department of Health expenditures
- PHAB Public Health Workforce Calculator
- PHAB domains
- FCHD's Future Goals
- Next steps

HEARINGS & VARIANCES

Rachel Moresea, Environmental Health Director, presented a plan review for approval for Geneva Hills to build a cabin. Geneva Hills is a residential camp and falls under the Board of Health to approve the plans. Adding one more cabin doesn't exceed the gallons per day on their septic system. EPA does not have any concerns regarding the septic system. Documents show potential for another cabin in the future, however, the system is much larger than necessary currently.

Tina Childers made a motion to approve the Geneva Hills Plan to add a cabin. Brian Oliver seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

DIVISION REPORTS

Environmental Health Report

Mrs. Moresea provided a written report to the Board. Recently seeing a lot of confirmed foodborne illnesses, not just complaints. A tire collection drive was held in Thurston and collected 688 tires. Mosquito spraying in Townships and Villages has started. Our Mosquito Intern starts June 2nd.

Nursing Report

Gale Neville, Nursing Director, provided a written report to the Board. Mrs. Neville and Mr. Ebel met with the Fairfield Community Health Center and discussed partnering on projects. Our Community Health Worker appointments skyrocketed in April, she is booked out until June.

Newborn Home Visits are up slightly. There was one Rotavirus case at a Long-Term Care Facility last month and immunizations are down.

WIC Report

Mary Smith, WIC Director, provided a written report to the Board. There was an increase in caseload at both Lancaster and Pickerington locations. Ms. Smith and Mr. Ebel attended the WIC Director's meeting. The main focus was on funding and how funding amounts are determined.

Planning and Promotion Report

Baylie Blevins, Health Promotion Director, provided a written report to the Board. The busy season has started for her division. Mrs. Blevins is sending out weekly events to board members. Community Health Assessment survey numbers have increased to almost 400 responses. Some smaller grants were received in April, Mosquito, PEP, Open Dumping for Signage, South Central for car seats, Safe Kids grant for \$500 and some bike helmets. State Farm will be matching the \$500 Safe Kids grant. We are still working on Overdose and Suicide Fatality Review programs. Kelly Brown, Riley Ernst, Judy Tata-Scali and Jen Valentine all graduated from the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program. We held a Mother's Day Breakfast and Cinco De Mayo taco bar for staff. Our Tobacco program reached over 100,000 youth during a 3-month media campaign.

Health Commissioner's Report

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner, provided a written report to the Board. During the Overdose Prevention meeting for 2024, Mr. Ebel reported 36 overdose deaths last year, down from 58 the previous year. The highest, in 2020, was 60 deaths in one year. Currently, there have been 6 overdose deaths this year. Mr. Ebel discussed house bills and the state budget.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND BILLS

Jamie Ehorn, Administrative Services Director provided financial reports and a bill list to the Board for approval. We are 33% of the way through the year and we have received 46% of the budgeted revenue and spent 29% in expenses.

Tina Childers made a motion to approve the financial report and bill list. Tina Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2025-06 Cash Advance Repayment from the Bioterrorism Fund back to the General Fund in the amount of \$125,885 was presented to the board for approval.

Brian Oliver made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-06, Tina Childers seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

Dr. Steven Kapetansky spoke about Tickborne Disease Awareness month. Mrs. Moresea discussed our tick sweeping process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The board entered executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employees.

A motion was made by Tina Childers to enter executive session to discuss the compensation of public employees. Second, Tina Anderson. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed:

Brian Oliver - Aye
Dr. Michele Morrone - Aye
Tina Anderson - Aye
Tina Childers – Aye

The Board entered executive session at 5:03 p.m.
The Board returned from executive session at 5:25 p.m.

A motion was made by Brian Oliver to return from executive session. Second, Tina Childers. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed.

Brian Oliver - Aye
Dr. Michele Morrone - Aye
Tina Anderson - Aye
Tina Childers – Aye

No further action was taken following the return from executive session.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS: N/A

NEXT BOARD MEETING: June 11, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Fairfield County Health Department, 1550 Sheridan Drive, Ste. 100, Lancaster

ADJOURN The Board of Health Meeting adjourned on a motion by Brian Oliver. Tina Childers seconded the motion at 5:26 p.m. Motion passed.

Approved:

Signature and date on file _____ Date: _____ Dr. Michele Morrone, Board President

Signature and date on file _____ Date: _____ R. Joseph Ebel, Health Commissioner