

GREENE COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
May 1, 2025

The Greene County Board of Health met in regular session on Thursday, May 1, 2025, in Conference Room 124 of the health district office. The meeting convened at approximately 6:30 p.m. In attendance: Jane Clifton, President; Sylvia Ellison, Vice President; Todd Dudley, Scott Hammond, William Harden, Marty Larson, Angelia Mickle, DNP; Timothy Roop, Nancy Terwoord, and David Thompson. Excused: Connie Helmuth, Ratna Palakodeti, M.D., and Andrew Root. Employees in attendance: Melissa Howell, Health Commissioner; Noah Stuby, Deputy Health Commissioner; Kevin Sharrett, M.D., Medical Director; Shadrack Adams, Olivia Detty, Nancy Kessinger, Allyson Moore, and Erin Stafford. Excused: Jennifer Barga and Sheryl Wynn.

Ms. Clifton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and introduced our guest presenters, Ms. Moore and Ms. Stafford, as well as the Help Me Grow Program Manager, Ms. Kessinger.

Ms. Clifton also introduced the newest board member, Mr. Dudley, who represents the City of Bellbrook. Mr. Dudley introduced himself and spoke about his background.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA/MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Ms. Clifton introduced the consent agenda, including the meeting minutes for April 3, 2025.

#25-05-01-02 Mr. Harden moved to approve the consent agenda and the April 3, 2025, meeting minutes. Mr. Roop seconded the motion. The motion was carried by acclamation.

PRESENTATION

Allyson Moore and Erin Stafford, both Public Health Nurses at Greene County Public Health, gave tonight's presentation, "Nurse-Family Partnership."

Ms. Moore and Ms. Stafford reviewed their backgrounds and discussed the Nurse-Family Partnership program. They covered eligibility requirements, program goals, and key focus topics. The board watched a video titled "Better Worlds Start with Great Mothers, and Great Mothers Start with Us." This video featured testimonials from mothers who participated in the program, highlighting its positive impact on their lives and those of their children.

Ms. Moore and Ms. Stafford answered questions from the board.

The presentation lasted 17 minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Deputy Health Commissioner Stuby reviewed the April income and expenditure report, the April voucher summary, and the appropriation transfers and fund transfers/temporary advances. Deputy Health Commissioner Stuby satisfactorily answered all questions.

#25-05-01-01 Mr. Larson moved approval of the income and expenditure report, voucher summary, appropriation transfers, and fund transfers/temporary advances. Mr. Dudley seconded the motion. The motion was carried by acclamation.

GOVERNANCE REPORTS

Governance Committee – No report.

Performance and Evaluation Committee – Mr. Harden reported that the committee met on Monday, April 21, at 5:30 p.m. to review Health Commissioner Howell's contract and conduct her employee performance evaluation. Out of 100 percent, Health Commissioner Howell scored 97.97 percent on her employee performance evaluation.

The Performance and Evaluation Committee recommends the approval of Health Commissioner Howell's Employee Performance Evaluation.

#25-05-01-03 Mr. Harden moved on behalf of the Performance and Evaluation Committee for the approval of Health Commissioner Howell's Employee Performance Evaluation. The motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Harden asked Health Commissioner Howell to speak about her contract. Health Commissioner Howell explained that there were no significant changes in the contract, and it is another five-year contract with her current salary, with the understanding that she is eligible for COLA increases, as is everyone else. She does not want any increase beyond that for the next five years.

The Performance and Evaluation Committee recommends the approval of Health Commissioner Howell's Employee Agreement.

#25-05-01-04 Mr. Harden moved on behalf of the Performance and Evaluation Committee for the approval of Health Commissioner Howell's Employee Agreement. The motion was carried by acclamation.

Planning and Finance Committee – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Health Commissioner Howell introduced a letter received from the Greene County Sheriff's Office, requesting a \$10,000 contribution from Greene County Public Health to purchase an MX908 machine. This machine is used to test for drugs such as Fentanyl, Heroin and Methamphetamine. The machine would allow first responders to test these drugs safely. The machine would also help with the backlog and delays in waiting for test results, allowing agencies to move forward quickly with criminal investigations.

Health Commissioner Howell explained that since GCPH currently works in harm reduction, she has no problem recommending this contribution.

#25-05-01-05 Mr. Roop moved approval of the \$10,000 contribution to the Greene County Sheriff's Office to purchase an MX908 machine. Mr. Harden seconded the motion. The motion was carried by acclamation.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Dr. Sharrett provided an update on measles cases in the United States. On average, approximately 60 cases of measles are reported each year. However, in 2024, there were 280 cases, and as of the first quarter of 2025, the number has already increased to 900. Ohio is identified as one of the states experiencing outbreaks, and it is part of a total of 30 states experiencing outbreaks. Unfortunately, there have been three reported deaths due to measles in the United States. It is important to note that 98% of measles cases occur in unvaccinated individuals, highlighting the need for vaccination awareness.

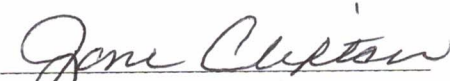
Additionally, the CDC reported a rise in cases of bird flu (H5N1) this week.

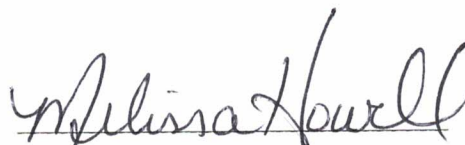
On the legislative front, the first version of the budget has been passed by the legislature. This version includes an amendment to eliminate the office of the county coroner. While this proposal is not new and has been introduced in previous years, it suggests replacing the elected coroner's position with one that is appointed by the county commissioners. The proposal is currently with the Senate and will be submitted to the governor by June 30, 2025.

Health Commissioner Howell added that the governor's budget proposed increased funding for the Family Connects program, but the House removed it. This program, which is open to all mothers regardless of WIC or Medicaid eligibility, has already helped 14 families this quarter, improving the chances of babies in their first year of life. It was created due to the absence of a newborn home visiting program in previous years. While the typical annual infant death rate is five, it increased to nine in 2022.

Health Commissioner Howell thanked the board for the opportunity to serve them over the past five years.

There being no further business, the Greene County Board of Health meeting for May 1, 2025, adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.


Jane Clifton, President


Melissa Howell, Secretary