



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 - 5:00 p.m.

5th Floor Board Room

Present: Kenny Murray, MD, Iris Fancher, MD, Jeffrey Dobyns, DO, Michele Kong, MD, and Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

Absent: Hernando Carter, MD

Others Present: Nicole Standridge, Mark Wilson, MD, David Maxey, Esq., David Hicks, DO, Rodney Holmes, Bryn Manzella, and Terrie Hartley

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Murray, Chair.

Minutes of the January 12, 2022 meeting were approved as distributed.

Public Health Advised Fund

Dr. Wilson provided a brief background on the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (CFGB) and some of the grants that are supported through the Public Health Advised Fund (PHAF). Two of the larger grants we support are the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) and the Recovery Resource Center (RRC). He said in 2005 the Board of Health passed a resolution that designated a portion of unrestricted General Fund net assets to establish the Public Health Community Projects Fund (PHCP) with earnings from that fund to be transferred to the CFGB. This fund has allowed us to help build public health capacity within the community.

Nicole Standridge, MPA, MPH, Program Officer with the CFGB said the PHAF was formed as an opportunity to support public health projects in Jefferson County. A JCDH committee led by Dr. Wilson was established to review and recommend projects to support. Since 2006, over \$5 million in grants have been distributed through the PHAF. Ms. Standridge highlighted grants that were approved in 2021 and shared that \$1,471,481 in commitments and active grants were awarded last year. In 2020, besides the grants to support the Nurse-Family Partnership and Recovery Resource Center, grant making focused more on COVID 19-related projects and services.

Some of the grant opportunities in 2022 include the Hospital-Linked Violence Intervention Program, RRC and NFP.

January 2022 Financial Statement

Dr. Murray noted the January 2022 Financial Statements were included in the Board package. There were no questions from the Board.

Contracts

On the motion of Dr. Fancher, and seconded by Dr. Kong, the following contracts were approved:

Renewal of a contract with Spain-Gillon, LLC (payee) to provide legal services to JCDH in the amount of \$160 to \$235 per hour for legal services and \$95 per hour for paralegal services from March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

An amendment to a contract with AMT Staffing (payee) to provide staffing for department operations when demand to meet public health emergency or crisis exceeds JCDH capacity, hourly rate based on discipline; not to exceed \$100,000 from March 3, 2022 through March 3, 2023.

An amendment to a contract with Phreesia, Inc. (payee) for an automated intake platform designed to improve efficiency of the medical record and clinical areas. Amendment is to upgrade to Phreesia Care Pad for an additional \$40.88 per month; not to exceed \$50 per month from February 1, 2022 through February 1, 2023.

A new contract with Health Screening Services, LLC d/b/a Health Screening Solutions (payee) to provide COVID-19 testing services as mutually agreed upon during the COVID-19 pandemic at a rate of \$950 per day plus \$100 per test for persons whom contractor is unable to obtain billing reimbursement; not to exceed \$105,000 from January 10, 2022 through February 26, 2022.

A new contract with Dr. Celeste Reese Willis Medical Group, LLC (payee) to provide COVID-19 testing services as mutually agreed upon during the COVID-19 pandemic at a rate of \$950 per day plus \$100 per test for persons whom contractor is unable to obtain billing reimbursements; not to exceed \$35,000 from January 28, 2022 through February 26, 2022.

A new contract with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (payee) to provide traffic control logistical services during COVID-19 testing site operational hours at the Center Point and Midfield sites; not to exceed \$30,000 from January 25, 2022 through February 26, 2022. Dr. Wilson noted this contract was cancelled by the Sheriff's Office and will be replaced with contracts with individual officers.

A new contract with Apostolic Overcoming Holy Church of God, Inc. (payee) who will provide use of site and electricity to facilitate logistical operations for COVID-19 testing site at a rate of \$75 per day/6 days per week; not to exceed \$1,800 from January 25, 2022 through February 26, 2022.

A new contract with Servco, LLC (payee) to provide heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), and refrigeration services to JCDH at a rate of \$3,940; not to exceed \$5,000 from February 11, 2022 through February 11, 2023.

A new bid contract with G & G Lawn Care, LLC (payee) to provide landscaping services to replace dead and missing shrubbery at the JCDH Annex perimeter per bid #22-12-03 at a rate of \$12,875; not to exceed \$14,000 from March 11, 2022 through March 11, 2023.

A new bid contract with Comfort Systems USA Midsouth (payee) to provide HVAC contractual services to JCDH per bid #22-12-01 at a rate of \$96,886; not to exceed \$100,000 from March 11, 2022 through March 11, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with Fikes of Alabama, LLC (payee) for air freshener and sanitizing drip services for JCDH. Amendment is to extend terms of agreement; not to exceed \$7,040 from January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022.

A new contract with Bhate Geosciences Corporation (payee) to provide subsurface exploration and geotechnical engineering evaluation to JCDH; not to exceed \$6,000 from February 1, 2022 until completion.

A new bid contract with Hill's Janitorial Service, Inc. (payee) who will provide contractual janitorial services to JCDH per bid #22-01-04; not to exceed \$1,000,000 from February 1, 2022 through February 1, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with Harvard University Center for Aids Research (payor) to build foundation for electronic health record (EHR)-based decision support for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) that incorporates a HIV prediction model to improve PrEP use. Amendment to add additional funding in the amount of \$32,274.61; not to exceed \$33,000 from August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022.

A new contract with the Jefferson County Commission (payor) who will donate funds to support the Household Hazardous Waste Day event scheduled for April 9, 2022 in the amount of \$40,000 from December 14, 2021 through April 9, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to provide funding for Disease Intervention Specialist within the Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) program to conduct case investigations; not to exceed \$97,400 from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to scale up HIV prevention services in dedicated STD clinics in offering PrEP, nPep, strengthening clinic and laboratory capacity for recommended follow-up visits and optimizing linkage to retention in and re-engagement with HIV medical care; not to exceed \$102,563.20 from January 1, 2022 through July 31, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health Services (payor) to establish a supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) at Central, Eastern, and Western health centers; not to exceed \$3,082,238 from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Report of the Health Officer

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Wilson reported the seven-day rolling average of COVID-19 cases per day is just over 200 which is down from a peak of almost 1,900 per day. The percent positivity rate for Jefferson County for the past week is 13.7%, down from over 40% during the peak. He said even though the numbers are better, Jefferson County's community transmission level is still considered high according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As of yesterday there were 282 adults hospitalized with COVID down from over 600 in late January. There are currently 25 children hospitalized with COVID. Sixty-four percent of the overall population has received at least one dose of the vaccine and 52% have completed their initial vaccination series.

JCDH continues to offer vaccinations four days a week at the Guy Tate building. JCDH's media campaign focus is for people to stay up-to-date on their COVID vaccine, including booster shots. The JCDH COVID Call Center is still operational as a resource for those who have COVID-related questions.

COVID-19 Testing

Dr. Wilson stated in January 2022 JCDH set up four COVID test sites throughout Jefferson County but due to a significant decrease in the demand for testing, the decision was made to discontinue those sites. The last day of site operation will be the end of this week. Options are being explored on ways to expedite a testing site in the event there is another COVID surge like we experienced with Omicron.

Legislative Update

Dr. Wilson reported the Fentanyl Test Strip Bill has passed the Alabama Senate. The bill passed the House Public Safety Committee unanimously and will go to the House floor next, possibly as soon as next week.

A report from the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's office received yesterday shows there were 400 overdose deaths in 2021 which is 70% increase compared to 2019. Three hundred and sixteen of those deaths involved fentanyl. JCDH is continuing to distribute naloxone kits and if the fentanyl bill is passed, the plan is to add fentanyl test strips to the kits as one means of distribution to people at potential risk.

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services News Release

Dr. Wilson shared a news release from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announcing JCDH Pediatric Clinic was among twenty winners of the *Promoting Pediatric Primary Prevention (P4) Challenge*, a nationwide grant competition to increase pediatric vaccination rates and well-child visits.

Title X Family Planning Program

Dr. Wilson announced that in addition to regular Title X Family Planning funding the JCDH Family Planning program was awarded an additional \$1.5 million of competitive grant money to address gaps in disparities in underserved populations including rural populations. JCDH is proposing the grant money be used to establish a teen clinic at Western Health Center, establish a telehealth component to our family planning services, increase access to services for males at our clinic sites, start a new mobile family planning unit and use additional money for an educational digital media campaign.

The World Games 2022

Dr. Wilson said personnel from Environmental Health's Food and Lodging division have been working with food vendors to make sure they are trained and in compliance with food and safety regulations for The World Games (TWG) 2022. JCDH is also working with the TWG planning committee to determine the need for any potential COVID precautions.

Environmental Health Storm Water Management

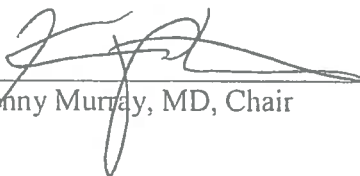
Dr. Wilson noted there is a lot of flooding in Jefferson County, including the cities of Midfield and Brighton. Environmental Health commissioned a hydrologist with Auburn University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering to do a study on the tributaries that run into Valley Creek. Dr. Wilson and a couple of Environmental Health staff met recently with some county engineers and the county commissioners which represent those cities to make them aware of the study results and recommendations. He said the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers also did a study of Valley Creek at the request of Jefferson County. Dr. Wilson said the Auburn University study and the Army Corp of Engineer's study look at different components of the Valley Creek watershed and are complementary to each other. The Auburn University study looked at the tributaries that flow into neighborhoods in Brighton and Midfield and what could be done to alleviate the problem at a local level.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m. The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the 5th Floor Board Room or via Zoom (announcement will be made prior to the meeting date).

Michèle Kong, MD

Michèle Kong, MD, Secretary

Approved:


Kenny Murray, MD, Chair