



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, August 10, 2022 - 5:00 p.m.

5th Floor Board Room

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

OTHERS

PRESENT: Mark Wilson, MD, David Maxey, Esq., Rodney Holmes, David Hicks, DO, Kim Cason, Bryn Manzella, Denorris Dickson, Adriana Valenzuela, and Terrie Hartley

Call to Order

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

Minutes of the June 8, 2022 meeting were approved as distributed.

Cool Green Action Plan

Dr. Wilson introduced Francesca Gross, Environmental Specialist with Cawaco Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. He reminded the Board he has discussed climate change and sustainability, and the Cool Green Action Plan in previous Board meeting. He said Ms. Gross and Cawaco have submitted a proposal for Trees Birmingham which is a five-year program to assist JCDH in addressing climate change by planting trees in high risk areas. Money would be granted through the Public Health Advised Fund to fund this initiative.

Ms. Gross presented the Cool Green Action Plan via Zoom. The purpose of the plan is to identify and mitigate Urban Heat Island (UHI) areas in Jefferson County. She shared data that shows areas of high risk have hot summer nights, historic stormwater flooding and low air quality. Ms. Gross said one way to reduce those effects are to start planting trees. Some of the benefits of urban trees are:

- Reducing rates of cardiac disease, strokes, and asthma due to improved air quality
- Protecting biodiversity including habitat for migrating birds and pollinators,
- Cooling city streets by 2-4°F, reducing deaths from heat and cutting energy use
- Reducing obesity levels by increasing physical activity including walking and cycling
- Filtering up to a third of fine particle pollution within 300 yards of a tree
- Reducing stress by helping interrupt thought patterns that lead to anxiety and depression
- Increasing neighborhood property values
- Managing stormwater, keeping pollutants out of waterways, and reducing urban flooding

Ms. Gross noted Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Spatial Analysis which looked at urban health islands, air quality and flooding, and determined that the Ensley/Pratt City area in Birmingham and the downtown area in Bessemer were high risk zones. The Cool Green Action Plan works with landowners to identify tree planting sites in the area of focus, plants trees in the area of focus, uses existing education programs, connects with volunteer base for tree planting, and develops website/ArcGIS spatial analysis for tree planting results.

Ms. Gross answered question from the Board.

June 2022 and July 2022 Financial Statements

Dr. Murray noted the June and July 2022 Financial Statements were included in the Board materials. Rodney Holmes, CPA, Director of Finance and Administration, reviewed the financial statements.

Budget – Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Dr. Wilson informed the Board that JCDH had a surplus of approximately \$7 million dollars this past fiscal year and has put the money in the FY 2023 budget to go towards initiatives to promote public health and health equity in the community. One million dollars will go towards violence reduction efforts, \$2 million into the Red Rock Trail System and Environmental Protection Projects Fund, and \$4 million into the Public Health Advised Fund to support public health grants.

Mr. Holmes reviewed the fiscal year (FY) 2023 budget request.

The proposed General Fund budget totals \$62,639,456. This is an increase of \$9,843,491 (18%) from the fiscal year 2022 budget.

Revenue Highlights

The budget includes \$9,000,000 of ad valorem tax revenue, a 6% increase from fiscal year 2022. This amount is an estimate of two percent (2%) of the ad valorem taxes collected in Jefferson County for the County and its Municipalities, excluding those ad valorem taxes collected for the State of Alabama and all Boards of Education, and is the minimum percentage allowed in the funding legislation. The budget includes sales tax revenue of \$27,100,000, a 23% increase from fiscal year 2022.

Net Intergovernmental Revenue of \$2,047,352 is a decrease (-.3%) compared to the prior year's budget. Revenues for Service Charges (charges for services provided by the Department) in fiscal year 2023 are budgeted to be \$12,192,633. Clinical services revenue is budgeted higher (32%) due to a projected increase in patient encounters as compared to the pandemic-affected prior fiscal year.

The \$2,060,410 amount budgeted for Other Revenue/Non-Operating Revenue is lower than the prior-year budget by 12%.

An allocation of \$9,843,941 is expected from the Department's General Fund balance.

Expenditure Highlights

Personnel costs of \$37,691,875 (6%) are higher than those budgeted for fiscal year 2022 and include a proposed 6% Cost-of-Living-Adjustment. Salaries are 69% of the personnel cost budget, with employee and retiree benefits representing 29% and 2% respectively.

Contractual Services of \$12,533,685 are higher by approximately \$7 million than those budgeted in 2022. This is due to contracts with third-party entities to perform work on violence reduction, as well as other initiatives and grants to promote health and health equity within the community. Materials and Supplies costs are projected to be \$11,213,896, a .5% increase from fiscal year 2022.

The Capital Expenditure/Transfer budget of \$1,200,000 for capital asset replacement transfer remains unchanged from fiscal year 2022.

Capital Projects Fund

Expenditures of approximately \$3.8 million are planned for fiscal year 2023. This includes funds for capital improvements to the JCDH Annex, the addition of medical isolation rooms at each of the Department’s clinical facilities, the replacement of obsolete vehicles and the replacement of some IT infrastructure.

Special Revenue Funds

In addition to the General Fund Budget, the Department has seventeen active Special Revenue Funds expected to total approximately \$35 million. These funds are operated in accordance with the funding requirements of special grants and appropriations.

The General Fund, Capital Projects Fund and Special Revenue Fund budgets for fiscal year 2023 total \$101,507,087.

On the motion of Commissioner Stephens, and seconded by Dr. Fancher, the following resolutions were approved:

Budget – Fiscal Year 2022-2023

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Fund Budget of the Jefferson County Department of Health for fiscal year October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023, in the amount of \$62,639,456 is adopted. This budget includes a 6% cost of living increase for eligible Jefferson County Department of Health employees effective September 24, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Special Revenue Fund Budgets for fiscal year October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 are adopted.

Transfer of Funds

BE IT RESOLVED that the Health Officer of the Jefferson County Department of Health is authorized to transfer funds from one category or line item to another within the General Fund and all Special Revenue Funds, as necessary, to improve Department efficiency, as long as the approved General Fund Budget is not exceeded for the fiscal year October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

Holiday Schedule 2022-2023

BE IT RESOLVED by the Jefferson County Board of Health that the following are hereby declared as official holidays for eligible Jefferson County Department of Health employees for fiscal year 2022-2023.

November 11, 2022 (Friday)	Veterans Day
November 24 & 25, 2022 (Thursday and Friday)	Thanksgiving
December 23 & 26, 2022 (Friday and Monday)	Christmas
January 2, 2023 (Monday)	New Year's
January 16, 2023 (Monday)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
May 29, 2023 (Monday)	Memorial Day
June 19, 2023 (Monday)	Juneteenth National Independence Day
July 4, 2023 (Tuesday)	Independence Day
September 4, 2023 (Monday)	Labor Day
2 Days	Variable Days

State Pension One-Time Lump Sum Payment to Retirees – Retiree Act 2022-229

Be it resolved that the Jefferson County Department of Health, through its governing authority, elects to come under the provisions of Section 2 of Act 229 of the Regular Session of the 2022 Legislature.

The Jefferson County Department of Health agrees to provide all funds necessary to the Employees' Retirement System to cover the cost of the one-time lump sum payment as provided for by this Act for those eligible retirees and beneficiaries of deceased retirees of the Jefferson County Department of Health with the aforementioned lump sum payment being paid in October 2022.

City of Birmingham Pension One-Time Lump Sum Payment

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of Health (the "Board") functions as a county board of health pursuant to the laws of the state of Alabama, including, without limitation, sections 22-2-1 and 22-3-2 of the Code of Alabama; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to said laws the Board supervises the enforcement of the health laws of the state and elects and advises the Health Officer of Jefferson County who is responsible for the operations of the Jefferson County Department of Health (the "Department"); and,

WHEREAS, Act 2022-229 of the Alabama Legislature provides a one-time lump sum payment as calculated therein for retired state employees in the Employees' Retirement System, and also provides for a similar benefit to certain retirees and pensioners of governmental entities such as the Department, provided such entity opts to fund such benefits; and,

WHEREAS, after due consideration the Board is of the mind that all eligible retirees, pensioners, and beneficiaries of the Department should receive the one-time benefit, including those who receive benefits from the City of Birmingham Retirement and Relief System.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the Health Officer and his staff, at his direction, to fund the one-time lump sum benefit as calculated under the applicable terms of Alabama Act 2022-229 for all eligible retirees, pensioners and beneficiaries of the Department including those who receive or are eligible to receive benefits from the City of Birmingham Retirement and Relief System, and to determine the proper amount of method of payment.

Contracts

On the motion of Dr. Dobyns, and seconded by Dr. Carter, the following contracts were approved:

An amendment to a contract with Athena Health (payee) to add and incorporate Data View services and Go Live Authorization to AthenaNet data via a secure database hosted in the Cloud for a monthly of \$1,799 per month; not to exceed \$21,588 per year from June 15, 2022 through June 15, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Anita Smith & Company, Inc. (payee) to provide professional writing services to JCDH; not to exceed \$111,666.67 from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Meredith Clement (payee) who will transcribe audiotaped interviews conducted by writer Anita Smith relevant to the JCDH History Book Project at a rate of \$0.22 cents per line plus \$20 per hour editing; not to exceed \$13,458.60 from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with Wolters Kluwer (payee) for a subscription to Up To Date for providers. This is a software system that is a point of care medical resource; not to exceed \$13,011 from August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023.

A new contract with CCMNT Speakers, LLC (payee) for Joia Creer-Perry, MD to provide a one-hour Continuing Medical Education (CME) virtual lecture and questions and answer session on Birth Equity to JCDH staff; not to exceed \$5,000 from May 17, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

An amendment to a contract with BGrace Media, LLC (payee) to provide media campaign services related to safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccine as it relates to the Omicron variant. The amendment is to extend contract terms and shall not to exceed \$204,000 from February 1, 2022 through June 15, 2022.

An amendment to a contract with Brand Resource, Inc. d/b/a Signage (payee) to provide signage and work services to JCDH. The amendment is to provide additional and corrective work; not to exceed \$3,283 from April 5, 2022 through December 15, 2022.

A new contract with iOn Integrated Solutions, LLC d/b/a 1 Point USA (payee) to provide additional security equipment to the Guy M. Tate building for The World Games; not to exceed \$21,549.98 from June 9, 2022 through August 9, 2022.

A new contract with Dominion Security Group (payee) to provide additional security services to JCDH during The World Games; not to exceed \$43,200 from July 1, 2022 through July 30, 2022.

A new contract with Dominion Security Group (payee) who will provide security site patrol services for remote COVID-19 testing site; not to exceed \$8,820 from June 30, 2022 through July 31, 2022.

A new bid contract with WestMed Disposal, Inc. (payee) will provide infectious waste disposal services per bid #22-05-11 for a three-year rate amount of \$10,764; not to exceed \$35,000 from June 9, 2022 to June 8, 2025.

A new bid contract with Guardian-IPCO, Inc. (payee) to provide water treatment services to JCDH per bid #22-05-12; not to exceed \$21,000 from June 17, 2022 through June 16, 2025.

Renewal of a contract with MXI Environmental Services, LLC (payee) to provide comprehensive household hazardous waste (HHW) collection, transportation and management of recycling and disposal of HHW materials per bid award #22-04-10 from June 7, 2022 through June 7, 2025.

A new contract with Eastern Research Group, Inc. (payee) who will provide air pollutant sample analysis for hexavalent chromium for the Wylam Study; not to exceed \$30,240 from April 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

A new contract with Advance Local Media, LLC to provide use of site to facilitate logistical operations of COVID-19 testing from June 27, 2022 through August 27, 2022.

A new contract with United States Environmental Protection Agency (payor) for application for Special American Rescue Plan funding for particulate matter 2.5 monitoring; not to exceed \$229,000 from August 1, 2022 through August 1, 2024.

Renewal of a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health Bureau of Family Health Services (payor) to provide for early detection of breast and cervical cancer for women in the state of Alabama; not to exceed \$180,000 from June 30, 2022 through June 29, 2023.

Renewal of a contract with GoldenPoint Solutions, LLC (payee) who will provide COVID-19 medical laboratory services for persons located in Jefferson County during the COVID-19 pandemic at a rate amount of \$79 per COVID-19 test performed; not to exceed \$50,000 from May 23, 2022 through November 30, 2022.

An amendment with Grey Barn, LLC (payee) for use of site to facilitate logistical operations of the COVID-19 testing site; not to exceed \$2,500 from July 31, 2022 through August 27, 2022.

An amendment to a contract with Global Resources, LLC formerly known as Employment Screening Services, Inc. (payee) who will provide background checks, drug screens, and monthly Fraud and Abuse Control Information System reporting; not to exceed \$14,999 from July 10, 2022 through July 9, 2023.

A new contract with the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation (The Workplace) (payee) who will perform tuberculosis (TB) skin tests on all new hires and on current employees that work in divisions that are required to be tested annually or biannually, at a rate of \$15 per skin test, \$100 per blood draw, and \$65 per chest x-ray; not to exceed \$8,000 from June 13, 2022 through June 13, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with Carr, Riggs & Ingram (payee) who provides financial statement audits. The amendment is to increase the amount by \$20,000 and the not to exceed amount to \$75,000 for year one of the agreement from February 26, 2021 through September 30, 2023.

Renewal of a contract with Telelanguage, Inc. (payee) who will provide telephonic interpretation services for all languages and American Sign Language video interpreting supported 24-hours a day, 7 days a week for 365 days a year; not to exceed \$14,999 from June 3, 2022 through June 3, 2025.

A new contract with Maya Interpreters, LLC (payee) who will provide interpretation for Mayan languages on an as needed basis to JCDH staff upon availability of services; not to exceed \$7,000 from May 31, 2022 through May 31, 2023.

A new contract with Auburn University, Harrison College of Pharmacy (payee) who will provide technical housing of the ALAHOPE Curriculum for substance use and pain management as part of the JCDH Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) project; not to exceed \$47,375 from June 21, 2022 through June 20, 2027.

A new contract with Auburn Technical Assistance Center (payee) who will provide Lean Training for designated JCDH staff; not to exceed \$22,000 from June 28, 2022 through September 28, 2022.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) to provide clinical support to JCDH Sexually Transmitted Disease Program; not to exceed \$81,775 from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

A new contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) to provide COVID-19 wastewater surveillance services to JCDH at the rate amount of \$85 per SARS-COV-2 PCR test performed; not to exceed \$23,250 per year from May 3, 2022 through April 30, 2023.

A new bid contract with Don's Detailing Service (payee) who will provide mobile vehicle wash and detail services to JCDH per bid #22-06-14; not to exceed \$45,000 a year from August 15, 2022 through August 14, 2024.

Renewal of a contract with Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) for JCDH to provide Family Planning services under the Title X Family Planning grant; not to exceed \$639,167 from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023.

Renewal of a contract with the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama on behalf of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payor) for tenant to utilize JCDH premises as a clinical teaching and research site for UAB Division of Infectious Diseases at a rate of \$1,645.23 per month; not to exceed \$19,874.76 from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

A new contract with US Health and Life Insurance Company (payor) who will remit payment for medical services provided by JCDH with amount to be determined by patient services provided from January 1, 2023 through January 1, 2025.

An amendment to a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to provide the Department a written work plan with milestones, timeline, and responsible party for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Enhanced Detection activities; not to

exceed \$9,419,185.77 from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. Amendment is to extend terms of the contract.

An amendment to a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) to provide administration and coordination with ADPH on all aspects of the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Enhanced Detection Expansion cooperative agreement; not to exceed \$28,254,964.33 from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. Amendment is to extend the terms of the contract.

An amendment to a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Emergency Preparedness (payor) to provide grant funds for JCDH Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) grant activities at the local level; not to exceed \$86,312 from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Amendment is to extend the terms of the agreement.

An amendment to a contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health (payor) who will provide grant funds for JCDH all hazards at the local level; not to exceed \$478,042 from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Amendment is to extend the effective date of the grant agreement.

Report of the Health Officer

Monkeypox Update

Dr. Wilson reported Alabama has 22 confirmed cases of monkeypox with some of those in Jefferson County. The Disease Control Specialty Clinic has received a small allotment of the tecovirimat (TPOXX) vaccine for people who are at high risk for severe illness. On August 1 the Specialty Clinic began treating people with the JYNNEOS vaccine and currently has 150 doses in stock. There has been an average of 15 doses per day given to people that are in the high risk category or have been exposed. Dr. David Hicks, Deputy Health Officer, has been working on a scheduling system in which people can schedule the vaccines online. Due to the limited number of doses, JCDH has not advertised that we have the vaccine but we are expected to receive more in the near future. Dr. Wilson said JCDH is in Incident Command for monkeypox response.

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Wilson stated the 7-day average of COVID-19 cases per day peaked at 368 cases on July 25. The cases per day have been slowly trending downward since then and we are now averaging about 300 cases per day. Jefferson County is currently at a 29% positivity rate for the past week which is on par with the rest of Alabama. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) releases the COVID-19 Community Level every Thursday, and the Jefferson County Community Level went from “Red” or High to “Yellow” or Medium this past week. If the level remains in the Medium category JCDH will go to “mask optional” at JCDH facilities for non-clinical areas.

Dr. Wilson noted the contract for the COVID-19 test site located at 1809 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, has been extended through August 27 and there are no plans to extend it past that date. JCDH is still holding COVID-19 vaccine clinics at the Guy M. Tate building every Tuesday and Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. We are now offering the protein-based Novavax vaccine to individuals age 18 and older who are unvaccinated.

Hospital-linked Violence Intervention Program

Dr. Wilson reminded the Board that Offender Alumni Association (OAA) was awarded the Hospital-linked Violence Intervention Program grant and will be running the program. JCDH and UAB Trauma and Acute Care Surgery have had representatives join in on interviews to fill positions. So far they have hired a supervisor for the Violence Intervention Specialists, and several Violence Intervention Specialists have been interviewed with more to come. They are also searching for a Licensed Social Worker. He stated they are hoping to have workers hired in time to begin training in October, with the program beginning in December or January.

Fentanyl Test Strips

Dr. Wilson reported JCDH has created a new training video on how to use fentanyl test strips and it will soon be available on the JCDH website. The test strips will be available for distribution for individuals who complete the online request form and watch the video. He said JCDH is working on agreements with partner organizations that have an interest in distributing test strips.

JCDH 5-Year Strategic Plan

Dr. Wilson said the Executive Management Team has Zoom interviews scheduled with prospective consultants who will help facilitate the next JCDH strategic planning process. He said they are looking to have a plan in place at the beginning of 2023.

2021 JCDH Annual Report

Dr. Wilson noted a copy of the 2021 JCDH Annual Report was included in the Board materials and a digital copy was emailed to Board members.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the 5th Floor Board Room.



Michele Kong, MD, Secretary

Approved:



Kenny Murray, MD, Chair