



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.

5th Floor Board Room

PRESENT: Kenny Murray, MD, Iris Fancher, MD, Jeffrey Dobyns, DO, Michele Kong, MD, and Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD

ABSENT: Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

OTHERS

PRESENT: Jason Harpe, David Maxey, Esq., Sha Miles, Karlisa Harris, David Hicks, DO, Rodney Holmes, Loretta Hicks, Catherine Cannon, Courtney Baker, Kim Cason, Bryn Manzella, Senitra Blackburn, Erika Perkins, Mark Wilson, MD, and Terrie Hartley

Call to Order

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

Minutes of the March 8, 2023 meeting were approved as distributed.

Fiscal Year 2022 Audit Report

Jason Harpe, CPA, Partner with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC presented the Department's Fiscal Year 2022 audit report. Mr. Harpe stated the auditors are issuing an unmodified opinion, which is the highest opinion they can issue for financial statements. JCDH has a net pension liability of \$51,497,774 for its unfunded pension obligation with the Retirement Systems of Alabama as of September 30, 2022. He commended JCDH for its contributions to the trust for post-employment benefits. Mr. Harpe reviewed the required communication to the Board that is located at the end of the 2022 Audit Report.

The Board unanimously accepted the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit Report.

March 2023 Financial Statements

Dr. Murray noted the March 2023 Financial Statements were included in the Board material. There were no questions from the Board.

Contracts

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

A new contract with LRY Media Group, LLC (payee) who will provide professional event consultation and planning services to JCDH for the Employee Team Day event held in October 2023; not to exceed \$25,000 from February 20, 2023 through October 23, 2023.

A new contract with Central Alabama Pride (payee) for Disease Control staff to educate and promote Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), sexually transmitted disease and clinic services information to the attendees of the Central Alabama Pride community event; not to exceed \$5,000 on June 12, 2023.

A new contract with Wells Fargo Merchant Services, LLC (payee) to provide an online payment platform for Environmental Health Services Center; not to exceed \$50,000 from February 1, 2023 through February 1, 2026.

An amendment to a contract with Crisis Center, Inc. (payee) to extend terms of agreement for one full-time Peer Support Specialist to work in the UAB Emergency Department during weekday business hours to support the National Association of County and City Officials Implementation Overdose Prevention Strategies at the Local Level; not to exceed \$50,000 from March 1, 2023 through July 22, 2023.

A new contract with Rivera Communications (payee) for radio advertising to inform and educate the Hispanic Community on sexually transmitted infections and promote JCDH's testing events during Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Awareness Week; not to exceed \$2,500 from March 18, 2023 through April 30, 2023.

A new contract with Courtney French Broadcasting, LLC (payee) for radio promotion to educate Jefferson County residents on STIs, promote JCDH's testing events during STI Awareness Week and provide on-site remote and scheduled station interviews; not to exceed \$5,000 from March 13, 2023 through April 22, 2023.

A new contract with Summit Media, LLC (payee) for radio promotion to educate Jefferson County residents on STIs, promote JCDH's testing events during STI Awareness Week and provide on-site remote and scheduled interviews; not to exceed \$10,000 from March 13, 2023 through April 24, 2023.

A new contract with iHeartMedia, Inc. (payee) for radio promotion to educate Jefferson County residents on STIs, promote JCDH's testing events during STI Awareness Week; not to exceed \$10,000 from March 13, 2023 through May 7, 2023.

A new contract with Lider News (payee) for advertising and promotional services using various print and digital formats to inform and educate the Hispanic Community on STIs and promote JCDH's testing events during STI Awareness Week; not to exceed \$5,000 from March 13, 2023 through April 24, 2023.

A new contract with Formax (payee) to repair and provide maintenance services to JCDH Print Shop Atlas-AS folding machine; not to exceed \$1,993.20 from March 8, 2023 through March 8, 2024.

A new contract with Access Information Management Corp. (payee) who will digitize approximately 3,600 death records currently at the Walker County Courthouse as part of the JCDH Overdose Data to Action project to allow more accurate reporting of overdose deaths through electronic searchable records; not to exceed \$5,000 from February 15, 2023 through August 31, 2023.

An amendment to a contract with The Board of Trustees for the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (payee) to extend the contract terms consistent with the National Association of County and City Officials Implementing Overdose Response Strategies at the Local Level; not to exceed \$250,000 from January 1, 2023 through July 22, 2023.

A new contract with American Cargo Group (payee) for the purchase of two trailers which will be used to store and transport emergency preparedness supplies, including items for medical needs shelters; not to exceed \$30,387 on March 19, 2023.

A new contract with W.W. Grainger, Inc. (payee) for the purchase of miscellaneous medical needs shelter cots; not to exceed \$43,388.87 on March 15, 2023.

A new contract with MedTurn Inmar, Inc. (payor) to provide pharmaceutical return processing services for JCDH's expired and non-dispensable pharmaceuticals at 5 percent of anticipated return value for drug processing from March 8, 2023 through March 8, 2026.

Renewal of a contract with Jefferson County Commission (payor) whereby Contractor will donate funds to support the Household Hazardous Waste Day Event scheduled for April 29, 2023; not to exceed \$45,000 from March 2, 2023 through April 29, 2023.

Title V Permit Fees

Dr. Wilson said the following resolution is to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Title V permit fees for Major Source Operating Permit Fees. The rate has increased from last year's fee of \$99 per ton to \$102 per ton. He noted that permit fees are necessary to properly fund the Title V program. The Board was in agreement the fee increase was appropriate.

On the motion of Dr. Kong, and seconded by Dr. Fancher, the follow resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Air Act and the Jefferson County Board of Health Air Pollution Control Rules and Regulations require that the Title V operating permit program fees be established to adequately fund the Title V operating permit program's responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, that the Title V permit fees may be used only for the Title V permit program; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that for Fiscal Year 2023, Title V permit fee revenues, based on a fee of \$102 per ton will adequately fund the **direct** and **indirect** expenses of the Title V permit program for fiscal year 2023;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ORDAINED, ORDERED AND ENACTED BY THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH THAT:

Title V Operating Permit fees will be assessed at the rate of \$102 per ton for the release of each ton of regulated pollutant as specified in Chapter 16 of the Jefferson County Board of Health Air Pollution Control Rules and Regulations for calendar year 2022, which fees will be payable in fiscal year 2023.

Health Officer Report

Public Health Week Activities

Dr. Wilson said JCDH celebrated Public Health Week April 3–9. UAB School of Public Health hosted Dr. Wilson’s annual Public Health Address on April 4 at the UAB Hill Student Center. Participants had the option of attending in person or watching via Zoom. Dr. Wilson highlighted environmental issues facing Jefferson County such as watershed/storm water protection, air pollution control, and climate change mitigation. He said there was a networking event for students held after the public health address where they could interact with JCDH staff and learn about different divisions within JCDH.

Dr. Wilson, along with Dr. Scott Harris, State Health Officer and Dr. Kevin Michaels, Mobile County Health Officer, were keynote speakers on a panel discussion at the Alabama Public Health Networking Expo held at the Birmingham Hilton on April 6. The event was sponsored by the Alabama Public Health Association and UAB School of Public Health. Students from different universities gathered for the informative event to learn about important topics related to public health.

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Wilson reported the number of COVID-19 cases per day is averaging in the low thirties, down from an average in the low forties one month ago.

Dr. Wilson said President Biden signed a declaration ending the COVID-19 national emergency on April 10 and the national public health emergency declaration will end on May 11. He said Jefferson County is still under a public health emergency declaration that he issued in May of 2022. This was done to enable JCDH to make certain critical emergency purchases needed for our COVID pandemic response.

In light of the current situation locally and the termination of these national declarations, Dr. Wilson will be terminating the county public health emergency declaration on May 11 as well. With the cancellation of the county public health emergency, JCDH will be terminating some agreements we had with contractors for overall COVID response. The contract for the COVID hotline will be terminated and JCDH staff will begin fielding calls to the hot line, which is a JCDH-owned phone number. The JCDH-sponsored COVID-19 testing program for public safety and municipal and county government employees will also end. Dr. Wilson said COVID-19 vaccines are still being offered every Friday at the Guy Tate building while supplies last.

Influenza-like Illnesses

Dr. Wilson noted that influenza-like illness cases were down this past week to two percent of outpatient visits in Jefferson County and the rest of Alabama.

“Crush the Rush” Child Immunization Initiative

Dr. Wilson announced that JCDH is holding a “Crush the Rush” child immunization initiative to encourage parents to get their child’s back-to-school immunizations ahead of the school rush. The events will be held on Saturday, April 15 from 10:00 am–2:00 pm at Western, Central, and Eastern Health Centers and every Thursday, April 20 through June 30 from 2:00–6:00 pm. Local school systems have been notified so they can get this information out to parents. JCDH offers self-scheduling for immunizations.

Sexually Transmitted Infection Awareness Week

Dr. Wilson stated April 9–15 is Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Awareness Week. The Disease Control Division is offering free walk-in STI screenings for HIV, syphilis, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and trichomoniasis on April 11 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Eastern Health Center, April 12 from 4:30–6:00 pm at Central Health Center, and April 13 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Western Health Center.

Family Planning Services Mobile Unit

Dr. Wilson said the Family Planning team has been using the JCDH mobile unit to provide mobile family planning services. They are not able to provide full exams but offer birth control initiation, arrange clinic follow-up, and provide follow-up supply visits. They have also been providing human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations and teaming up with Disease Control to provide STI screenings. Over 700 free HPV vaccinations have been provided to young adults through the mobile unit. Recently a partnership has been developed with the Birmingham Housing Authority to bring these services into public housing communities. He said there are plans to purchase a new medical mobile unit equipped with exam rooms and that will be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, using special Title V (Family Planning) funds.

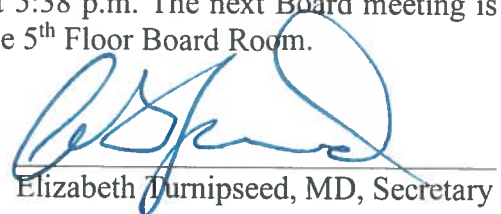
Expanded Dental Health Services

Dr. Wilson announced JCDH Dental Health will expand their dental services to accept pregnant and postpartum Medicaid patients who are referred by UAB Maternity Clinics, which are housed at JCDH health centers, and from certain partner programs such as From Day One, Nurse Family Partnership, and Birmingham Healthy Start Plus.

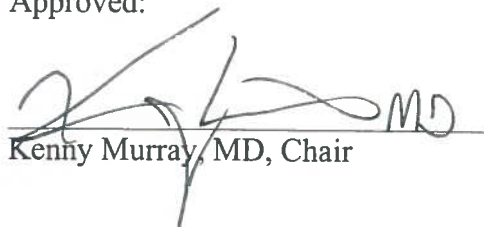
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Dr. Wilson noted the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is April 29 at locations in Gardendale, Bessemer, and Irondale. Items such as ammunition, appliances, batteries, paint, and prescription drugs are just a few of the acceptable items that Jefferson County residents may drop off.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the 5th Floor Board Room.


Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD, Secretary

Approved:


Kenny Murray, MD, Chair