



Kent City Health Department
 201 E. Erie Street 2nd
 Kent, Ohio 44240
HEALTH BOARD MINUTES
 April 13, 2021

Board Members Present

Chris Woolverton
 Jack Amrhein
 Pam Ferguson
 Emily Mattern
 Louise Frederick

Staff Present

Joan Seidel
 Michael Anguilano

Guests

Jenn Hedge
 Christine Anderson
 Marquice Seward

Absent

Michelle Frederick

Christopher Woolverton called to order the Kent City Health Board Meeting of April 13, 2021 at 5:32 pm. Joan Seidel started the roll call: Mattern: aye; Ferguson aye; Amrhein: aye; Woolverton: aye; L. Frederick: aye.

Motion: A motion to excuse Michelle Frederick from the April 13, 2021 meeting was made by Jack Amrhein and seconded by Pam Ferguson. With no objections the motion passed.

Guest Comments

Christine Anderson from Kent Social Services introduced herself to the Board. Ms. Anderson said Kent Social Services is partnering with Trinity Lutheran Church to provide meals to those in need. Kent Social Services is undergoing renovations to enlarge the dining area and host activities for elderly citizens in need. The kitchen is also being renovated with new appliances. Ms. Anderson said she sent Justin Smith (Kent City Chief Sanitarian) a letter to request an exemption from the planning review and license requirements.

Ms. Ferguson thanked Kent Social Services and Trinity Lutheran for their diligent collaborative work. Mr. Woolverton asked for Ms. Seidel to clarify some of the rules and requirements for the Board. Ms. Seidel asked Ms. Hedge if Trinity Lutheran is licensed. Ms. Hedge said that would be a question better asked to Ms. Seward, but she believes the license expired. Ms. Seidel said that Trinity Lutheran and Kent Social Services can not share food licenses. Food licenses are specific to a location and cannot be transferred between different addresses. Also, allowing one organization to operate without a license would result in a citation from the state. However, Ms. Seidel said the need for an exemption is clearly demonstrated. She added that consultative inspections at Trinity Lutheran would continue.

Mr. Woolverton asked if the employees at Kent Social Services' employees are ServSafe certified. Ms. Anderson said the staff has been trained.

Ms. Ferguson asked for clarification that the exemption would not cause strife from other operators or problems with the state health department. Mr. Woolverton said that a strong case would be made as to why the exemption is granted, and that the Board of Health would clarify the reasoning if needed. Ms. Anderson added that she believes they are the only non-profit in Kent conducting work like this, so there should not be complaints from other Kent businesses.

Mr. Woolverton wanted to thank the guests for coming to state their case and that the Board is very proud to be working with Kent Social Services. Ms. Anderson thanked the Board for allowing them to speak their case.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Kent City Health Board Meeting minutes from the March 9, 2021 meeting were distributed and reviewed prior to the meeting. A motion for approval was requested by Mr. Woolverton.

Motion: A motion to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2021 meeting was made by Ms. Ferguson and seconded by Ms. L. Frederick. With no further discussions or objections, the motion passed.

REPORTS

Statistical Report for February 2021 – Ms. Seidel wanted to mention the “Miscellaneous” section and said that the increased numbers are from citations stemming from mass gathering ordinance infractions. These are from the “Fake Paddy’s Day” compliance checks. Mr. Woolverton asked if there is a way for Portage County Health District to report the number of Kent-specific vaccinations administered. Ms. Seidel said the county is not able to do it as of right now. She added that there is concern regarding missed childhood vaccinations as well. Mr. Woolverton asked about the promotion of the childhood immunization clinic hosted by the health department. Ms. Seidel said that the clinic dates and times are posted in the Tree City Bulletin. Mr. Anguilano said the immunization clinic dates and times are on the city of Kent’s website.

Health Department Report – Ms. Seidel said that the CDC and Ohio Governor Mike DeWine have paused the administration of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Students who were scheduled to receive the vaccine are being redirected to the Kent State Fieldhouse vaccine clinic to receive Pfizer or Moderna. The rescinded orders from Ohio Department of Health Director Stephanie McCloud do not mention in-person meetings, so City Council meetings and other public meetings will still be virtually. Ms. Seidel added that Portage County remains at Level 3/Red in the Ohio Public Health Advisors System and that case counts continue to stay steady. She added that some positive cases have admitted to attending St. Patrick’s Day festivities. Currently, the total case count is 2,274 with a presumed recovery of 2,129 with 11 deaths. Ms. Seidel mentioned that there are at least four cases of COVID-19 variants that have been

identified in the community. The health department has also continued to participate in county-wide meetings and press briefings to answer questions.

In terms of food service organizations, Ms. Seidel mentioned that Aramark is leaving Kent State's campus and the licenses will not transfer. The health department is working with Kent State for impending plan reviews.

County Registrar and health department administrative assistant Tracy Radovic will be retiring soon. Ms. Radovic's last day is April 16 and a succession plan is in place to look for her replacement.

In terms of grants, there are changes coming for the contact tracers hired through the COVID-19 grant. The Ohio Department of Health plans to fold all contact tracers into a contracted staffing agency, meaning there may not be dedicated contract tracers for the City of Kent. There is more information yet to come. Ms. Seidel added that there is an option for the current tracers to stop contact tracing and only assist on vaccine clinics. For the mosquito grant, Ms. Seidel said that Mr. Smith is interviewing candidates to fill the roles needed to continue the program. Ms. Frederick asked if there has been discussion of mandating the vaccine for Kent State students living on campus in the fall semester. Ms. Seidel said that discussions have occurred, though Kent State will not mandate it. Mr. Anguilano provided an update for the tobacco grant. He said the department has conducted Tobacco 21 compliance checks and a report will be provided to the state once it is finalized. Additionally, Mr. Anguilano said that he expects interns to be assisting on the grant in the summer and fall.

Nursing/PHEP Report – Mr. Woolverton noted in the provided report that there are significant gaps in data. He had hoped to see more complete data regarding COVID-19 vaccines given, non-COVID-19 vaccines given, and other Kent City-specific data. Mr. Amrhein clarified that the graphs are COVID-19 vaccinations administered, though the report does not clearly state this. Mr. Woolverton asked if there is a separate PHEP report. Ms. Seidel said that there is not.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Overriding House Bill 22 – Ms. Seidel said that this is a concerning bill because it not only limits the Governor's power for public health orders, but local Boards of Health as well. Mr. Woolverton asked Mr. Amrhein if Kent City Council can override this bill. Mr. Amrhein said he feels it will be overturned by the courts, as it could be seen as unconstitutional. Mr. Amrhein said that local jurisdictions can make state rules stricter, but not less strict. Ms. Seidel that, if passed, it would go into effect June 24.

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures and Encumbrances for March 2021 – Ms. Seidel noted that there are now four indigent residents accounted for. That matches the total for 2020.

Expenditures & Encumbrances for March 2021			
3/3/2021	Treasurer, State of Ohio	FSO Transmittal Fees February 2021	\$1,816.00
3/3/2021	Ohio Dept. of Agriculture	RFE Transmittal Fees February 2021	\$672.00
3/3/2021	NACCHO	Membership March 1, 2021-June 30, 2022	\$250.00
3/3/2021	Ohio Division of Real Estate	Burial Permit Transmittal Fees for February 2021	\$210.00
3/3/2021	Bissler & Sons Funeral Home	Cremation Services for Indigent Kent Resident 2021 #4	\$1,000.00
3/3/2021	PARTA	Reimbursement for Electrical Labor and Materials	\$1,365.00
3/3/2021	PARTA	Reimbursement for Electrical Labor and Materials	\$1,080.00
3/3/2021	PARTA	Lease Payments & Parking from April through December	\$20,052.00
3/3/2021	Hometown Bank	Charges for Facebook ads for Tobacco	\$29.82
3/10/2021	Great Lakes Piping, LLC	5 IO AIRE Mobile ionization Units	\$8,500.00
3/11/2021	Helmer Scientific	Flash Drive, USB for Vaccine Freezer	\$33.67
3/11/2021	Kent City Health Department	Petty Cash Fund Reimbursement	\$75.14
3/19/2021	NEHA	Member Registration Fees for Justin Smith, Kyle Kelly, Jason Revesz	\$885.00

Motion: A motion to approve the expenditures and encumbrances for March 2021 was made by Mr. Amrhein and seconded by Ms. Mattern. With no further discussion the motion passed.

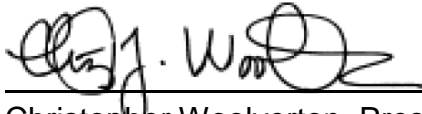
Exemption for a Temporary License for Kent Social Services

Motion: A motion to approve the exemption for a temporary license for Kent Social Services was made by Mr. Amrhein and seconded by Ms. L. Frederick. With no further discussion the motion passed.

ADJOURN

Motion: A motion to adjourn the health board meeting of March 2021 was made by Jack Amrhein and seconded by Pam Ferguson. With no further discussion the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Approved:

Handwritten signature of Christopher Woolverton in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Christopher Woolverton, President

Handwritten signature of Joan Seidel in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Joan Seidel, Secretary