



Washtenaw County Board of Health

Minutes

March 22, 2024, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Washtenaw County Health Department
555 Towner St, Ypsilanti, MI 48198
Room 2102B

Present: Shadin Atiyeh, Guadalupe Cervantes, Gina Dahlem, Chris Frank, Justin Hodge, Joan Kellenberg, Carla Pretto, Katie Scott, Dan Yordanich

Absent: Sade Richardson, Elisabeth Vanderpool

Staff: Jimena Loveluck, Lisa deRamos, Joy Aleccia, Susan Ringler-Cerniglia, Kristen Schweighoefer, Russell O'Brien

Guests:

1. Call to Order

Gina Dahlem called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Board Member Response to Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion by C. Pretto, seconded by G. Cervantes, to approve the agenda.

Motion approved unanimously.

5. Approval of February 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes (Action)

Motion by C. Pretto, seconded by G. Cervantes, to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2024 meeting.

Motion approved unanimously.

6. Executive Committee Minutes from February 20, 2024

Board members received the Executive Committee minutes.

Gina Dahlem said they discussed COVID-19/RSV updates, Norm Hess' visit at the last board meeting, the resolution to create a steering committee for opioid settlement funding, continued advocacy for public health funding, and a shout out to Lizzie Rock who is being recognized as the Michigan Environmental Health Association's David H. McMullen Young Professional of the Year Award.

7. Community Voices Report

None

8. Pollution Prevention Presentation Part 2 – Kristen Schweighoefer, Environmental Health Director (Action)

Kristen Schweighoefer presented the proposed and recommended updates to the Washtenaw County Pollution Prevention Regulation because of the program review during the regulation pause beginning April 2022. She discussed the history of the program, the review process, feedback received, and the changes made.



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Feedback received included a strong desire for online reporting/fee payment, a streamlined fee collection system, require secondary containment for all outdoor storage of chemicals, a mechanism to identify new/existing facilities that should be in the program, more information sharing with partner agencies, more education for smaller facilities, and reduce inspections for those that have certain qualifications/mechanisms in place.

Changes made include:

- Increased reporting/regulation of minimum volume of chemical from 5 gallons to 56 gallons.
- Inspection frequency fixed at once every three (3) years.
- Secondary containment shall be required for above ground storage of liquid chemicals in containers sized 55 gallons or greater no later than three (3) years from the date of adoption of this regulation. Lesser quantities are not prohibited from being stored outside of a building.
- Instead of separate reporting fee and inspection fee, change to one program fee due annually.
- Ability for facilities to submit payments online using existing software.
- Shift to June due date for fees/reporting to align with other state requirements.
- No more paper forms! All reporting will utilize an online, secure system.

Kristen discussed programmatic updates. The new structure features fees based on 3 categories of chemical quantity, one inspection structure regardless of chemical quantity/inspection results, and a set annual fee charged to cover costs of all services. When reviewing existing fees, it was noted that the smallest facilities were paying less, and the largest facilities were paying more than the current level of effort required to administer the program. Two fee structures were presented, Option 1 with no general fund support and Option 2 with general fund support. With general fund support, 30% of the cost of the program, fees for facilities with less than 5,000 gallons of chemicals would be reduced. Board members discussed the 2 options and asked questions. General fund support relies on approval from the Board of Commissioners (BOC). It was recommended to increase the fee on larger facilities from \$800 annually to \$1,000. If general fund support is not approved by the BOC, the increase to larger facilities could help offset increases to smaller facilities. In summary, adjust both options to reflect \$1,000 in the fee column for facilities with 5,001+ gallons of chemicals and adjust the annual revenue accordingly.

2 Fee Structure Options

Option 1 – No General Fund Support				Option 2 – General Fund Support			
Gallons	Fee	# Facilities	Program Revenue	Gallons	Fee	# Facilities	Program Revenue
56-999	\$300	372	\$111,600	56-999	\$150	372	\$55,800
1,000-5,000	\$500	170	\$85,000	1,000-5,000	\$350	170	\$59,500
5,001+	\$800	79	\$63,200	5,001+	\$800	79	\$63,200
Total Annual Revenue = \$259,800				Total Annual Revenue = \$178,500			
Total Cost of Program = \$253,043				Total Cost of Program = \$253,043			
				GF required = \$74,543 or ~30% of the program cost			

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Motion by K. Scott, seconded by J. Hodge, to recommend the changes made to the Pollution Prevention Program of 2024 for Board of Commissioners review and approval, including the increase to \$1,000 for facilities over 5,001+ gallons of chemicals and support from the general fund of 30% of the cost of the program.

Motion approved unanimously.



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9. Wish You Knew Campaign – Lisa deRamos, Communications Coordinator & Joy Aleccia, Health Educator

Lisa deRamos and Joy Aleccia presented to the board on the Wish You Knew Campaign. They gave a history of the campaign that started in 2019 and discussed what has been done in the past. These include social media posts, billboards, bus ads, streaming video ads, movie theater preview ads, and printed materials/promotional items. Community conversations/surveys were conducted in 2019 and focus groups were held in 2022/2023. Emerging themes from the data collection include more personal success stories, peer support, and parent support.

Attitudes toward mental health have changed since the campaign began in 2019. Meetings with youth were conducted in 2023/2024 and produced new themes for the campaign. These include perfectionism, toxic positivity, parent resources/support, authenticity, and language around mental health. Work has been done with local youth content contributors to create content for the Health Department (HD) social media pages. Videos, success stories, local resources, and mental health information have been shared.

The next steps include continuing to meet with student groups, continuing content collaboration with community partners, partnering with professional marketing/digital media firm to revamp/sharpen the message, and hoping to renew support from the millage. Millage funding ends in September.

Joan Kellenberg asked about specifically addressing suicide. Lisa said that the local resources promoted in the campaign do talk about recognizing crises and how to respond, but there are no direct questions about suicide in the focus groups. Dan Yordanich asked about systems or procedures in schools to identify high risk youth to get them help with mental health. Joy said that some schools use peer to peer groups in which they are trained at a 2-day conference to learn how to respond to someone that is struggling. Carla Pretto said that there are child and adolescent health centers that are embedded in schools throughout the state including one in Ypsilanti. Chris Frank asked if any policy recommendations have come out of the focus groups. Lisa said they have not asked policy questions in the past but that would be a good question for future focus groups. Katie Scott asked if there are any metrics for pre and post millage. Lisa said she's not sure if this campaign has the capacity, but that would be great to find out the impact it is having. Gina Dahlem said she would like to see data on how mental health associates with substance use.

10. BOC Liaison Report

Katie Scott said the BOC meetings have been mostly consumed by millage discussions. There is a special hearing scheduled for the CMH/Public Safety Millage so they can get community feedback before determining if it will go back on the ballot. Justin Hodge said there could be 6 millages on the ballot this year.

11. New Business

- **Updated CDC Respiratory Guidance**

Jimena Loveluck shared the updated CDC Respiratory Guidance along with the approval of an additional covid vaccine for those 65 and older or immunocompromised. The WCHD website and materials have been updated to reflect the change.

Jimena also mentioned the recent release of the 2022/2023 WCHD Annual Report.

- **Rep. Dingell WIC Roundtable (March 28th)**

Gayathri Akella (WIC Supervisor) and Jane Nickert (Director of Nursing) will be participating in a roundtable event next week at Food Gatherers. This is a great opportunity to highlight WIC resources locally.



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12. Old Business

- **Gelman and EPA**

The EPA has agreed to propose that the Gelman site be added to the National Priorities List. Additions to the list are made 2 times per year. There is a 60-day public comment period that started on March 7th.

- **Tobacco Legislation BOC Resolution**

The BOC passed a resolution supporting the tobacco legislation package at the March 6th meeting.

- **State Accreditation**

A reminder that WCHD is due for state accreditation this year and will be going through the process the week of May 20.

13. Adjournment

Motion by K. Scott, seconded by C. Pretto, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 AM.

Minutes taken by Russell O'Brien

