

Chairperson: Carlessia Hussein  
 Vice Chairperson: Sheri Lewis  
 Executive Secretary: Maura Rossman, M.D., Antigone Vickery  
 Recorded By: Antigone Vickery

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

April 24 Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** April 24, 2019  
**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Howard County Health Department  
 8930 Stanford Blvd., Columbia, MD 21045

**Members Present:** Carlessia Hussein, Darryl Burnett, Judith Chernoff, Sheri Lewis, Erica Martin, Paul Nagy, Deborah Rivkin, Gary Stewart, Matt Reber

**Members Excused:** Jill RachBeisel

**Staff:** Maura Rossman, Health Officer, Antigone Vickery, Deputy Health Officer Gloria Whittington, Administrative Assistant

**Guest:** Trudy Hyde, Program Supervisor – Environmental Health - HCHD

| Topic/Agenda                     | Discussion   | Action / Follow-up |
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| <b>Welcome and Introductions</b> | Carlessia Hussein opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.  |                    |
| <b>Approval of Agenda</b>        | Motion to accept April’s BOH agenda.   |                    |
| <b>Approval of Minutes</b>       | Motion to accept March’s BOH minutes.  |                    |
| <b>New Business</b>              | <p><b><u>FY 2020 – Proposed Changes to User Fees- Trudy Hyde – Environmental Health - HCHD</u></b></p> <p>The County Administration requested all agencies review service fees. HCHD focused on food service facility licensing fees since these have not been reviewed in 15 years (since 2004). County Administration drafted a resolution with the proposed new fee schedule. Board of Health must review and approve the new fees before it goes to the County Council for review and adoption; this is one of the responsibilities of the BOH. Trudy Hyde, Program Supervisor for the Food Program, presented to the board and answered questions.</p> <p>A handout of the <i>FY20 Proposed Changes to User Fees</i> was shared. The proposed new fees were based on a detailed cost analysis that included staffing costs, fuel and vehicle costs, facility inspections, and more. The County has grown since the last review and we now have 1,266 licensed facilities in the County. The proposed new fees include high-priority facilities would change from \$300 to \$415; moderate-priority facilities would change from \$275 to \$325 and low-priority facilities would change from \$83 to \$100. These proposed rates are still conservative and still below our neighboring jurisdictions in: Anne Arundel Co (\$590), Montgomery Co (\$540), Baltimore Co (\$540), Prince Georges Co (\$425). <b>High-priority</b> food service facilities are distinguished by how the food is prepared and if there is a lot of cooking, cooling and reheating of food. Cooking and cooling then reheating of food</p> |                    |

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|              | <p>has some risk if not at the proper temperature. Facilities that serve this kind of food are inspected three times per year and are more complex and time consuming. <b>Moderate-priority</b> food service facilities are conducted twice a year and <b>low-priority</b> food service facilities are inspected once every two years and sell pre-packaged food (refrigerated or non-refrigerated food).</p> <p>The Board noted the proposed fees were still lower than neighboring jurisdictions and inquired if we should increase the fees more and what would be the impact on businesses. It was shared that the analysis captured a close approximation of the costs involved in the services; the increase was significant and we wanted to give facilities time to adjust; lastly it was shared that other legislation has also been proposed and passed this season that will create costs on food services facilities including an increase with minimum wage, polystyrene legislation, cost of shifting straws from plastic to paper. The BOH recommended that we not wait 15 years to review fees again. It was noted that for many years, there was a cap on fees cited in State regulation and we couldn't charge more than \$300. Through research done during this analysis, it seems as if the cap has been lifted around 2013. This will allow us to be able to increase the fees over time. It was noted that increasing the fees often can create different problems. A large increase now may allow facilities to build the cost into the budget. A question was raised if the fee increase affects mostly large or small businesses (HCHD doesn't have this data). Board members approved the fees presented on proposed changes unanimously to move forward to County Council. The new fees will be implemented in fiscal year 2020 after being approved by the County.</p> <p><b><u>Transition Team</u></b><br/>           Deb Rivkin participated on the County Executive's Transition Team meeting. The Health Group included a diverse group State Senator Clarence Lam (a physician), representatives from HCGH, John Hopkins Physicians, two Advocates from Behavioral Health-Substance Abuse, Horizon Foundation and citizens of HC. The biggest issue that came up was the need to have a residential treatment center in the County. It was raised that HCHD should have a bigger role, very complementary and lots of value in what we do. Agree on the issues of sharing data across agencies. In the end, there were many recommendations (see report) and the County Executive has the final word. It is his vision to create based on his budget. In reviewing the various recommendations, the group discussed writing a letter stating the BOH has reviewed all the recommendations and the BOH is ready to have more involvement in a recommendation. The BOH can set policy. It is uncertain the interest on the County Administration for policy development. Will discuss more in depth at the following Board meeting on May 28, 2019 as a special project or implementations we want to address.</p> <p><b><u>BOH Composition</u></b><br/>           Per the bi-laws, every May members decide by April on a Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Health. Carlessia Hussein voiced interest in continuing as Chair for another year. Sheri Lewis voiced interest in both positions, Chair and Vice Chair. Voting will take place at our next meeting. There is still one opening on the Board for the</p> | <p>Board Members to agree to write a draft letter on what policy issue(s) the BOH wants to tackle considering time and staffing.</p> |

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| <p><b>Health Officer Report</b></p> | <p>Environmental position. It's very difficult to find someone with that expertise that is why the previous Chair with those qualifications served for so many years. County Executive to send out another news release seeking members for the Board of Health in that subject matter on Friday. Two members on the slate to vote on at the next meeting is: Carlessia Hussein as Chair and Sheri Lewis as Chair or Vice Chair.</p> <p><b><u>TB:</u></b><br/> TB Cases: HCHD has seen an increase in TB cases. Our Staff provides therapy directly by going out one or two times weekly observing someone taking their meds. We have been using video technology (Zoom) since January to observe patients taking their meds remotely where we save travel time and money. Clients don't have to come to us and we don't have to go to the client location. The technology allows us to watch them take their medicines. Currently there are five patients for which we use Zoom.</p> <p><b><u>Rabies:</u></b><br/> We have looked at our records and over the winter we had had livestock with rabies including a cow and a sheep in addition to the more typical bats and raccoons. We are now heading into the high season, because people are out and about with the animals we continue to monitor.</p> <p><b><u>Measles</u></b><br/> We have 4 cases in Maryland, they are all in Baltimore City and Baltimore County related to the outbreak in New York. At least two of the three was in the same family the 4<sup>th</sup> one was not related to the family but was in the same area the 7<sup>th</sup> Mile Market. No one in Howard County has been diagnosed. The HCGH is reviewing their plans.</p> |   |
| <p><b>Old Business</b></p>          | <p><b><u>Other:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Medical Assistance</u></b><br/> This is a follow up from last month. MA eligibility saw a big bump in eligibility around 2011 this is attributed to the ACA (Maryland is a state with expanded MA). HoCo has continued to add. Today, HoCo has 45,000 eligible MA and we have 37,000 enrolled, which leaves a gap of 8,000 without coverage. We want to address. It was noted that soon in Maryland people can indicate on their taxes if they want to be contacted to enroll in insurance via the Exchange.</p>  | <p>Send copy of joint letter to the BOH</p> |

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|                       | <p><b><u>Letter to County Executive:</u></b><br/>A letter was sent on Friday to the County Executive by the Horizon Foundation, Howard County Hospital and the Health Department on what we would like to jointly work on that is a priority. Obviously, we have different objectives, but the letter summarizes where we have similar priorities.</p> <p><b><u>Opioid:</u></b><br/>We received a grant from the State’s Opioids Operational Command Center (OOCC). We put in a request to get a mobile van which we will use for opioids and harm reduction activities.</p> <p><b><u>Opening of Howard House</u></b><br/>The County will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of the new Howard House location. This is a lower level residential treatment facility that serves 16 men receiving SUD treatment. Grand opening May 2 @ 11 am. Also, County is working with a private provider to bring residential treatment services to the County.</p> <p><b><u>Youth Suicide Prevention Report:</u></b><br/>The Department has a podcast on teen health suicide. We also submitted applications for National Association of Counties awards for two programs – school-based wellness and CAREAPP.</p> <p><b><u>PHAB Update</u></b><br/>Prior to next Board meeting have a site visit by PHAB meeting (May 21 and 22).</p> <p><b><u>For the Good of the Group:</u></b><br/>There is an APL sponsored training held on May 8, 2019 on Health Care. Contact Shari for details.</p> |                    |
|                       | <p><b><u>Topics for future meetings:</u></b><br/>Transition Report Letter – Updates<br/>School-based Wellness (TBD)<br/>Marijuana Grower (TBD)</p>  |                    |
| <b>Other Business</b> |   |                    |
|                       |   |                    |
| <b>Adjournment</b>    | <i>There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.</i>  |                    |

**Next Board of Health Meeting: May 28, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Howard Co. Health Department 8930 Stanford Blvd. 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Columbia, MD 21045**