



**Delaware County Health Department  
Board of Health Meeting  
September 1, 2022**

**Meeting Minutes**

**ATTENDEES**

Rosemarie Halt, Chair  
Lily Higgins, MD, Vice Chair  
Patrick Brennan, MD  
Annemarie Hirsch

- I. There being a duly convened quorum, Chair Rosemarie Halt called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and made a public announcement: *Thank you for attending tonight's meeting of the Delaware County Board of Health. Public input and comment are important to the Board of Health and the mission of the Delaware County Health Department. This is a public meeting being held pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. As such, there will be two opportunities for public comment – one at the beginning of the meeting limited to comment on items on tonight's agenda, and one at the end on any topic. Comment is limited to three minutes per person and will be monitored by the Solicitor to the Board. This is a public meeting, but not a town hall or Q& A session, and we ask that, outside of these two opportunities for public comment, that you please refrain from asking questions or otherwise making comments to the Board. You may ask questions during the two opportunities for public comment, but the Board members and other presenters are not required to answer.*

Announced there was a Board of Health Executive Session held July 25, 2022 to discuss personnel issues and litigation. The 2023 calendar will be discussed at the Board of Health meeting.

- II. There was no public comment on the agenda items.
- III. Approval of minutes: Rosemarie Halt made the motion to accept the July 25, 2022 meeting minutes, approved by; Annemarie Hirsch; seconded by Lily Higgins. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Board Updates
- a. Director Lyon provided an operational update on DCHD:
- i. Grants have been received and fully executed: Maternal Child & Health, Tuberculosis, Immunizations, and HIV grants will be on Council's meeting next week. Those dollars are used to cover fundamental requirements from the CDC.
  - ii. 17 cases of Monkeypox have been identified in our county; working with the PADOH to identify contacts and tracing. All vaccinations have occurred at DCHD. Moved from subcutaneous to intradermal injections. Strategizing how to offer vaccinations more widely. PADOH must demonstrate using 80% of doses prior to being eligible for additional doses of vaccine.
  - iii. Bivalent Covid vaccine available but DCHD currently does not have it on-site; will order when available. Communication just came out today, no longer able to vaccinate with monovalent, except for first doses. Notifying residents registered for boosters but some may not receive the communication; expecting some residents to show and, as well as walk-ins, to be vaccinated.
  - iv. The Call Center has received over 3,000 calls to date. Covid is the most prevalent question; environmental complaints/nuisance complaints; Monkeypox.
- b. Questions for Administrators:
- i. ***Dr. Brennan: is the monovalent or bivalent vaccine being administered along with the flu vaccine?*** No. We do not have flu vaccine on hand and are in the process of ordering it. The amount will be determined on how much can be ordered. It would be ideal to offer both but

unable to yet as logistics must take place. DCHD continues to offer Covid vaccinations at the SEPTA terminal and will continue as the flow has been consistent.

- c. Presentation: Meet the Delaware County Health Department!
  - i. Director Lyon was asked to present on starting up a Health Department during a pandemic and Public Health 3.0 at the recent NACCHO conference. This was also presented at a recent DCHD all staff meeting.
  - ii. **Question: is the DCHD progressing at the pace you anticipated?** Some parts are advancing quickly, some slower. Trying to prevent turnover, hiring the right people for the right position. Keeping up with communicable diseases, responding quickly to stakeholders; hope we are delivering to the demand of what is expected by the community. Hiring difficulties across counties and state; challenging. We are in a startup phase; hard to build a team over Zoom when staff is new.

V. **New Business**

- a. Questions about Division Reports
  - i. Director Lyon asked Board members if there were any questions for the Division Administrators; there were none. It was decided that Division Reports would be sent to Board members the Friday before the Board meeting. Any questions regarding the reports should be sent to Director Lyon on the Tuesday prior to the meeting to ensure the Division Administrator is available and ready to answer the question in a public forum.

VI. **Public Comments**

**Patty McIntire, 205 Cherry Hill Lane, Broomall:** Only hearing about vaccination clinics; lots of information on the website; looking forward to seeing more information on health eating in the future. Director Lyon noted that while we have some information on the website, we are not there yet in addressing specific areas of interest; more fundamental things need to happen first, and we are moving in that direction.

**Phil McIntire, 205 Cherry Hill Lane, Broomall:** He has been in the staffing business for 40 years; there are staffing companies in Delco. Use them to focus on the tasks you need to do. A staffing company could assist with hiring staff.

- VII. Board of Health Chair, Rosemarie Halt, thanked everyone for their comments. Board of Health members and Director Lyon had no comments. Motion was made to adjourn; seconded by Dr. Patrick Brennan and was approved by Annemarie Hirsch.

Next Meeting November 3, 2022

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa C. Lyon, MPH, CPH  
Board Secretary