

**Fulton County Board Of Health (FBOH)
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
10:30A.M.**

Via ZOOM Teleconference: +1 646 558 8656 US: Meeting ID: 826 5571 1199

Board Members Present

BOH Chair Jack Hardin
BOH Vice Chair Renay Blumenthal
Secretary Lynne Meadows
Council Member Carla Smith
Dr. Kathi Amille Earles

Board Members Absent

Clint Owens
BOC Chairman Robb Pitts

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Fulton County Board of Health was called to order by Chairman Jack Hardin at 10:30am. This meeting is continuing in the teleconference format due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency conditions in the area.

II. OLD BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Board Meeting of July 28, 2021

Mr. Hardin, asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board meeting of July 28, 2021. Ms. Blumenthal moved the approval and Ms. Meadows seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

All Members in Favor: Hardin, Blumenthal, Meadows, Smith, and Kathi A. Earles.
All Members Against: None.
Abstentions: None

III. NEW BUSINESS

Call for Public Comment

No public comments were reported.

DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S BOARD REPORT

District Health Director, Lynn A. Paxton presented a PowerPoint presentation providing data on the COVID cases, and Vaccines for Fulton County. The presentation reported as follows:

- The COVID-19 presentation information is gathered from the Epidemiology report that comes out twice a week and is widely available for review.
- In September we started to see a decline in the COVID-19 Cases numbers, and the death tolls as well.
- With regard to Delta variants, reports show that numbers are higher among young people, numbers for older people has decreased, and the numbers of those fully vaccinated increased for this group.
- The FDA advisory is recommending that the COVID vaccines be given to children 5 to 11 years old, and hopefully this will be approved soon with recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Dr. Paxton advised in terms of the workplace that we should continue to follow the CDC guidelines (wear mask), and get fully vaccinated for COVID-19. While cases are decreasing, we are considered to be in the “substantial transmissibility” category in terms of COVID risk in the county.
- Dr. Paxton introduced and welcome the new I.T. Director for FCBOH, Joseph Mays.
- Dr. Paxton announced that FCBOH has a big hiring surge going on. We are expected to fill many of our vacant positions.

A Request for approval of revised Environmental Health Fee Schedule from Galen Baxter, Director of Environmental Health Services.

Mr. Baxter provided a statement to the Board on the proposed revisions to the Environmental Fee schedule as follows:

- It been 6 years since the last Fee schedule has been updated and during that time period there have been some additional services that Environmental Health has needed to provide (due to the evolving nature of food service, for example) that were not contemplated under our current schedule.
- Under our current fee schedule some of the language, and the way we have the layout for fees can be a little confusing for clients, so some of the proposed changes serve to clean this up. Some of the services on the list are no longer under the authority of the Board of Health, so they have been removed.
- Mr. Baxter described the proposed fee increases to the Board, noting in response to a question about how Fulton fees compare locally that the Fulton fee are higher than neighboring jurisdictions, this is justified because the number of facilities that must be inspected and serviced each year in Fulton County, and the number of staff needed to accomplish this, greatly outweighs the numbers for other jurisdictions.

- Mr. Baxter pointed out that the proposed fee increase were maintained at amounts lower than they would be if he had applied a general cost of living adjustment.
- Mr. Baxter stated he would like the Board to approve this updated Fee schedule to modernize it, update the fees, and make it easier to follow for clients.
- Mr. Baxter and Ms. Culler indicated to the Board Members that one item on the presented chart, the administrative fee for court related preparations, would not be sought, and will be removed from the fee schedule.
- Ms. Culler indicated that the last fee increases were based upon a 33.3% increase across all fees, as approved by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners in 2015, and were designed at the time to provide greater staffing capacity for the division.
- Ms. Culler stated the Fulton County Board of Commissioners will have to vote and approve on the Fee schedule, as well, before this is finalized

Mr. Hardin requested a motion to approve the revised Fee schedule. Ms. Blumenthal moved approval, and Dr. Earles seconded the motion. The Board passed unanimously.

All Members in Favor: Hardin, Blumenthal, Meadows, Smith, and Earles.
All Members Against: None.
Abstentions: None

ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2022

Ms. Culler called for future Quarterly Board meetings to be established as follows:

- January 26, 2022
- April 27, 2022
- July 27, 2022
- October 26, 2022

All Members in Favor: Hardin, Blumenthal, Meadows, Smith, and Kathi A. Earles
All Members Against: None.
Abstentions: None

Budget

Beverly Stanley, District Administrator gave proposed budget for SFY22 FCBOH 1st quarter budget vs expenses.

- Ms. Stanley provided updates, and budget adjustment information to the board.
- Tyler Technologies' system (MUNIS) has been instrumental to FCBOH as we prepare for the upcoming audit.
- Ms. Stanley provided a snapshot of the different funding sources and grants.
- FCBOH is conducting monthly roundtables discussions to ensure that we are on track with spending 25 percent of the funds provided through the state Programmatic grants in aids.

All Members in Favor: Hardin, Blumenthal, Meadows, Smith, Owens, Pitts and Earles.

All Members Against: None.

Abstentions: None

Donation Report

None to report.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board had no business for Executive Session.

V. BOARD COMMENT

Councilwoman Carla Smith indicated that this was her last meeting as a member of the Board, due to her decision not to run again for City Council. Mr. Hardin, Dr. Paxton, and the board members thanked Councilwoman Carla Smith for her dedication, indicating she has been a great contributor to the board, and will be missed. We wish her well.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The board convened its regular meeting at 11:17am.

Lynn A. Paxton, M.D., M.P.H.
Fulton County Board of Health
District Health Director

Jack Hardin
Fulton County Board of Health
Chairman

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