

**Metropolitan Board of Health of Nashville and Davidson County
February 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

A recording of this meeting can be accessed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qTQhe19Mek>

The regular meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Health of Nashville and Davidson County was called to order by Chair Tené Franklin at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Center Room of the Woodbine Public Health Center, 224 Oriol Avenue, Nashville, TN 37210.

Present

Tené H. Franklin MS, Chair
Calvin M. Smith III MD, Vice-Chair
Carol Etherington RN, Member
David Frederick MS, Member
Lloyda Williamson MD, Member
Marie Griffin MD, Member
Gill C. Wright III MD, Director of Health
Melva Black EdD, Deputy Director
Rand Carpenter DVM, Chief Epidemiologist
Jim Diamond MBA, Finance and Administration Bureau Director
Rachel Franklin MBA, Communicable Disease and Public Health Emergency Preparedness Bureau Director
Stephanie Kang DrPH, Health Equity Bureau Director
Tom Sharp, Director of Policy and Governmental Liaison
Joanna Shaw-KaiKai MD, Medical Services Director
Laura Varnier APRN, Clinical Services Bureau Director
Derrick Smith JD, Metro Law Department

BOARD OF HEALTH

At Dr. Wright's request, Ms. Varnier welcomed the Board and gallery to the Woodbine facility. She invited everyone on a guided tour of the facility after the conclusion of the Board meeting.

Approval of January 12, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

Vice-Chair Smith made a motion to approve the January 12, 2023, regular meeting minutes, as distributed. Dr. Williamson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approval of Grant Applications

There were no grant applications.

Approval of Grants and Contracts

Jim Diamond presented three items:

- 1. Grant Amendment from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Community Health Workers**
Term: August 31, 2021-August 30, 2023
Amount: \$1,000,000 (new total \$2,000,000)
- 2. Grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration – Ryan White Part A**
Term: March 1, 2023-February 28, 2024
Amount: \$811,526
- 3. Grant from Friends of MACC to MACC – Emergency Medical Donation**
Term: NA
Amount: \$10,000

Ms. Etherington made a motion to approve the grants and contracts. Vice-Chair Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Facilities Overview

Mr. Diamond updated the Board on the department's Facilities staff, which is comprised of many dedicated employees serving as Couriers, Custodians, Maintenance, Inventory, and Print Shop staff. Mr. Diamond recognized several of these staff members who assisted in preparing the space at Woodbine to host the Board of Health meeting. Chair Franklin requested a hard copy of the overview.

Legislative Update

Mr. Sharp updated the Board on recent and upcoming legislation that is anticipated to affect the department (Attachment I). He and Dr. Wright were asked to inform the Board regularly about legislative matters.

Equity Pay Update

Mr. Diamond updated the Board on the equity pay study being conducted by Deloitte. He advised that the study is currently under review by the city and the Board would be updated as the study progressed.

Strategic Update

Dr. Kang updated the Board on progress on the Strategic Plan (Attachment II).

Report of the Director

Dr. Wright thanked the Woodbine staff for their hospitality in hosting the Board meeting at that location and recognized two staff members who were in the audience, Aziza Tayip and Dijin Abdulkader.

Dr. Wright referred to the update provided in the Board packet (Attachment III) and highlighted a few items therein.

Dr. Wright announced that he and the Leadership Team will be welcoming Tennessee Commissioner of Health Dr. Ralph Alvarado for an introductory meeting on Wednesday, March 1.

Report of Chair

Chair Franklin read an excerpt from a statement published by the Network for Public Health Law, "[Policing as a Social Determinant of Health: Addressing the Public Health Crisis of Systemic Racism](#)", and referenced an article from the American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) online site FiveThirtyEight, "[The Police Departments With The Biggest Racial Disparities In Arrests And Killings](#)". She encouraged discussion about police and community violence and reiterated her commitment to the recognition of violence as a public health issue.

New Business / Review of Board Requests

Board Requests of department:

1. Provide link for the Feb. 15 Town Hall to Board members
2. Provide hard copy of Facilities Overview
3. Provide equity study presentation
4. Provide link of the infectious disease physician recruitment to Board members
5. Schedule an update to the Board of the School Based Oral Health program
6. Provide updates in regard to HIV funding between regular meetings
7. Photos of Employee Recognition will be sent to Board members

Departmental Requests of Board:

1. Standby to support in regard to HIV funding
2. Request of Board members to distribute throughout professional networks the department's need of an infectious disease physician

Employee Recognition

Dr. Wright recognized recent Employee Recognition recipients:

- December 2022: Talia Monget, administrative assistant to Dr. Shaw-KaiKai
- January 2023: Danielle Duke MPH, Tobacco Prevention Program Coordinator
- February 2023: Christian Williams RN, clinic manager at East Clinic

Adjournment

Dr. Williamson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion, which was unanimous.

CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

Chair Franklin opened the Civil Service Board meeting.

Personnel Changes

Dr. Black referred to the January 2023, Personnel Changes.

Other Business

Dr. Black informed the Board that a search for three positions had been or would soon be underway and asked Board members to utilize their networks to spread the word about the positions, and she agreed to send the infectious disease physician position to the board for that purpose.

Adjournment

Chair Franklin adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Dr. Wright invited Board members to participate in a tour of the Woodbine facility which would be led by Ms. Varnier following the meeting.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Health is scheduled to be held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at the Lentz Public Health Center Board Room, 2500 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, TN 37209.

Tené H. Franklin, MS
Chair