

**Metropolitan Board of Health of Nashville and Davidson County
June 13, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes**

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 Lentz Public Health Center Board Room, 2500 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, TN 37209.

Present

Tené H. Franklin MS, Chair
Marie Griffin MD, Vice-Chair
Calvin M. Smith III MD, Member
Rebecca Whitehead MBA, Member
Carol Ziegler, APRN, Member
Gill C. Wright III MD, Director of Health
D'Yuanna Allen-Robb MPH, Population Health Assistant Bureau Director and Nashville Strong Babies
Melva Black EdD, Deputy Director
Jim Diamond MBA, Finance and Administration Bureau Director
Ann Melville-Chester PhD, Behavioral Health and Wellness Program Director
Abraham Mukolo PhD, Interim Chief Epidemiologist
Tom Sharp, Director of Policy and Governmental Liaison
Aaron Shelton, Human Resources Manager
Laura Varnier MNsc, Clinical Services Bureau Director
Derrick Smith JD, Metropolitan Department of Law

BOARD OF HEALTH

Public Comment Period

There were no requests by the public to address agenda items.

Declarations of Conflicts/Recusals or Communiqués from the Public on Agenda Items

Chair Franklin asked that Board members who may have declarations of conflict or recusal, or who had had communiqués from the public on agenda items, to state such. There were none.

Approval of May 9, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Dr. Ziegler made a motion to approve the May 9, 2024, regular meeting minutes as distributed. Vice-Chair Griffin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Update on Electronic Health Records

Ms. Varnier presented a brief update on the status of Electronic Health Records.

Employee Recognition

Dr. Wright announced that Rita Howard had been named May 2024, Employee of the Month, and Lentz Clinical Services Team, had been named May 2024, Team of the Month.

Approval of Grant Applications

There were no grant applications:

Approval of Grants and Contracts

Mr. Diamond presented four items:

- 1. Grant Amendment from the Health Resources & Services Administration – Ryan White Part A**
Term: March 1, 2024-February 28, 2025
Amount: \$3,285,020 (new total \$4,658,066)
- 2. Grant from the Health Resources & Services Administration – Nashville Strong Babies II**
Term: May 1, 2024-March 31, 2025

Amount: \$1,008,333

3. **Memorandum of Understanding with Office of Homeless Services – Peer Support Specialist**

Term: April 1, 2024-August 30, 2024

Amount: \$196,170

4. **Grant and Data Use Agreement from the Tennessee Department of Health – Viral Hepatitis**

Term: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2025

Amount: \$213,600

Ms. Allen-Robb was asked to provide additional information on item 3.

Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the grants and contracts as presented. Vice-Chair Griffin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Presentation: Behavioral Health

Dr. Black, Mr. Sharp, Dr. Melville-Chester, and Dr. Mukolo presented Behavioral Health’s Opioid Response program (Attachment I). Dr. Melville-Chester requested assistance from Board members in garnering support for the program.

Director Contract Discussion and Approval

Dr. Wright announced that he would not seek renewal of his contract, which expires August 31, 2024, and that his last day in office will be Friday, August 30, 2024. Chair Franklin thanked Dr. Wright for his service.

Chair Franklin posed the topic of naming an interim director and Mr. Smith recommended the topic being on the July meeting agenda so that it would be properly noticed, and if the person were named then they could begin orientation before Dr. Wright’s departure.

Chair Franklin led a discussion regarding the process of appointing an interim director, and stated that she had discussed with Dr. Joanna Shaw-KaiKai the possibility of Dr. Shaw-KaiKai serving as interim director.

Report of the Chair

Chair Franklin announced that Shannon Hall, Metro Human Resources, would attend the July meeting to provide guidance on the appointment of an interim director and the process of a director search.

Report of the Director

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

Dr. Wright thanked Ms. Allen-Robb who was recently been a panelist on This is Nashville on the topic of the intersection between health and housing.

Dr. Wright related that he and Dr. Black had traveled to the Marion County Public Health Department in Indianapolis, Indiana, for a leadership visit recently. They had also visited the Louisville Department of Health and Wellness, in Louisville, Kentucky, and Chair Franklin had been able to join them there. He said the visits were valuable excursions and yielded information that would benefit the department.

Public Comment Period (Community Voices)

There were no requests from the public to address the Board.

New Business / Review of Board Requests

Board requests of the department: Provide an informational script or one-pager to help Board members publicize the Opioid Program.

Department requests of the Board: Assist in publicizing the Opioid Program.

Chair Franklin asked if there was an update on the replacement of the Woodbine Clinic; there was none.

Chair Franklin asked if there was an update on the leading health indicators; Dr. Wright said the Executive Leadership team, led by Chief Health Strategist Kebera Leach, was and would continue discussing what they would be and how they would be measured and would be presenting them to the Board.

Chair Franklin asked that a date be provided for an update of an annual Report to the Mayor.

Chair Franklin asked Dr. Wright if any progress had been made in broadcasting or livestreaming the board meetings. Dr. Wright shared several possibilities but staffing by Metro ITS was a challenge due to conflicting meetings to address.

Dr. Wright noted that he would be out of the office at the time of the July 11 meeting. Board members present determined a quorum could be met for a special called meeting on Thursday, July 18.

Other Business

Chair Franklin announced that Dr. Bialostozky planned to resign from the Board due to increased professional demands.

Adjournment

Dr. Ziegler made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Ms. Whitehead seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

Request to Schedule a Public Hearing Regarding Changes to the Pay Plan

Mr. Shelton requested the Board schedule a public hearing to review proposed changes to the Pay Plan (Attachment III).

Ms. Whitehead made a motion to schedule a public hearing regarding proposed changes to the Pay Plan. Vice-Chair Griffin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The hearing will be held at the Thursday, July 18, Special Called Meeting.

Personnel Changes

Mr. Shelton referred to the May 2024, Personnel Changes and explained several.

Adjournment

Chair Franklin adjourned the Civil Service Board meeting at 5:27 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Health will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at the Lentz Public Health Center Board Room, 2500 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, TN 37209. Due to the change of date, it will be a special called meeting.

Tené H. Franklin
Chair