

Chairperson: Matt Reber (Acting)  
 Vice Chairperson: Jason Bashura  
 Executive Secretary: Maura Rossman, M.D.,  
 Recorded By: Antigone Vickery

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
 April 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** April 28, 2020  
**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Howard County Health Department  
 8930 Stanford Blvd., Columbia, MD 21045

**Members Present:** Darryl Burnett, Judith Chernoff, Paul Nagy, Jill RachBeisel, Matt Reber, Emily Greenberger, Jason Bashura, Erica Martin, Audra Nixon  
**Members Excused:**  
**Staff:** Dr. Maura Rossman, Health Officer, Antigone Vickery, Deputy Health Officer

<b>Topic/Agenda</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action / Follow-up</b>
<b>Welcome and Call to Order</b>	The meeting was called to order by acting chairman, M. Reber at 6:00 pm M. Reber also requested an addition to the agenda for Dr. Rossman to provide an update on COVID-19.	Meeting held by ZOOM
<b>Approval of Agenda</b>  <b>Approval of Minutes</b>  <b>Health Officers Report</b>	<p>Motion to accept April’s BOH agenda by J. Bashura and Second by P. Nagy. Motion to approve unanimous.</p> <p>A motion was made to approve the March minutes by J. Bashura and seconded by D. Burnett. Motion to approve the minutes unanimous.</p> <p><b>Update on COVID-19</b></p> <p>Dr. Rossman provide an update on COVID-19. The numbers are increasing; this is expected. County is doing a good job. Conducting education and messaging on social media. Appreciation was given to the Board of Health who provided helpful suggestions on mental health communication. Keep them coming. Risk communication is so important during emergencies and especially during this emergency when information changes so rapidly. This is a challenge.</p> <p>Previous phases of response included mitigation, containment and now we’re in surge. We are operating five operations within the health department. <b>1-PPE distribution.</b> We collect donations and we except shipments from the state and federal stock piles. We receive PPE request and we distributed to providers including the hospital</p>	

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<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <p><b>New Business</b></p> <p><b>HO Report Non-COVID</b></p>	<p>according to a priority algorithm. We received PPE through shipments from the State and the federal government. We also receive generous donations from private citizens and organizations. <b>2-testing.</b> Two days a week we are conducting testing at the vehicle emissions sites (VEIP) in Columbia. Currently we are seeing a 98% show rate. We have increased gradually from 70/week to 250 to 500 and ultimately 1000/week. We are using tests from Quest Diagnostic Labs. <b>3- phone bank-</b> we operate a phone bank to receive the various questions from the public including health related questions, testing, and questions from the businesses. We refer and transfer those appropriately. <b>4- case investigations and contact tracing</b> - public health has done contract tracing for decades. We are using current staff but we will be hiring staff soon. <b>5- enforcement of executive orders</b> this involves our environmental health staff and who investigate essential businesses who are open and may not be operating in a safe manner as it pertains to social distance in, masking and other measures.</p> <p>We are working with the county for developing a recovery roadmap. We expect there to be a new normal for the foreseeable future. Different from what we were doing in January. We will be doing this most likely until a vaccine is available.</p> <p>There are concerns about decrease volume in the emergency department as well as EMS. They're concerned that people who need treatment or not being treated because if you're going to the hospital. There are fewer patients but sicker patients.</p> <p>Nominations – The application previously approved (an individual with hospital experience) has been submitted to the county executive's office. That still leaves one additional vacancy on the board. E. Martin knows of a lawyer who may be interested. D. Burnett also will be leaving soon and leaving a vacancy that will need to be filled. Permanent Officers will need to be elected next month.</p> <p>It was proposed by J. Bashura that the BOH write a thank you note for the PPE donations.</p> <p>HCHD is still conducting business of non-COVID activities remotely.</p> <p>We are continuing to enroll people into MA. We are seeing more numbers as a result of an appointment. We are continuing to do outreach and doing it telephonically. While we are busy conducting COVID operations, we are still delivering regular public health services.</p>	<p>Dr. Rossman will get the contact information of those who donated PPE recently. The BOH will write an official thank you.</p> <p>Anyone who is interested in holding an office please let us know or send an email later to D. Burnett</p>

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action / Follow-up
<b>Topics for future meetings:</b> Adjournment	Update on COVID-19  The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.	
<b>Next Board of Health Meeting: May 26, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Howard Co. Health Department 8930 Stanford Blvd. 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Columbia, MD 21045</b>		