

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH



Roderick L. Harris, Secretary



Dr. Gregory L. Hall, President

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF THE MEETING – April 1, 2026

Meeting called to order by Dr. Gregory Hall, President of the Board at 9:12 a.m. in the office of the Board, 5550 Venture Drive, Parma, Ohio, on Wednesday, April 1, 2026.

The Secretary called the roll. The following members were present: Dr. Gregory L. Hall, Mr. Douglas Wang, Ms. Sonja Rajki, and Dr. Sherrie Williams.

The Secretary called the roll. Ayes: Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to excuse Dr. Sherrie Williams and Mr. Daniel Richards due to schedule conflicts at the time of the meeting. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Amend agenda items as highlighted on revised agenda. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Dr. Roderick Harris, Health Commissioner gave a brief report regarding the District Advisory Council meeting held on March 19, 2026.

Mr. John Mills administered the oath of office to Ms. Sonja Rajki, who was appointed by the District Advisory Council to a five-year term.

Election of Officers of the Board – President and President Pro Tem.

A motion was made by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, to nominate Dr. Hall, as President of the Board. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was then moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, to nominate Mr. Wang, as President Pro Tem. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries

The reading of the minutes of the February 25, 2026 regular Board meeting was dispensed with as copies had previously been received by each member. Inasmuch as there were no corrections, it was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the minutes be approved. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Public Comments on Agenda Resolutions Only (thirty-minute maximum) – None.

Review of the Financial Statements. No verbal presentation.

Approval of Resolutions/Motions:

BOARD ORDERS, RULES, FEES OR REGULATIONS:

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-027 be tabled:

BE IT RESOLVED to Whether to suspend or revoke food operator's license for Ohio Teahouse, Inc. DBA Sacred Waters Kava Bar. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

REGULAR ACTIONS OF THE BOARD:

Dr. Sherries arrived to the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-016 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Amend Resolution No. 2025-098 to Revise the contract term end date from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2027 for the Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) Agreement. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Mr. Zach Levar, Deputy Director of Population Health, presented Resolution 2026-17 as the first partial award for the 2026–2027 Ending HIV Epidemic Care Grant. He noted that this represents the sixth year of funding within the ten-year initiative. The grant supports services for individuals who move in and out of care, ensuring continued engagement and access to treatment. Mr. Levar also reported that the current federal budget maintains level funding for the program.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-017 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2026/2027 Ending HIV Epidemic Care grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration from March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 in an amount not to exceed \$550,000.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Mr. Zach Levar presented Resolution 2026-018 regarding service providers for the 2026–2027 Ryan White Grant. He explained that these medical providers deliver both clinical care and supportive services for individuals living with HIV. Mercy Health serves clients in the western counties of the region, while Signature Health provides coverage for the eastern counties.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-018 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute contracts with the following agencies under the 2026/2027 Ryan White grant from March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027:

	<u>Amount not to exceed</u>
Mercy Health Regional Medical Center	\$73,500.00
MetroHealth System	\$357,700.00
Neighborhood Health Care	\$57,000.00
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center	\$164,270.00

Signature Health, Inc.	\$106,990.00
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Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Alison Patrick, Youth Health and Wellness Program Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-019 and explained that the increased funding will allow the department to expand its work by developing three new projects. She described efforts to identify points within existing supply chains where small and medium-sized farms can enter the market to supply produce for school cafeterias. She also outlined plans to enhance production-planning capacity by creating a system that communicates product needs and quantities to farmers in advance. In addition, she discussed the creation of a data-infrastructure storytelling project designed to demonstrate the economic impact and return on investment for local farmers when school districts purchase locally grown foods.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-019 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute an addendum to the contract with Food Works Group under the 2025/2028 Distributor- Embedded Value Chain Coordinators (Project SCALES) grant from October 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028 to increase the amount to be paid from \$45,000.00 to \$107,250.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Mr. Tom Fink, Deputy Director of Environmental Health, presented Resolution 2026-020 and noted that CCBH has received lead-hazard funding for nearly 30 years. He explained that the current grant will support lead remediation in up to 295 homes over the four-year grant period. He also stated that the funding includes support for indoor air-quality initiatives related to mold and pest concerns.

Board Member Mr. Wang asked whether this was the same funding source from which the City of Cleveland had been required to return unspent funds.

Mr. Fink clarified that the funds returned by the City of Cleveland were State ARPA funds, which had to be returned because the expenditure deadline had expired. He emphasized that the Lead Hazard funding presented in this resolution is a separate Federal funding source, although the intended purposes of the two funding streams are similar.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-020 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2026/2030 Lead Hazard Reduction (LHR) grant funding from US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from March 2, 2026 through March 1, 2030 in the amount not to exceed \$7,143,360.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Megan Symanski, Watershed Protection Unit Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-021, which authorizes the renewal of the contract with the Ohio Department of Health for beach sampling at 13 beaches within the agency's jurisdiction. She noted that these locations are primarily smaller community beaches and private clubs. Larger, high traffic beaches—such as Huntington Beach in Bay Village—are sampled daily. Computer models are also used to provide real time

estimates of beach water quality, and the funding allows for additional sampling when conditions warrant.

Ms. Rajki, Board Member, inquired whether all beaches along the shoreline are sampled.

Ms. Symanski responded that all licensed or permitted beaches within the agency's jurisdiction are included.

Dr. Hall, Board President, asked whether there are instances of people becoming ill.

The Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Informatics Department explained that if reports of illness potentially linked to beach water quality are received, the department has the capability to track such cases and identify any associated outbreak clusters.

Mr. Wang asked whether the current funding is sufficient to support the level of sampling needed to ensure beach safety, and stated that if it is not, the Board should consider funding the difference to ensure adequate monitoring.

Mr. Matt Johnson, Director of Environmental Health, clarified that all eligible beaches in the jurisdiction are monitored at the levels required. He noted that many beaches in the area are classified as low or moderate use, which require less frequent sampling than high use beaches such as Huntington Beach, where daily sampling is conducted.

Mr. Tom Fink added that follow up sampling is performed whenever elevated E. coli levels are detected. He also noted that it is generally recommended to avoid entering the water for 24 to 48 hours following moderate to heavy rainfall.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-021 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with the Ohio Department of Health to administer the Bathing Beach Monitoring Project from the date of execution through September 30, 2026. Amount to be received not to exceed \$29,129.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Heather Grisez, Registered Environmental Health Sanitarian, presented Resolution 2026 022, which authorizes the annual renewal of the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund. She noted that this year's award reflects a \$50,000 increase in funding. The funds are allocated to assist homeowners with sanitary sewer connections and septic system replacements.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-022 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with the Ohio Environmental Protection agency for the 2026 Water Pollution Control Loan Fund assistance program in the amount of \$200,000.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Amber Hitchcock, Clinic Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-023, requesting approval of a contract with Kelly Stake, Nurse Practitioner, to provide Reproductive Health and Wellness services at the onsite clinic, the Warrensville Heights location, through virtual visits, and at

community outreach events. Ms. Hitchcock noted that all contract costs are fully supported by grant funding. She stated that this contract will help ensure continuity of care and support the ongoing needs of the community.

Dr. Williams, Board Member, asked how many individuals are served through the program.

Ms. Brandy Eaton, Director of Nursing and Clinical Services, responded that they anticipate serving up to 1,125 individuals.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-023 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with Kelly Stake, MSN, APRN under the Reproductive Health and Wellness grant from April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027. Amount to be paid not to exceed \$99,000.00. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Brandy Eaton presented Resolution 2026-024 reporting that additional funds from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) HIV Prevention Grant were temporarily allocated to support the salaries of the Disease Investigation Specialists, which are typically funded through the ODH STI Prevention Program. She explained that delays in federal funding for the STI Prevention Program created a temporary gap that necessitated this short term use of HIV Prevention Grant funds.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-024 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept additional 2025/2026 HIV Prevention grant funding from the Ohio Department of Health in the amount of \$62,194.00 (Resolution 2025-49). Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-025 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Approve the appropriation of the annual General Revenue Fund estimated revenue and expense budget for the year 2027 in accordance with the ORC 3709.28 (ref. enclosed). Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-026 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Director of Finance to dispose of excess and/or surplus assets as indicated on the enclosed list. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

BOARD ORDERS, RULES, FEES OR REGULATIONS

FIRST READING:

Ms. Amy Geiss, Deputy Director of Nursing and Clinical Services, explained that adjustments to clinic fees are necessary due to fluctuations in costs, including changes in purchase prices and

insurance reimbursement rates. She stated that the revised fees are intended to ensure maximum coverage of service costs. Ms. Geiss also reiterated that the clinic applies a sliding fee scale based on income for all clients.

RESOLUTION (2026-028) To amend the CCBH Provider Fees for clinical services effective June 1, 2026 (ref. enclosed).

SECOND READING:

None

THIRD READING:

None

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2026-029 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be given of the Consent Agenda as set forth in the attached schedules:

- Schedule A Appropriation Measures.
- Schedule B Cash Transfers.
- Schedule C Routine Personnel Actions.
- Schedule D Employee Training and Travel Expenses.
- Schedule E CRC Report and Other Contracts.

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Reports and Presentations

Infectious Disease Update. No verbal presentation. Full written report attached.

Presentation for 2026: March: Complex Medical Help Program. Postponed until April 22, 2026 meeting.

Health Commissioner's Report. No verbal presentation. Full written report attached.

Public and Staff Comments (three-minute maximum) – None

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Dr. Williams, that pursuant to Resolution 1993-43 and O.R.C. Sec 121.22 the Board Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss appointment, employment, promotion, discipline or compensation of a public employee, and to consider matters of collective bargaining.

The Secretary called the roll. Ayes: Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki, and Dr. Williams

Executive Session began at 9:42 a.m.

Executive Session ended at 11:17 a.m.

Miscellaneous Business – None

Thereupon, it was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned at 11:18 am. Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

SCHEDULE A
APPROPRIATION MEASURES

1. Budget Establishment(s):
 - A. Establish a budget for the 2026/2027 Ending HIV Epidemic Care grant in the amount of \$550,000.00.
 - B. Establish a budget for the 2026/2030 Lead Hazard Reduction (LHR) grant in the amount of \$7,311,869.00 (ref. enclosed).
2. Budget Revision(s):
 - A. Budget revision for the 2024/2025 Cribs for Kids grant to reduce the budget by \$25,905.00 (ref. enclosed).
 - B. Budget revision for the 2022/2023 Maternal and Child Health grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - C. Budget revision for the 2025/2027 Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - D. Budget revision for the 2024/2025 Harvest of the Month (ODEW) grant to reduce the budget by \$84,859.81 (ref. enclosed).
 - E. Budget revision for the 2024/2026 USDA Farm to School grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - F. Budget revision for the 2025/2028 Distributor- Embedded Value Chain Coordinators (Project SCALES) grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - G. Budget revision for the 2024/2025 Newborn Home Visiting grant to increase the budget by \$312,500.00 (ref. enclosed).
 - H. Budget revision for the 2024 HealthComp grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - I. Budget revision for the 2025 NACCHO FLEXED grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - J. Budget revision for the 2025/2026 Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - K. Budget revision for the 2021/2022 Enhanced Operations (EO21) grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - L. Budget revision for the 2021/2023 Prevent Premature Fatherhood (PPF) grant (ref. enclosed).
 - M. Budget revision for the 2023/2024 Cribs for Kids grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
 - N. Budget revision for the 2024/2025 MRC STRONG grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).

SCHEDULE B
CASH TRANSFERS

1. Operating Transfer(s):

None

2. Residual Equity Transfer(s):

None

SCHEDULE C
ROUTINE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Unless otherwise specifically indicated, said appointments shall be effective as of the beginning of the next pay period following completion and satisfaction of any post offer requirements and signature as determined by the Director of Organizational Development.

1. Ratify Appointment(s):

None

2. Appointment(s):

- a. TBD, Informatician, Pay Grade E, \$57,811.00 annually.
- b. TBD, IT Systems Specialist, Pay Grade D, \$50,420.00 annually.
- c. TBD, Public Health Nurse, \$51,772.50 annually.

3. Seasonal Appointment(s):

- d. Leah Campbell, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.00/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.
- e. Evan Hartman, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.00/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.
- f. Camryn Henderson, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.00/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.
- g. Ella Johnson, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.00/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.
- h. Hayden McGee, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.38/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.
- i. Sedona Czech, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.00/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.
- j. TBD, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.00/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.
- k. TBD, Student Environmental Worker, \$15.00/hour, effective May 18, 2026 through August 7, 2026.

4. Promotion(s):

- l. Brooke Lahood, Registered Environmental Health Specialist Supervisor, Pay Grade F, \$66,312.00 annually, effective March 23, 2026.

5. Resignation(s):

- m. Clarence Williams, Epidemiologist, effective March 6, 2026.
- n. Ladonne Montelione, EDI Program Manager, effective March 11, 2026.
- o. Bailey Rieck, Grant Coordinator, effective April 10, 2026.
- p. Natasha Elliott, Public Health Nurse, effective April 24, 2026.

SCHEDULE D
EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

Administration

- a. Wedad Alhamwi to the Association of Health Commissioners (AOHC) Spring Conference: April 26 – 29, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.
- b. Angela Garcia to the Association of Health Commissioners (AOHC) Spring Conference: April 26 – 29, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.
- c. Susan Skovira to the Association of Health Commissioners (AOHC) Spring Conference: April 26 – 29, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.
- d. Yemisratch Ishetie to the Association of Health Commissioners (AOHC) Spring Conference: April 26 – 29, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.

Environmental Public Health

- e. Stacey Koltas to the Zoonoses Talks Seminar: March 17, 2026. Akron, Ohio.
- f. Robert Brand to ODNR 2026 Ohio Nature-Based Shoreline Training: March 18 – 19, 2026. Vermilion, Ohio.
- g. EPH Staff to Ohio Environmental Health Association (OEHA) Annual Education Conference: April 15 – 17, 2026. Lewis Center, Ohio.
- h. Stephanie McConoughey and Tom Fink to the HUD New Grantee Orientation: April 26 – 30, 2026. Arlington, Virginia.

Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics

- i. Sarah Szabo to Alzheimer's Association Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Risk Reduction/ASTHO/NACCHO Risk Reduction Learning Collaborative: April 28 – 30, 2026. Atlanta, Georgia.
- j. Various ESI staff to Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant meetings and activities July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. Various locations in Ohio.
- k. ESI OD2A Surveillance staff to the 2026 ONIC Drug Summit: May 26 – 30, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.
- l. Jana Rush and Takisha Fuller to AOHC 2026 Ohio's Spring Public Health Conference: April 27 – 29, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.
- m. Jana Rush to AOHC Finance for Health Departments training: April 13 – 15, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.
- n. Sara Meckley and Emilee Tancak to APIC 2026 Annual Conference & Exposition, June 14 – 18, 2026. Nashville, Tennessee.
- o. Samantha Smith, Sarah Szabo, Yancey Quinn to PHI*Con/NACCHO 360 Conference: July 12 – 18, 2026. Louisville, Kentucky.
- p. Jana Rush, DrPH, \$2,000.00, Second Quarter 2026 tuition approved by the TARC on March 4, 2026.

Nursing & Clinical Services

- q. Shameem Ahmad, Melissa Kolenz, LaJuanna White and 8 Disease Intervention Specialists to DIS meeting: April 23, 2026. Columbus, Ohio.
- r. Toni Pennington, BSN, \$2,232.00, Second Quarter 2026 tuition approved by the TARC on March 4, 2026.

Population Health

- s. Sonji Deal, Erin Janowski, Erin Lark Turcoliveri, Brian Lutz to the 2026/2027 Ending HIV Epidemic Care program meetings: March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027. Various locations in Ohio.

*Professional education under ONA contract.

SCHEDULE E
CRC REPORT AND OTHER CONTRACTS

A. CRC Report

1. March 3, 2026 1st CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2026-021 Administration Services submitting a Rental Contract with the Middleburg Heights Community Center to host an all staff meeting at the facility on May 11, 2026. No Exchange of Funds.

CRC 2026-022 Administration Services submitting a Public Health Experience Agreement with Ohio University to provide public health experience for students from March 1, 2026 through April 30, 2031. No Exchange of funds.

CRC 2026-023 Environmental Public Health Services submitting Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the following communities to provide Phase II Stormwater services as part of the NEORSD Regional Stormwater Management Program (RSMP) from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030. No Exchange of Funds.

Village of Glenwillow
City of Middleburg Heights
Village of Moreland Hills
Village of Newburgh Heights

Contract Approvals and Authorizations

CRC 2026-024: Clarke Mosquito Control Products- RFQ 2026-02- amount to be paid not to exceed \$28,440.00.

CRC 2026-025: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office- increase the amount to be paid from \$245,583.00 to \$253,501.00.

CRC 2026-026: West Creek Conservancy- amount to be paid not to exceed \$10,000.00.

2. March 17, 2026 2nd CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2026-027 Nursing and Clinical Services submitting a Memorandum of Understanding with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Certified Application Counselor to assist uninsured clients to obtain insurance from April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2028. No exchange of funds.

CRC 2026-028 Environmental Public Health Services submitting Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the following communities to provide Phase II Stormwater services as part of the NEORSD Regional Stormwater Management Program (RSMP) from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030. No exchange of funds.

City of Brook Park	City of Lyndhurst
Village of Gates Mills	City of Olmsted Falls
City of Highland Hills	City of Strongsville

Contract Approvals and Authorizations

CRC 2025-029 Population Health Services submitting an addendum to the contract with WellLink Health Alliance (Resolutions 2025-122) under the 2023/2024 and 2025/2026 Overdose Data to Action grants from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 to increase the amount to be paid from \$59,016.00 to \$62,052.00.

CRC 2026-030 Population Health Services submitting the following contracts under the 2026/2027 Ryan White grant from March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027.

Amount to be paid
Not to exceed

AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland	\$43,500.00
The Centers	\$46,200.00
Near West Side Multi Service Corp.	

CRC 2026-031 Environmental Public Health Services is submitting a Phase II Stormwater Service Agreement with the following communities to provide Phase II Stormwater services from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027.

Amount to be received
Not to exceed

City of Rocky River	\$5,700.00
City of North Olmsted	\$10,560.00

B. Other Contracts

None