



Tony Virgin, MD
Health Commissioner

LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2122 So. 8th Street
Ironton, OH 45638
740-532-3962



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Lawrence County Health Department

Jim Meadows, MD
Medical Director

Lawrence County Board of Health 04-16-2025 Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:21 PM.

Roll Call

Randy Lambert (President)	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Mark Dickess (Vice-President)	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Brenda Shipley	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Melanie Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Present
Kevin Willis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Present

Also present was:

Tony Virgin (Health Commissioner)	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
ebbie Fisher (Administrator)	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Angela Bostick-Doyle (Director of Nursing)	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Paul O'Banion (Environmental Health Director)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Present
Zach Schweinsberg (Fiscal Officer).	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present

Approve Minutes

Randy Lambert asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Brenda Shipley made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Mark Dickess seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Randy Lambert noted that no members of the public were present.

Financial

Randy Lambert asked for a motion to approve expenditures, pay bills & salaries, and accept the financial reports. Mark Dickess made the motion. Brenda Shipley seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

The Borad of Health reviewed a report on the loss of EO23 – COVID-19 Enhanced Operations Funding. The Board of Health also reviewed the performance of the primary care clinic. This review was set forth in the MOU between Dr.Virgin and the Board of Health that was signed



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on 01-15-2025. The report outlined that the primary care clinic was not earning as much money as anticipated. The number of patients, as well as the average revenue per patient, were much lower than what was predicted in the January cost analysis. The Board of Health was presented with two options:

- 1.) Discontinue the primary care clinic and reduce Dr. Virgin's time to 5hrs per week.
- 2.) Reduce Dr. Virgin's time to 30hrs per week and continue the primary care clinic for another quarter. Then, conduct a second review in July 2025.

While option 1 might offer the greatest cost savings, it would require the Health Department to hire a nurse practitioner to see patients for the Reproductive Health and Wellness Grant. This would likely be difficult, because there would not be enough work to justify hiring one as a full-time employee. Most nurse practitioners would want full-time work with the typical benefits. Assuming that a nurse practitioner could not be hired quickly, the Health Department would be at risk of losing its grant. Also, in comparison to the Health Commissioner, there would not be as many funding sources from which to pay a nurse practitioner.

Option 2 provides an annual cost savings to the Health Department of at least \$50,000, which is still quite significant. It also allows the Health Department to continue seeing patients for reproductive health and primary care. Although the primary care clinic underperformed initial expectations, it still brings in enough money to help offset some expenses. This option gives the Health Department time to complete a payroll cost analysis in May. The information gained from that cost analysis will be helpful for future decision making. Dr. Virgin expressed that he was willing to try this to see if things would improve.

Brenda Shipley made a motion to reduce the Health Commissioner's hours to 30 per week while also giving the Administrator the ability to increase the Health Commissioner's hours back to 40 if necessary. Mark Dickess seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.



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Environmental

Debbie Fisher informed the Board of Health that some food venders were late paying for the food license, but as of this morning, they all were caught up.

Other Reports

The Board of Health reviewed the reports listed in section 6 of the agenda.

Debbie Fisher provided an update about the Health Department's accreditation status. The Health Department has received an update from the Public Health Accreditation Board. The update showed that many of the PHAB measures were full or largely demonstrated. Very few measures were only slightly demonstrated.

Mark Dickess made a motion to receive and file the reports as presented. Brenda Shipley seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Adjournment

Having covered everything on the agenda, the Board President adjourned the meeting at 1:04 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for 05-21-2025 at 12:00 PM in the Conference Room of Lawrence County Health Department

Minutes Approved by:


Randall Lambert, BOH President

5-21-25

Date

