

**Minutes of the
Chicago Board of Health
Wednesday, April 24, 2024
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Damen Building
1340 S. Damen Ave., 4th Floor Training Room (4024)**

I. Roll Call

Quorum was established based upon the following:

Present In-Person: Janet Lin, MD, MPH, MBA
Debra Wesley, MSW
Horace E. Smith, MD
Carmen Vergara, MPH, RN-BSN
Steven Rothschild, MD

Present Virtual: Rosa Martínez Colón, MS* Recused from voting.

Absent: Óscar Iván Zambrano, MPH, MBA, CDM
Joel Johnson, Med

For the Department: Olusimbo Ige, MD, Commissioner
Chicago Department of Public Health

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Janet Lin, M.D. President.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The Board voted and approved the March minutes.

III. Commissioner's Update

Commissioner Ige provided the following department wide COVID and non-COVID updates:

- **CDPH Priorities**
 - The department continues to address its twelve strategic priorities and will present information on increasing public health visibility in marginalized communities.
- **Infectious Disease Update**
 - CDPH is on pace to receive more disease reports in 2024 than the previous five years and highlights investigations of over twenty infectious disease outbreaks.
 - Resurgence in vaccine-preventable diseases likely due to COVID-19 pandemic-related effects like delays in routine childhood vaccination rates and vaccine sentiments.
- **Measles Update**
 - There have been 64 documented cases of measles since early March. Most cases are associated with exposure in a new arrival shelter, but rates of

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infection decreased due to rapid-response vaccination campaigns. New cases are not related to the shelter of origin.

- **COVID Reporting Guidelines**
 - Illinois Administrative Rules for communicable disease reporting were updated to align COVID-19 reporting requirements with influenza and newly reportable Respiratory Syncytial Virus.
 - **April 30:** Hospitals will not be required to report hospital pathogen, bed capacity, and supply data to the Department of Health and Human Services.
 - **May 18:** Illinois Department of Public Health will operationalize the updates withing I-NEDSS.
 - **May 18 – August:** CDPH will develop a merged respiratory dashboard to launch in August.
- **Lease Update**
 - 111 W. Washington lease ends in August. The department plans to meet with the City Council in June to advocate for a lease extension.
- **Medicaid Redetermination**
 - Partnered with Chicago Public Schools for Medicaid Redetermination outreach.

IV. Departmental Updates:

- a. Financial Updates**
 - Two grant submissions, one in progress and no grants ending as of 4/31/2024.
 - Update on Opioid and Juul settlements.
- b. Staffing Updates**
 - Overview of departmental job postings, promotions, resignations, and retention rates.
- c. Legislative Updates**
 - Review of City, State, and Federal legislation.
- d. Media Updates**
 - Review of CDPH news stories and podcast interviews.

Board Member Comments and Questions:

- Suggestions regarding social media campaigns that tailor messaging to underserved communities.
- Question regarding CDPH’s access to vaccine data from I-CARE.
- Follow up question about demographic data related to measles community cases.
- Question regarding the department’s vaccination recommendations.
- Follow up question on recommendations specific to vaccination efforts.

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- Question about CDPH’s need for a downtown footprint.
- Question about Medicaid enrollment data from Covid to target specific families in redetermination outreach efforts.
- Question about Opioid and Juul settlement funding expiration dates.
- Question regarding public and private funding partnerships for public health efforts.
- Comment advocating for increased digital literacy efforts.

V. Board President’s Comments:

Advocates for additional adult vaccination data.

VI. Presentations:

Department: Chicago Department of Public Health

Title: Marketing Presentation

Speaker: Andrew Buchanan, Director of Public Affairs

Michell Metcalf, Director of Marketing

Board Member Comments and Questions:

No board member comments.

VII. Public Comments

There was one public comment from Joy Bunton.

Advocates for research and appropriate precautionary measures that address long-term Covid effects. Urges for awareness of long-Covid effects and increase in data.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am by Dr. Janet Lin.