

**Minutes of the
Chicago Board of Health
Wednesday, August, 2024
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Washington Building
111 W. Washington St., 12th Floor (Conference Room 1212)**

I. Roll Call

Quorum was established based upon the following:

Present In-Person: Óscar Iván Zambrano, MPH, MBA, CDM
Horace E. Smith, MD
Steven Rothschild, MD
Joel Johnson, MEd
Carmen Vergara, MPH, RN-BSN
Debra Wesley, MSW

Absent: Rosa Martínez Colón, MS
Janet Lin, MD, MPH, MBA

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am by, Steven Rothschild, M.D.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The board motioned and approved the July minutes.

III. Commissioner's Update

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

- **Democratic National Convention Conclusion**
 - CDPH successfully deployed public health preparedness, surveillance, and operations support for the DNC.
- **Board of Health Location Update**
 - The remaining 2024 monthly Board of Health meetings will continue at CDPH headquarters, 111 W. Washington.
- **Mpox Update**
 - No reported cases of Mpox Clade I in Chicago yet. Readiness assessment includes surveillance, vaccination administration, testing, infection prevention, communications, and funding capacity to support response actions. The major gap is the absence of isolation spaces.
- **Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan**
 - The department concluded its review of the progress report of the Healthy Chicago 2025 Community Health Improvement Plan. The goal of the 5-year plan was to close the racial life expectancy gap. Findings reveal that

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the life expectancy gap for Black Chicagoans have widened. A one-year action plan to address the primary drivers in the 5 most impacted communities was presented.

IV. Departmental Updates:

a. Staffing Updates

Overview of 2024 Q2 hires, separations, and vacancies.

b. Legislative Updates

Updated on the Federal Appropriations Process.

Board Member Comments and Questions:

- Question regarding COVID 19 uptick.
- Question on workforce pipeline and access to public health internships.

V. Board President's Comments:

No board present comments.

VI. Presentations:

Department: Chicago Department of Public Health

Title: Lead Poisoning Prevention and Healthy Homes Program

Speaker: Jennifer Vidis, Chief Program Officer, MICAH Bureau

Board Member Comments and Questions:

- Question regarding statistics on school-aged children excluded from CPS due to vaccination compliance deficits.
- Question regarding the role of community partners in collaboration with the health department.
- Question regarding access, opportunity, and advocacy for collaboration with community partners.
- Question on nationwide lead level data to compare with Chicago.
- Comment regarding lead pipping in the city's infrastructure and pipe replacement status.
- Question regarding oversight in external city infrastructure and current lead paint mitigation efforts.
- Comment advocating for CDPH to explore state programing and funding opportunities.
- Comment suggesting Family Connects support lead sampling during home visits.

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- Comment advocating for the Louisville tree planning model.
- Comment on Art Institute initiative in tree planting and resources.
- Comment advocating internal neighborhood triggers and a toolkit for mental health services.
- Comment praising CDPH’s efforts for DNC preparation and commitment to public safety.
- Question on the estimates of additional costs and funding strips associated with DNC efforts.

VII. Public Comments

There was one public comment from Joy Bunton who expresses disappointment in the health department’s approach to COVID and long-COVID efforts.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 am by Dr. Steven Rothschild.