

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
July 12, 2023

The in-person and virtual (Microsoft Teams) meeting of the Executive Board of the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) was called to order at 10:32 am in the Robert O. Yoho Executive Board Room of the IDOH building by Brenda Goff, Chairperson. The following Board members were present for all or part of the meeting (in-person or via teams):

Brenda Goff, HFA (Chair)  
Robin Marks, DVM  
Joanne Martin, DrPH, RN, FAAN (virtual)  
Rex McKinney, FACHE  
Shelley Rauch, HFA  
Suellen Sorensen, PharmD, BCPS  
Patricia Spence, PE  
Stephen Tharp, MD (Vice Chair)  
Lindsay Weaver, MD, FACEP (Secretary)

Those not able to attend:

Naveed Chowhan, MD, FACP, MBA  
Martin Hanneman, DDS  
Holly Robinson, MD

The following staff members were present for all or part of the meeting (in-person or via teams):

D. Shane Hatchett, Deputy Health Commissioner & Chief of Staff  
Amy Kent, Deputy Health Commissioner & Chief Strategy Officer  
Megan Lytle, Assistant Commissioner, Public Health Protection  
Laurie Mendez, Chief Financial Officer  
Kelly MacKinnon, JD, Chief Legal Counsel  
Ann Knotek, Office of Legal Affairs  
Lee Green, Senior Medical Entomologist  
Mike Mettler, Director, Environmental Public Health  
Mike Sutton, Central Regional Health Administrator  
Michelle Matern, Southern Regional Health Administrator  
Sheila Paul, Northern Regional Health Administrator

Guests:

Troy Weirick, MD  
Matthew Sprunger, MD

## Call to Order

Brenda Goff, Chair, stated that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:32 am. She then asked if Board members had any known conflicts of interest to declare. Hearing none she proceeded with the meeting.

## Minutes

Ms. Goff asked for discussion and/or corrections to the minutes of the May 17, 2023, Executive Board meeting. Hearing none, she entertained a motion for approval. On a motion made by Dr. Stephen Tharp, seconded by Suellyn Sorensen and passed by majority roll call vote of in-person and virtual attendees, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

## **OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

### **Secretary's Report**

Dr. Weaver presented an update on the GPHC Recommendations, now known as Health First Indiana. She reiterated the background of the GPHC and the legislation passed as a result of the recommendations. Health First Indiana is an historic, first of its kind investment in public health. This investment in prevention leads to healthier communities and workforce, which attracts businesses and benefits the economy. It brings together local elected officials, public health, clinical health and community partners. These partnerships will allow organization of care as a community, reduce duplication of services, and be more efficient. She reviewed the core services and the percentage of funding that must be used for them when counties opt-in to receive the additional funding. September 1, 2023 is the deadline for counties to opt-in. The additional funding will be distributed on January 1, 2024. The first county to opt-in was Henry County. Dr. Weaver introduced the new Regional Health Administrators – Mike Sutton, Central; Michelle Matern, Southern and Sheila Paul, Northern. Dr. Weaver also provided an update on legislation affecting the IDOH.

### **Public Health Protection Commission**

#### Discussion on Amendment to Residential On-Site Sewage Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3

Megan Lytle, Assistant Commissioner for Public Health Protection introduced Kelly MacKinnon, JD, Chief Legal Counsel and Mike Mettler, Director of Environmental Public Health to discuss the amendment to the Residential On-Site Sewage Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3. The draft rule update is different from the previous version the Board reviewed because of legislative changes made during the 2023 legislative session. The update is now limited to:

- 1) Clarifies that local ordinances may be stricter than the IDOH rule if approved by the technical review panel as set forth in the Indiana Code;
- 2) Makes changes to statutory references to any updated Indiana Code and conflicts between the administrative rule and Indiana Code, including updating the plan review time to 30 days and sink hole setbacks of at least 25 feet; and
- 3) Updates matters incorporated by reference to the most current version as appropriate.

IDOH is waiting on State Budget Agency approval to proceed with the next step in the rule-making process.

## **Other Business**

### Update on Rule-making Process

Kelly MacKinnon, JD, Chief Legal Counsel, presented updates on the rule-making process. The new process will not change the board's approval process much. The biggest changes include:

- 1) The cost benefit and fiscal analysis is now combined into one form
- 2) Budget Committee Review for rules that increase or expand application of fees, fines, or civil penalties
- 3) SBA/OMB approval and general practice now in law

Kelly reviewed the processes/timelines the IDOH must now follow for rule-making. She also stated that for readoptions the time frame is changed from every 7 years to every 5 years.

Provisional rules, replacement for emergency rules, can be effective for 180 days.

### Vector-borne and Zoonotic Disease Update

Lee Green, Senior Medical Entomologist, presented an update on the IDOH Entomology Program. There are regional medical entomologists – Sara McBride, Northern; Jeanette McGavic, Central; and Doug Ginder, Southern. The mosquito-borne disease surveillance throughout the state covers: West Nile Virus, St. Louis, Eastern Equine & LaCrosse Encephalitis; Dengue Fever, Chikungunya, Malaria and Zika. In 2022 122,175 mosquitoes were tested which were collected from 92 counties by both state and local staff.

The tick-borne disease surveillance throughout the state covers: Lyme Disease, Spotted Fever Group Rickettsioses, Ehrlichiosis, Anaplasmosis, Tularemia, Babesiosis, and non-Lyme Borrelioses. Indiana is the 19<sup>th</sup> state in the US to find the Asian Longhorned Tick. This tick can reproduce with no mate which makes it a huge livestock issue.

Other issues the program deals with are cockroaches, fleas, bed bugs, scabies, lice, Delusory Parasitosis (disease causing delusions that you have bugs/parasites in your skin), and rodents. Other services the program provides are: training for local health departments, pesticide applicator training/continuing education, laboratory support/identification, technical assistance, and public speaking/outreach.

### Election of Executive Board Chair – Resolution 2023-01

D. Shane Hatchett, Deputy Health Commissioner & Chief of Staff, presented Resolution 2023-01, Election of Executive Board Chair for discussion and approval. Statute requires the Board elect a Chairperson every two years. After prior discussion with several Board members, this Resolution solidifies that Dr. Stephen Tharp will be the new Chairperson until June 30, 2025. The statute does not require a Vice Chairperson; however, this resolution will allow the Chairperson to delegate another voting member to preside pro tempore provided that such designation is communicated in writing the Board Secretary.

Brenda Goff asked for discussion and/or comments from the Board. Hearing none, she entertained a motion for approval. On a motion made by Rex McKinney, seconded by Suellyn Sorensen and passed by majority roll-call vote of in-person and virtual attendees, the Board approved Resolution 2023-01.

#### Ultimate Authority in Reviewing and Disposing of Administrative Appeals – Resolution 2023-02

D. Shane Hatchett, Deputy Health Commissioner & Chief of Staff, presented Resolution 2023-02, Ultimate Authority in Reviewing and Disposing of Administrative Appeals for discussion and approval. In 2019 the Office of Administrative Law and Proceedings was established to centralize and improve administrative hearings covered by the Administrative Orders and Procedures Act. This Resolution designates the IDOH Chief of Staff (or equivalent official) as the ultimate authority on the Board's behalf until otherwise indicated by resolution of the Board.

Brenda Goff asked for discussion and/or comments from the Board. Hearing none, she entertained a motion for approval. On a motion made by Dr. Stephen Tharp, seconded by Shelley Rauch and passed by majority roll-call vote of in-person and virtual attendees, the Board approved Resolution 2023-02.

#### **Distribution**

Ms. Goff thanked staff for the professional new hire and separation reports and summary of final orders.

#### **Adjournment**

Hearing no additional comments from the Board, staff and/or public, Ms. Goff adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2023.