



District Health Department & Home Health Agency

Serving Harrison, Nicholas, Scott & Bourbon County Home Health

MINUTES

WEDCO DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Monday, June 7, 2021

**WEDCO District Health Department
Conference Room**

Cynthiana, Kentucky

12:00 P.M.

**Judge Alex Barnett, Chairman
Tim Thompson, Vice Chairman**

Members Present:

Harrison County

Alex Barnett, Judge Executive
Dr. Derek Clarke

Members Absent:

Harrison County

Dr. Brett Hines

Nicholas County

Judge Steve Hamilton, Judge Executive
Becky Reid

Nicholas County

Scott County

Tim Thompson
Sherry Taylor, RN
Jared Hollon, Judge Designee

Scott County

Staff and Guests Present: James Carl Gray, Rachel Kendall, Dr. Crystal Miller, Savannah Tucker, Jennifer Lemmings and Ronda Walton.

With a roll call showing a quorum present; Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Dr. Miller asked the board for a motion to approve the March 9, 2021 minutes.

MOTION #1

Motion was made by Dr. Clarke to approve the minutes from March 9, 2021. Becky Reid seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Judge Barnett – Yes

Sherry Taylor – Yes

Judge Hamilton – Yes

Jared Hollon – Yes

Tim Thompson – Yes

Dr. Clarke – Yes

Becky Reid – Yes

No further discussion. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. James Carl Gray, Wealth Management of the Bluegrass, presented an update of the investments policy statement at the state level. Mr. Gray stated we needed to amend our investment policies to align with the new state regulations.

MOTION #2

Motion was made by Dr. Clarke to approve a change to the WEDCO Investment Policy Statement to reflect the updated KRS 66.480 Section 1-11. Jared Hollon seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Judge Barnett – Yes

Sherry Taylor – Yes

Judge Hamilton – Yes

Jared Hollon – Yes

Tim Thompson – Yes

Dr. Clarke – Yes

Becky Reid – Yes

No further discussion. Motion passed without opposition.

With no further old business to discuss, the meeting moved forward to new business.

Rachel Kendall, Administrative Services Manager, presented the financial report. This report was based on the financials as of 4/30/21, as the Revenue/Expense Report for May was not yet due to be completed for a few more days

Mrs. Kendall reported that WEDCO is still trying to get some bids for an electrical engineer to move a generator from our former District Office to the Nicholas County facility. Nicholas County is the only facility that is operating without an emergency generator. Mrs. Kendall reported that it would be beneficial for Nicholas County, should there ever be a need for a shelter. Additionally, in the last year, when there were cold spells leading to issues with the electric going on and off in the facility, there was concern for the storage of vaccines and the ability to keep refrigeration for the freezers that kept these vaccines. A couple of times this last year, our nurse administrator had to go to the Nicholas County facility to get the vaccine and bring it to the District Office for storage during a snowstorm. Gene Thomas is working on this project and there will be more information coming. To date, we have gotten one bid and Dr. Miller will be forwarding that to all Nicholas Co. Local board members via email following this meeting so that we can move forward.

Mrs. Kendall updated the board on the Harrison Co. HVAC project. Work began Tuesday, June 1st. There had been a delay due to ordering parts and the air conditioning unit itself. Mrs. Kendall stated Allstate has been exceptional to work with and she has been very pleased. The day after the new project began, the air conditioning went out again at the Health Center. Allstate was called rather than Trane since Allstate was already working on the new air conditioning project. They were there immediately and reported that the compressors were having some issues. They were able to move some wiring around. They said that if that goes out, it would be \$25,000 to fix. So since we are replacing this unit anyway, this is good timing for this HVAC project to happen.

Mrs. Kendall reported that the security system is up and running. There have been a few snags along the way, but it is working well. There are plans to add some additional cameras because when the scope was done, some areas did not have coverage.

Mrs. Kendall stated that all in all, things with the facilities are great. It has been a wonderful year with adding some things that have been needed for a long time.

MOTION #3

Motion was made by Jared Hollon to accept bids for an electrical engineer for the generator at the Nicholas County Building HVAC project. Becky Reid seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Judge Barnett – Yes

Sherry Taylor – Yes

Judge Hamilton – Yes

Jared Hollon – Yes

Tim Thompson – Yes

Dr. Clarke – Yes

Becky Reid – Yes

Mrs. Kendall reported on our current FY 21 financials. WEDCO's assets at the end of April are almost \$20,000,000. Our Ameriprise investment account was transferred to TD Ameritrade. Currently, our checking account has \$8,400,000. Mrs. Kendall recommended that some of these funds need to be invested. Last week, Allen Johnson from Kentucky Bank presented a letter stating that they were taking our rate from .75% to .34%. Due to the low rates CD's are offering now, we are not renewing those and we are investing those funds in our Ameritrade account to garner a greater return on investment. WEDCO has approximately \$5,400,000 in CD's right now and \$5,900,000 TD Ameritrade.

Next, Mrs. Kendall presented the fiscal year 2022 WEDCO budget. This budget estimates a surplus of \$2,600,000. The biggest piece of the budget that is unknown is HB8. Kentucky Employment Retirement System (KERS) has changed their name to Kentucky Public Pension Authority (KPPA). KPPA's employer contribution rate will stay at the 49.47%. This year we will begin to pay on our unfunded liability at 10.10% per person in addition to the 49.47%. The state did give a subsidy to assist with that payment. Dr. Miller spoke about the HB8 and that this year the retirement was frozen at the 49.47%. She spoke to the importance of lobbying the state senators and representatives not to increase this rate to 87% in the coming years. Previously, to any position that was not in the merit system was set up on contract. Now the state is requiring all contract positions to pay into the retirement system going all the way back to the 2014-15 payroll as well to assist with Frankfort's underfunded retirement system. Additionally, we are having to pay our unfunded liability, which will be 12 payments every year for the next 30 years. This will be particularly difficult for Home Health because it's not a full covered service. Personal Service Contracts, and Independent Contractors which are paid on our payroll will now be reviewed by the state to see if we need to pay a pension for these services. If that happens, it will cost our Home Health program \$502,000, and our other programs \$15,000. Paying pensions in some programs would cause those programs to be in the negative at the end of the fiscal year. We cannot put public health tax money to that program when it is supposed to be self-sustaining. The contractor's will not ever see those funds. This will change hiring decisions for WEDCO going forward. This coming year will be telling for what health departments will be in the end and if any home health agencies are tied to health departments in the coming years.

This year, staff have worked tirelessly to assist with this pandemic. We have also received some assistance for Covid which has helped our financial status. For fiscal year 2022, we have built a 5% meritorious increment for staff in our budget. As well, we have kept our lump sum amounts for a Proficient and Commendable rating at 1.5% and Highly Commendable at 3%. We are asking

for board approval for our FY 22 budget, as well as for the 5% merit increment for staff and lump sum amounts for above rating evaluations.

MOTION #4

Motion was made by Dr. Clarke to approve the budget for FY22. The motion was seconded by Becky Reid.

Roll Call:

Judge Barnett – Yes	Tim Thompson – Yes
Sherry Taylor – Yes	Dr. Clarke – Yes
Judge Hamilton – Yes	Becky Reid – Yes
Jared Hollon – Yes	

MOTION #5

Motion was made by Dr. Clarke to approve a 5% merit increase for staff in the coming fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Jared Hollon.

Roll Call:

Judge Barnett – Yes	Tim Thompson – Yes
Sherry Taylor – Yes	Dr. Clarke – Yes
Judge Hamilton – Yes	Becky Reid – Yes
Jared Hollon – Yes	

MOTION #6

Motion was made by Jared Hollon to approve a 1.5% lump sum payment to staff who achieve a performance rating at the Proficient and Commendable level, and a 3% lump sum payment to staff who achieve a performance rating at the Highly Commendable level. The motion was seconded by Dr. Clarke.

Roll Call:

Judge Barnett – Yes	Tim Thompson – Yes
Sherry Taylor – Yes	Dr. Clarke – Yes
Judge Hamilton – Yes	Becky Reid – Yes
Jared Hollon – Yes	

Mrs. Kendall summarized that revenues were \$2,375,582 more than budgeted for FY21. A large portion of this is the pension subsidy of \$1,187,051. We have projected to use restricted reserves to balance EPSDT and traditional home health services this year. Local tax appropriations and unrestricted funds will be used to balance other programs. Expenditures are projected \$1,456,927 more than budgeted in FY21. Mrs. Kendall stated our Tuition Assistance program will remain on

hold, though we have budgeted \$6000 to cover employees currently participating. WEDCO will again contribute \$150,000 to The Beautiful Minds Program in the schools.

Dr. Miller advised the board that WEDCO would be opening back up for clinic services and waiting rooms.

Dr. Miller reported that the 5-year reaccreditation will be coming due in 2022, and that we would need to be preparing for that deadline. However, she is unsure if WEDCO should pursue reaccreditation, due to the amount of work on the staff and the cost of accreditation. More details will be presented at the next board meeting.

Dr. Miller reported that WEDCO has given out 25,000 vaccines to date. The breakdown by counties is Scott County - 13,000, Harrison County - 7,500, and Nicholas County - 4,500. She reported that that is now very slow as not many are coming in now for vaccines. She reported that WEDCO will plan to be at all of the local fairs, and other events including the Rod Run, the Blackberry Festival, and the Horse Festival to provide vaccines. She said we hope to have both flu and COVID vaccines available at these events.

The next meeting will be held in September during the lunch hour.

MOTION #7

Motion was made by Jared Hollon to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Dr. Clarke.

No further discussion. Motion passed without opposition

Meeting adjourned.



Mr. Tim Thompson, Vice Chairman

9-22-2021

Date



Dr. Crystal Miller, Secretary

10/4/21

Date