

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING
January 14, 2020**

Members Present:

James Curran, M.D., M.P.H., Chair
Misael Rodriguez, M.D., Secretary
Kathryn Cheek, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Phillip L. Williams, Ph.D.
Sangmin Ryan Shin, M.D., M.A., F.A.A.O.S.
Tamica Valliere-White, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Major General Thomas M. Carden, Jr.
John Hauptert, F.A.C.H.E., Vice Chair

Members Absent:

Cynthia A. Mercer, M.D.

The Board of Public Health held its monthly board meeting January 14, 2020 at 2 Peachtree Street Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. The meeting was held in the 5th Floor Board Room of the Georgia Department of Community Health. An agenda and a list of attendees are attached hereto and made official parts of these minutes.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Dr. Curran, following a roll call by Dr. Rodriguez. The following member was absent, Dr. Mercer.

II. Approval/Adoption of Minutes:

Dr. Rodriguez presented the minutes of the December 10, 2019 meeting for discussion and approval. There was no discussion. The minutes passed unanimously.

III. Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner's Report by Commissioner Kathleen E. Toomey, M.D., M.P.H.

Commissioner Toomey opened the board meeting by stating that 2020 has had a rapid start. She announced that legislative session would begin the week of January 13th, and Megan Andrews, Director of Government Relations would provide updates on session.

During the commissioner's report, Dr. Toomey said that the planning grant for HIV had been completed, but she has not heard any feedback.

Also, while giving her report she shared she had the privilege to accompany members of the Legislative Black Caucus from Georgia to the CDC to meet with Dr. Redfield to discuss the activities that are taking place to end the HIV epidemic. In a separate meeting Dr. Toomey and the Legislative Black Caucus met with Governor Kemp at the Capitol regarding the epidemic, and the governor expressed his support for the work being done.

In closing her report, Commissioner Toomey turned her remaining minutes over to General Major Carden, Jr. MG Carden stated that the State of Georgia and the Department of Defense are doing great work with the Country of Georgia. Carden stated that the State of Georgia and Country of Georgia have been partnering together for over 25 years to provide access to healthcare. Dr. Toomey hopes DPH can play a role in the partnership moving forward.

IV. New Business:

A. Epidemiology Updates- Cherie L. Drenzek, D.V.M., M.S.

Cherie Drenzek, State Epidemiologist and Chief Science Officer opened her presentation with state and national influenza data. Dr. Drenzek stated that the flu is ever-changing, complex and is difficult to predict. She also stated that the flu will forever be a significant public health challenge. When monitoring the flu some indicators that are reviewed are: virology, outpatient illness, hospitalization and how the virus spreads across the state.

Currently there are 36 states nationally that have high activity, including Georgia. During the current flu season there have been 22 flu-related deaths and 43 flu outbreaks. An increase in the H1N1 virus has also been reported.

Everyone six months and older should receive an annual flu vaccination. It is not too late to get a flu shot. Flu activity is likely to remain high through January.

B. Maternal and Child Health Title V Block Grant 5-Year Needs Assessment - Paige Jones, Sr. Manager

Maternal and Child Health Title V Block Grant is the nation's oldest federal/state partnership. The program supports improving health of all mothers, children, and youth including those with special needs.

Each state is required to conduct a statewide, comprehensive needs assessment every five years. The assessment is useful for strategic planning, decision making and resource allocation. The process of the assessment is gathering qualitative and quantitative data through surveys, focus groups, and through feedback and data results.

C. 2020 Legislative Session Update – Megan Andrews, J.D.

Megan Andrews, Director of Government Relations presented on the 2020 Legislative Session. She stated that Commissioner Toomey would present on the budget for the House of Representatives. On February 5 the Georgia Department of Public Health will host Public Health Day at the Capitol, and the District Health Directors will serve as doctors of the day.

V. Board Comments:

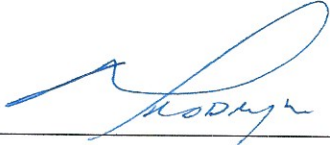
Dr. Curran asked: If there was a shortage in Tamiflu? No, there is no shortage.

Are refugees able to receive services, Dr. Curran asked. He felt that no one should be denied services. Paige Jones stated no one is denied.

VI. Adjournment:

There being no further business to be brought before the board, Dr. Curran motioned for adjournment of the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Curran adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE 11th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Misael Rodriguez", is written over a horizontal line.

Misael Rodriguez, M.D.
Secretary

Official Attachments:

1. List of Attendees
2. Agenda

January 14, 2020

Board of Public Health Meeting Attendees

Board Members

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Major General Thomas M. Carden, Jr.
John Hauptert, F.A.C.H.E., Vice Chair

Guest Attendees

Claire Eden, AAP
Christie Jean, AAP
Becca Halluin, GHA
Cordia Starling, GA-AAP
Fouzia Eskew, GA-AAP

Department of Public Health Attendees

Adam Barefoot
Yvette Daniels
Shelena King
Jeannie Galloway
Judith Kerr
Valerie Newton- Lamb
Sean Mack
Chris Rustin
Emily Jones
Rashidat Mohammad
Rick Keheley
Karl Soetebier
Melanie Durley
Diane Durrence
Fanny Vazquez
Angelica McGrier
Nancy Nydam