

**Minutes of the
Chicago Board of Health
Wednesday, March 27, 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
Joel Johnson, MEd
Óscar Iván Zambrano, MPH, MBA, CDM
Debra Wesley, MSW
Rosa Martínez Colón, MS
Horace E. Smith, MD
Carmen Vergara, MPH, RN-BSN
Steven Rothschild, MD

Absent:

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

II. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by Janet Lin, M.D. President.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The Board voted and approved the February minutes.

IV. Commissioner's Update

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

- **Medicaid Redetermination Update**
 - On March 8th, 2024, the redetermination for HBIA, HBIS, and Medicaid began. One hundred seventy thousand in Chicago are at risk of being disenrolled because they have not re-enrolled. Most at-risk individuals are still eligible for benefits.
 - The primary population impacted is undocumented Chicagoans, and the current challenge is locating individuals for the necessary information to ensure re-enrollment.
- **Settlement Agreement with E-Cigarette Maker Juul Labs**
 - On March 1, 2023, the City of Chicago announced that a \$23.8M settlement was reached with JUUL Labs. Since then, \$700,000 has been awarded to CDPH toward the education, prevention, and cessation of vape products. The efforts and allocation of financial resources have considerably decreased the use of tobacco products in Chicago.
- **Measles Update**

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- Reiteration that that department aims to respond to any disease notification within 24 hours of identification.
- On 3/7/2024, the department received notification that the first measles case emerged in the Halsted new arrivals shelter.
- On 3/8/2024, the vaccination campaign began with four different teams, and within 72 hours, 99.2% received their first dose of the measles vaccine.
- Implementation of a policy updated for unvaccinated children.
- **Challenges:**
 - Individuals suspected of measles and those who received the first MMR dose were quarantined for 21 days. Implementation of additional systems helped to identify those individuals under quarantine.
 - Securing food resources for shelter residents due to the quarantine. Partnered with CPS for additional meals.
 - The relocation of individuals ineligible for the vaccine, such as pregnant women and children under six months of age. In partnership with the state, the population relocated to a new site for quarantining.

Board Member Comments and Questions:

- Question regarding vaccination protocol opportunities at the initial health screening for new arrivals moving forward.
- Comment regarding CDPH's great work with new arrivals through this population's stigmatization and politicization. Advocates low thresholds of infection for Chicagoans due to routine vaccination and immunity.
- Question regarding the settlement agreement with JUUL and the flexibility of funds from the settlement award.
- Question regarding measles testing documentation, measles outbreak playbooks, and Vitamin A administration.

V. Board President's Comments:

Comments regarding standing business and new business will be made after the presentation.

VI. Presentations:

Chicago Department of Public Health
Office of Substance Use: Public Health Vending Machines & Narcan Distribution
Matt Richards, Deputy Commissioner

Board Member Comments and Questions:

- Question regarding opioid settlement dollars to fund additional public health vending machines and Narcan.

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- Comment regarding sensitive policy barriers in physician treatment of individuals with substance abuse issues.
- Question regarding Narcan availability for individuals leaving jail.
- Comment advocating for normalization of substance abuse as a chronic disease.

VII. Public Comments

There was one public comment from Joy Bunton.

Concerns regarding child vaccination rates in public, private and charter schools.

VIII. Standing Business

There was no standing business.

IX. New Business

There was no new business.

X. Old Business

There was no old business.

XI. Adjourn

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