



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH**  
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**  
**October 21, 2021**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Brent Berger, Elliott Brown, Marcela Campoli, Desiree de la Torre, Sarah Emami, Cara Grant, Nadia Hashimi, Jessica Kronstadt, Terri McGuire, Linda McMillan, and Rosemary Payne.

Members Absent: Jonathan Arias, Alana Aronin, Christopher Burt, Crystal DeVance-Wilson, Amy Gyau-Moyer, Kendra Harris, Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian, and Fabienne Santel.

Staff Present: Vanessa Kachipande, and Christopher Rogers.

Guests: Susan Emery

AGENDA ITEMS/PRESENTER	ACTION ITEMS /RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<p><b>Meeting call to Order and Welcome – Jessica Kronstadt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. The COH Chair welcomed members and provided an update on the goals for the meeting.</li><li>Upcoming meetings are November 18<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup>. These meetings will take place virtually via Zoom.</li><li>The Chair provided members with the FY22 workgroups as determined by the Priority Setting survey.</li><li>The Chair also discussed the opportunity to share the priorities with the County Council and noted the two priorities and two guiding principles to be presented: <b>PRIORITIES</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School health</li><li>Communicable disease</li></ul><b>GUIDING PRINCIPLES</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Equity</li><li>Data Driven</li></ul></li></ul> <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made by Brent Berger to approve the September 9, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Desiree de la Torre. As quorum was not met during this meeting, the minutes were not approved.</p>	<p>Add September minutes to November agenda for approval- <i>COH Staff</i></p>
<p><b>Health Officer’s Report –Dr. Christopher Rogers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dr. Rogers provided a summary of the DHHS pulse report and noted that the report will be posted on the County’s website</li><li>Among all US Counties with more than 300K residents, the County continues to rank #1 nationwide for percentage of the population, ages +12, that are fully vaccinated. 85% of the total population have received at least one dose, and 77% of total population are fully vaccinated.</li></ul>	<p>N/A</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The County remains on substantial transmission based on CDC's definition. Once the County reaches moderate transmission for 7 consecutive days, the County will revert to no-masks indoors.</li> <li>• Dr. Rogers discussed boosters and pediatric vaccine availability noting that conversations have taken place among MCPS, MCDHHS and community partners, in anticipation of the pediatric vaccine approval. They will be partnering with the safety-net providers, Care for Kids and Montgomery Cares across the County.</li> <li>• Dr. Rogers provided a brief overview of the County's strategies for pediatric vaccination and noted the Census estimated 95,000 to 105,000 residents, ages 5-11 years old, that need to be vaccinated.</li> <li>• Dr. Rogers also provided an overview of the County's strategies to increase equitable access to vaccinations.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Transportation Services Improvement Fund - Chair</b></p> <p>The County has a Transportation Services Improvement Fund (TSIF) which is funded through a surcharge on rides using UBER and LYFT. The purpose of that fund is to improve or expand transportation options for eligible senior citizens, persons with disabilities, or persons with limited or low income. The fund takes in approximately 2 to 2.5 Mil a year and since its inception, the County has collected about 11 Mil. This program is overseen by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (DOT).</p> <p>Dr. Rogers has asked that Public Health Services (PHS) in collaboration with the Montgomery Cares Advisory Board (MCAB) and the Commission on Health (COH), collectively recommend that a portion of those funds (150k per year) be used to improve or expand transportation options for low-income residents to access health care programs and services operated by PHS or community partners. The other part of the recommendation would be for the DOT to work with health services, COH and MCAB to determine the level of appropriation for improving and expanding transportation options for low-income residents accessing the health care programs operated by the County or its community partners.</p> <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made by Nadia Hashimi to support allocation of funding for improvements or expansion of transportation services for low-income residents accessing health care programs and services operated by PHS or Community-partners. The motion was seconded by Rosemary Payne. As quorum was not met during this meeting, this item was not approved. This item will be taken to an email vote and will be ratified during the November meeting.</p>	<p>Develop email voting for COH support of TSIF – <i>COH Staff</i></p>
<p><b>COH Testimony Supporting Bill 34-21 - Chair</b></p> <p>The chair noted that this issue had been already voted on electronically but needed to be ratified during this meeting.</p> <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made by Brent Berger to ratify the letter that was previously voted on and approved. The motion was seconded by Sarah Emami. As quorum was not met during this meeting, this item will be ratified during the November meeting.</p>	<p>Add COH Testimony Supporting Bill 34-21 to November meeting agenda- <i>COH Staff</i></p>
<p><b>Data and Public Health Modernization Advocacy Letter – Chair</b></p> <p>The Public Health and Modernization workgroup worked with staff with Public Health Services to discuss improvements to the data capabilities within the County. The workgroup</p>	<p>Create email voting for COH support of the Advocacy Letter – <i>COH Staff</i></p>

<p>drafted a letter to request a data analyst to help gather information from the various programs in the County.</p> <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made by Desiree de la Torre to approve the Data and Public Health Modernization Advocacy Letter. The motion was seconded by Brent Berger. As quorum was not met during this meeting, this item was not approved. This item will be taken to an email vote and ratified during the November meeting.</p>	
<p><b>Workgroup Group Breakout Session and Report Out – All Members</b> The workgroups engaged in breakout sessions to develop long range workplans and goals for the remainder of FY22.</p> <p><b>Racial Equity Workgroup- Marcela Campoli</b> The workgroup decided to advocate for data driven decisions on equity, diversity, and inclusion in areas such as communicable disease, school health, and governance. Their goal will be to keep all other workgroups accountable throughout the year.</p> <p><b>School Health Workgroup- Desiree de la Torre</b> The workgroup discussed goals around assessing the current environment with school health and highlighting the importance of resource communities.</p> <p><b>Governance Workgroup- Elliott Brown, Jessica Kronstadt</b> The governance group discussed how to help the COH better achieve the goals or the functions of the enabling legislation by identifying key strategies to fulfill the designated roles.</p>	<p>Workgroups to meet prior to next COH meeting- <i>All Members</i></p>
<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p>Vanessa Kachipande asked members to look out for the FY21 Annual Report which she will be sending out for review prior to the next meeting</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p> <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made by Brent Berger to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Desiree de la Torre. The motion was not passed due to not meeting quorum.</p>	<p>N/A</p>