



Springdale Board of Health
December 10, 2020

Mayor Webster called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Board of Health Members

Present: Scott Garrison, Rita Hart, Carol Quinlan-Hall, Dr. Ketring, James Squires
Dr. Webb, Medical Advisor

Others Present

Mayor Webster; Holly Emerson, Council representative to the Board of Health
City Staff: Matt Clayton, Health Commissioner; Amy Ellis, Public Health Nurse

Minutes of the Board of Health Meeting

Minutes of the November 12, 2020 Board of Health meeting were considered. Dr. Ketring made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2020 Board of Health Meeting; Mr. Squires seconded. The Board of Health minutes were accepted unanimously.

Mayor Webster stated that before reports are presented, he wanted to congratulate Mrs. Hart and Dr. Ketring on their re-appointments to the City of Springdale Board of Health.

City Council Report

Mrs. Emerson gave the City Council Report.

Her report is as follows:

November 18, 2020

City Council met on November 18, 2020.

Ordinance No. 41-2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 123 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF RENTAL PERMITS AND CONDITIONAL RENTAL PERMITS

This ordinance was passed with a 7-0 vote. It clarified the existing language pertaining to the issuance of rental permits and conditional rental permits for rental units with the City.

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Ordinance No. 43-2020

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL UNDER THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK OF COUNCIL/FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH VOGELPOHL FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$792,245 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW FIRE ENGINE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

That passed with a 7-0 vote.

Ordinance No. 45-2020

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO DISPOSE OF SAID SURPLUS PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Emerson stated that it was for a 2000 Ford Expedition that the Fire Inspector was driving and it was deemed that it wasn't needed anymore, so that was placed for sale. That passed with a 7-0 vote.

December 2, 2020

Ordinance No. +46-2020

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CUSTODIAL FUND ENTITLED THE SPRINGDALE YOUTH BOOSTERS FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Emerson stated that in the past, Springdale Youth Boosters (SYB) always paid for sports either in-person or by check. This enables individuals to pay on-line and sign up for sports through the internet. That passed with a 7-0 vote.

Resolution No. R24-2020

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF RITA HART TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH

That passed with a 7-0 vote.

Resolution No. R25-2020

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF DR. KEVIN KETRING TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH

That passed with a 7-0 vote.

Old Business

-

None

New Business

-

None

Health Commissioner's Report

Matt Clayton

Before beginning his report, Mr. Clayton stated that he provided the Board of Health members a copy of the Springdale Community Health Assessment for 2019-2020. Mr. Clayton stated that he had two versions of the report; one that is based on a larger report (a 26 page report based on an 86 page report). That report is more for public consumption, and the 86 page report. Mr. Clayton also emailed the Board of Health members information that he received from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) that was received the day of the meeting, December 10, 2020 regarding vaccine distribution. He stated that on December 15, 2020, Pfizer will send out 9,750 doses. Those will go to hospitals. Walgreens and CVS will receive a total of 88,725 of the Pfizer vaccines. Those will go to the congregant care settings, which are the nursing homes, and intermediate care centers. Mr. Clayton stated that the Springdale Health Department will be receiving doses of the Moderna vaccine from the Ohio Department of Health. As of December 10, 2020, 108 health departments are listed. That will begin happening on December 22nd and will be first administered to Hamilton County Public Health Department, and then the first doses of the vaccine for the Springdale Health Department, 100 doses, will begin on December 23rd. The vaccine distribution list also included a "December TBD, 2020" section. There will be more from Pfizer, and Moderna in the upcoming weeks. Mr. Clayton gave information in reference to following up on notes that Board members had questions on regarding vaccine distribution and mass vaccinations.

First, the Springdale Health Department is investigating the use of CARES Act funds. Some of the \$211,480 that was received for the COVID 2021 grant money for the purchase of an ultra-cold freezer. So, \$10,500 has been appropriated for that, and, Mr. Clayton stated that he and Nursing Director, Amy Ellis were working on identifying which unit would be best. The ultra-cold units are on backorder at this time. While there may be some delay in the freezer being delivered, they were grateful that they were able to plan further ahead and have the cold cube which has 18" X 18" panels that can be stored at -80 degrees Fahrenheit, and will hold at -50 degrees Fahrenheit. Fortunately, there is a community partner, Sterling Research, who is willing to hold our units there since they have the -80 degree freezer. Regarding mass vaccination news, there have been multiple meetings with Sterling Research over the course of their planning for mass vaccination.

Mr. Clayton has previously reported to the Board of Health that there have been conversations about the Ohio National Guard coming out and assisting the Springdale Health Department. Mr. Clayton has also talked to the Springdale Police Department, because, once the Ohio National Guard does come out, we will need a great deal of assistance from the Springdale Police Department in keeping this operation running as smoothly as possible. The Springdale Police Department has stated that they would be provide increased logistical support through their mutual aid partnerships to help the Springdale Health Department make the COVID vaccination clinics possible. There is a meeting set up next Wednesday, December 16th at 4:00 p.m. with the leaders of Hamilton County Health and the leaders from Sterling Research. Mr. Clayton stated that essentially, they are being advised that Hamilton County Health has ultra-cold freezers and they are storing vaccine at a secure location within Hamilton County.

Mr. Clayton advised Springdale Health Department will pursue a contract with Sterling Research/Sterling Rapid Response. He advised Sterling may also establish a contract with the Hamilton County Public Health Department for the purpose of delivering COVID vaccinations to constituents of the county. Sterling Research has already formed a completely separate division, Sterling Rapid Response, led by Pharmacist Kofi Amoah. SRR has set up agreements with pharmacy schools, and nursing schools. He currently has

175 students that will assist. He also has staff and they have a mobile operation. The Springdale Health Department has set up a plan to operate COVID vaccine clinics in the Springdale Community Center. These will occur in the auxiliary gym. There have been conversations with Charlie Wilson, the Community Center Director. There will likely be drive-thru events and walk-in events for Springdale.

Mr. Clayton stated that while the primary focus of the Springdale Health Department is the Springdale community, and the vaccination clinics to occur in the Springdale Community Center. Since the Health Department is receiving vaccine from the State of Ohio for free, it is required of the Springdale Health Department to vaccinate individuals who are Ohio residents whether they live directly in the City of Springdale or not, which is the same requirement as our Vaccines For Children (VFC) program that the Springdale Health Department participates in. The upside of a contractor like Sterling Rapid Response is the ability for Springdale Health to primarily concentrate on our residents, while SRR serves the region, including Springdale, Forest Park, Sharonville, Glendale, and other communities. Springdale will see good benefit for our community as well as the communities that surround Springdale. Our residents having only specific days that they can get vaccinated. Mr. Clayton stated that he did not want to limit the number of opportunities for people to get the vaccination. If they are occurring in Springdale, Forest Park, Sharonville, and Glendale, it would be short drive for our residents if they are unable to make it to the events that are in Springdale, then they would be able to attend clinics still near their homes. Mr. Clayton stated that there is a lot going on and the Springdale Health Department is trying to overcome the allocation of doses from the State based on the population of only the City of Springdale. Mr. Clayton stated that the Springdale Health Department would obviously prefer to receive a large amount of vaccine due to the size of surrounding communities. Mr. Clayton stated that he believed Hamilton County could benefit from Sterling Rapid Response's efforts to vaccinate residents of the surrounding areas. Springdale Health intends to use grant funds as resources needed to cover the costs for materials, equipment, personnel, and contractors to get the vaccinations out to as many as possible and as quickly as possible. Mr. Clayton stated Sterling Rapid Response would likely follow a different funding model, by billing insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, and the federal government. Mr. Clayton apologized for the volume of information, but wanted to keep the Board of Health members updated due to the recent updates.

Mrs. Emerson asked how the Springdale Health Department would be able to keep up with individuals who do not live in Springdale, but get their vaccine at our location? Mr. Clayton stated that the State of Ohio has made it clear that all vaccines administered are required to be entered into the statewide immunization system known as Impact SIIIS. This database is used statewide to record immunizations given to children through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program already. Since it is a statewide program, this will ease communication efforts as to where vaccinations were given to individuals and will be recorded in our system as to when they would receive the second dose, as well as which type they did receive even if individuals lose their vaccination cards or simply do not recall which type they received. This then requires individuals to enter the data in the system on a laptop within 24 hours of an individual receiving the dose. Mr. Clayton stated that there will be a big push for data entry before, during, and after the clinic. Mrs. Emerson asked if they come to Springdale and get their first vaccination, then if they do not come to Springdale for their second dose, they are able to go to another clinic as long as they have the same type of vaccine because their data will be in the system statewide? Mr. Clayton stated that was accurate. What also needs to be considered is which phase, or tier the individuals are in as well. Past

that, it will then be a matter of when they would be eligible to receive the first dose of the vaccine at that point, how long they would need to wait for the second dose, but they would at least be in the system for the second dose when they are eligible at that point.

Mrs. Emerson asked what would happen if they don't get back within the timeframe required for the second dose. Mr. Clayton stated that he is unclear what would happen if that was the case. Mr. Clayton did recall that with the Hepatitis A, it was a two-dose vaccine, however, the first dose was 97% effective. Nurse Ellis followed up by stating that from what she has understood so far, if the vaccine has a 28 day window between dose one and dose two, then it would need to be at least 28 days before the second dose of the vaccine would be administered. If an individual goes over the 28 days, that would still be okay. For Impact SIIS, when the Springdale Health Department agreed to be a pandemic vaccine provider, the agreement states that you agree to enter the information into the Impact SIIS system within 24 hours of administering the dose. If anyone is giving large doses of vaccine, then hopefully, they will also have individuals to enter the vaccine information after the dose is administered. Nurse Ellis does believe that ODH will have, as they did with H1N1, they will be able to have large dumps of data so it is not like hand-entering every single one, so that is how we will all have access to the records once in the system.

Mayor Webster wanted to confirm that if you receive the Pfizer vaccine the first time, you would have to get Pfizer the second time as well. Mr. Clayton confirmed that would be the case. Mayor Webster asked if it was 28 days for Pfizer or 21 days. Mr. Clayton was unsure, but Nurse Ellis stated that one of the vaccines would be 21 days and the other is 28 days. They were unable to look up that information before the meeting. Nurse Ellis stated that while they were unclear about the days for after the first dose, it was clear that the second dose of the vaccine could not be administered before the 21 or 28 days.

Dr. Ketring had two questions. His first question was when an individual comes in to be vaccinated, it is required for them to have a photo i.d.? How would we be able to verify who they are? Nurse Ellis stated that is not something that is required. When we give a vaccine, they write down their information. We do not ask for their birth certificate, we do not ask for identification. Anytime a vaccine is given, we do not ask for insurance information either. The vaccine will be provided free of charge. Dr. Ketring was concerned that it might be a problem because while you have to have that information for COVID-19 testing, the fact that it is not required for vaccination is concerning. Dr. Ketring's other question was concerning the temperature of the vaccination storage. Is -80 degrees Fahrenheit cold enough? Dr. Ketring stated that there has been varying reports of temperatures for Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. Mr. Clayton stated that while the hospitals will be receiving the Pfizer vaccine, the Springdale Health Department will be receiving the Moderna vaccine. Mr. Clayton assured the Board of Health that we have preparations in place for the storage of either vaccine. Dr. Ketring asked Mr. Clayton for further explanation as to his previous statement of the Springdale Health Department playing a central role in our community and surrounding communities. Mr. Clayton stated that the Springdale Health Department is the only local health department in northwest Hamilton County. While Hamilton County has jurisdiction around us, but, our ability to be a provider of pandemic vaccine, we have a close working relationship with Hamilton County and we have the opportunity to potentially work with their contractors in the area. Dr. Ketring asked who the contractor was that Mr. Clayton was referring to, was it the person vaccinating individuals. Mr. Clayton stated that while it's still unclear which partners in the region would be involved, he anticipated the involvement of healthcare partners, pharmacies, and possibly groups like Sterling Research and Sterling Rapid Response to take part in the vaccination process.

Mayor Webster wanted to confirm that once the Springdale Health Department would be receiving the vaccine, where would the clinics be held. Mr. Clayton stated that honestly the best option would be the Recreation Center since there is an auxiliary gym, which after having conversation with Charlie Wilson, Recreation Center Director, Charlie stated that gym is not utilized on a regular basis and that may be the best location for future clinics. Mr. Clayton stated that a secondary location that is being considered is the parking lot area behind the Springdale Police Department. There would be access from the Recreation Center as well as from the school parking lot. We have also talked to the Springdale Police Department about helping with logistics if this does occur and assisting with other department through mutual aid. The upside to working with the Sterling Group is that they also have a mobile operation that can be set up wherever there is a good space within a parking lot nearby. Mayor Webster asked if an individual from Butler County would be allowed to receive the vaccine from the Springdale Health Department. Mr. Clayton stated that the State of Ohio requires that we give the vaccination to any individual from the State of Ohio that requests the vaccine. Since we are receiving the vaccine for free from the State of Ohio, we are required to honor that request. The only stipulation is that they are a citizen from the State of Ohio.

Mrs. Emerson stated that if we aren't requiring identification, then how will we know that they are an Ohio citizen? Nurse Ellis stated that we have to take citizens at their word since we are not allowed to require identification for a vaccine.

Mayor Webster asked if an appointment would be required. Mr. Clayton stated that an appointment would not be needed, but the Springdale Health Department will make sure that the forms are available on our website and we provide those forms on whatever social media is available so that people have the opportunity to fill out the forms before they show up. Mayor Webster asked if first responders would initially be the first to receive the vaccine. Mr. Clayton stated that would be the case. The prioritization of Phase 1A is healthcare workers who work with the compromised population, residents in congregate care settings, and then the public health care workers who work in POD's (point of distribution) systems. In looking at EMS, or school nurses, there is a prioritization and actually that prioritization will show who does get the vaccine first. There will be additional phases, and eventually we will get to the general public. The largest issue is while going through the phases, the vaccine will only by "trickling in". Mr. Clayton stated that during H1N1, the same issue occurred. It is unclear at this time the actual timeline for the vaccines will occur. Mayor Webster asked how individuals will know which tier or grouping they would fall into. Mr. Clayton stated that information is still unclear at this time, but will be happy to share it once it is received from the State of Ohio. Mrs. Emerson expressed concern that individuals may try to state that they are an EMS in order to receive a vaccine early. Mr. Clayton stated that these vaccines would be given directly at the location of the individuals, meaning going to the Springdale Fire Department to administer the vaccine as opposed to keeping it open to the general public.

Mrs. Emerson asked if, we do a drive-thru clinic, and someone has an adverse reaction in their car immediately after it was administered, then what would we do? We will have epi pens ready to administer as needed when the clinic is in the auxiliary gym. We will also have first responders nearby to assist as needed. We will be asking individuals when they receive their vaccine to stay for at least 15 minutes in case there is an adverse reaction. If that does occur, then we will be ready to assist as needed.

Mrs. Quinlan-Hall asked if people would be receiving a card to identify the fact that they have either received the Pfizer or the Moderna vaccine. Nurse Ellis stated that along with the vaccines, there will be an ancillary kit which includes all the supplies necessary to administer the vaccine. That will include vaccination cards to write down the information as to what type of vaccine they received, when and where it was received. It is hoped that these individuals will hold on to those vaccine cards, but, if for some reason they do not, the vaccination system we are using, Impact SIIIS will list the information electronically if it is needed. Mrs. Quinlan-Hall asked how the information would be sent out to the general public. Mr. Clayton stated that these events will be placed on our web page and he will also ask for permission to post this information on the Facebook page as well.

Nuisances, Animal Bites, and Food Illnesses

Mr. Clayton asked the Board of Health members if they had any questions on the complaints that were included in their Board of Health packet provided to them. Mayor Webster asked if all the improvements that were requested on the hotel inspections would be completed within the timeframe requested. Mr. Clayton stated that they are given 30 days to make the corrections, and then a follow up inspection will occur to verify. Very rarely would it go to a third inspection before the items are completed. Mayor Webster asked how these current inspections were compared to previous years. Mr. Clayton noted that there were more violations this year than in prior years. While significant improvements have been made to these hotels, the clientele has added to the additional violations. Mr. Clayton was encouraged that having Home2Suites may encourage these other hotels to make additional improvements to keep up. There were no additional questions in regards to the animal nuisance or other nuisance reports.

COVID-19 Report

Cases of COVID-19 have still been increasing, and schools are seeing more cases. It is believed it is because of the recent Thanksgiving holiday and the possibility of large gatherings. Contact tracing has been continuing with the assistance of Becky Carrasco and Carmen Ramos Torrech. We will have Lisa Stevens assisting on evenings and weekends, and then as of Monday, December 14th, we will have Laura Dahl who is a recent college graduate who will be helping us out with contact tracing as well. Dr. Ketring asked what percentage of the COVID-19 Springdale cases are we doing contact tracing on at this point? Nurse Ellis stated that we have been fortunate in that all individual are being contacted, preferably by phone, but by mail if phone calls are unable to be completed. The Springdale Health Department has been somewhat fortunate in that the amount of cases to do contact tracing on have been "manageable". Other health departments are so overwhelmed that they are only sending out letters because they are unable to physically call everyone and do a case interview. Dr. Ketring stated concern if individuals for one reason are not called. Nurse Ellis stated that if they do not receive a report, they will not know to call an individual. It has happened before, and may very well happen again. Mr. Clayton also stated that due to the surge in cases, many health departments are now behind. While the Springdale may be receiving case numbers between 13-19 on average, the Hamilton County and Butler County Health Commissioners have stated that they are receiving 500 new cases a day at this point. The State \$211,480 for the COVID-19 Grant which is in addition to contact tracing and the COVID 2020 grant. While the \$211,480 can be "back-billed" to March, when it was given to us and we finally got the approval this month, the funds had to be spent by December 30th. Mr. Clayton stated that he is in a mad scramble to bill them and invoice them back to March, but he has been working with Brian Uhl, the Assistant City Administrator to get this task completed.

P.H.A.B. Accreditation

Site visit, has been postponed once again due to the deluge of COVID-19 situations. It is tentatively scheduled for January 2021. When the PHAB site visit does occur, it will be an intensive three day visit and will require the undivided attention of the Springdale Health Department. At this time, that is impossible to do due to COVID-19.

Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) Program

Mr. Clayton stated that the most recent MAC study was completed in November. It was unclear at this time how much money would be received from that study.

Food Program

Mr. Clayton stated that the Home2Suites food service has been approved. Opening date is still being determined at this time. Bugatti's Restaurant which is located at the previous site of Applebee's has their food license, liquor license, and certificate of occupancy. They are currently training their staff and are waiting to open when all training is complete. Two Times Nutrition which is an additional Herbalife facility opened up in November. The Juicy Crab opened up on December 2, 2020. They have received their food license and certificate of occupancy, but it was unclear the status of their liquor license. Mr. Clayton stated that there were other items of development under consideration, but were not able to be mentioned at this time. Mr. Clayton was also working on grant funding opportunities for local businesses.

Springdale Offering Support

Mr. Clayton stated that the 2020 SOS Adopt a Family Holiday Program planning currently has 81 local families registered. All but five of those families have currently been adopted. The food drive portion of this program has been quite successful. Mayor Webster stated that he has been strongly encouraged by the amount of businesses and local residents who have contributed to the program this year already.

Springdale BOH Regulation R1-2020

A REGULATION OF THE SPRINGDALE BOARD OF HEALTH AMENDING BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATION R1-2019 WHICH ESTABLISHED FEES FOR FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS, RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS, VENDING MACHINE LOCATIONS, TEMPORARY FOOD OPERATIONS, AND MOBILE FOOD OPERATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE; AND ESTABLISHED FEES FOR FOOD SERVICE OPERATION AND RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENT PLAN REVIEWS

Dr. Ketring made a motion to have Regulation R1-2020 be read by title only; Mrs. Hart seconded. Board of Health voted unanimously to read Regulation R1-2020 by title only.

Dr. Ketring made a motion to adopt Springdale Board of Health Regulation R1-2020; Mrs. Hart seconded the motion.

Springdale BOH Regulation R1-2020 passes unanimously.

Springdale Board of Health Regulation R2-2020

A REGULATION OF THE SPRINGDALE BOARD OF HEALTH AMENDING BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATION R2-2019 TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS, INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC SPAS, INDIVIDUAL SPECIAL USE POOLS, ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS AT THE SAME LOCATION, AND GOVERNMENT/TAX SUPPORTED SWIMMING POOLS

Mrs. Hart made a motion to have Regulation R2-2020 be read by title only; Mr. Squires seconded.

Dr. Ketring made a motion to adopt Regulation R2-2020; Mrs. Hart seconded the motion.

Springdale BOH Regulation R2-2020 passes unanimously.

Springdale Board of Health Regulation R3-2020

A REGULATION OF THE SPRINGDALE BOARD OF HEALTH ESTABLISHING FEES FOR HOTELS AND MOTELS WITHIN THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, AMENDING SECTION 4.0 OF THE SPRINGDALE BOH REGULATION R3-2019

Mr. Squires made a motion to have Regulation R3-2020 be read by title only; Mr. Garrison seconded.

Mr. Squires made a motion to adopt Springdale BOH Regulation R3-2020; Mr. Garrison seconded.

Springdale BOH Regulation R3-2020 passes unanimously.

Public Health Nurse's Report

Mrs. Ellis, RN

Hamilton County Drug Overdose Report

Nurse Ellis stated that the Hamilton County Drug Overdose Report for November 2020 was unavailable at this time due to printer issues. It will be made available at the January 2021 Board of Health meeting. The Naloxone report for November 2020 was also unavailable at this time.

Communicable Disease Report

Nurse Ellis included the Hamilton County Public Health Communicable Disease Weekly Reports have been included the Board of Health members packets. Instead of monthly reports, they are being generated weekly. Unfortunately, the number that does stand out the most is still COVID-19. Nurse Ellis reiterated that the amount of cases that the Springdale Health Department has is much smaller than other local health departments. Last month, we had 37 cases of COVID-19. In November, that number was 156 cases. There has been a surge and with having additional interns to help with contact tracing, this will further assist Nurse Ellis and she will be able to move on to the vaccination phase.

Childhood Immunization Clinic

Clinic appointments are currently booked out through May 2021. We are receiving calls from other surrounding communities because so many areas are still not offering clinics at this time due to the overwhelming issues with COVID-19.

Flu Clinics

Nurse Ellis stated that staff was recently able to offer a flu clinic at the Park at Springdale, formerly the Willows. The office offered the use of a model apartment. The clinic was from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on December 9th. Nurse Ellis was able to vaccinate 18 children and adults. Quite a few of them came in clusters. Nurse Ellis feels that in order to have the greatest impact, a flu clinic would need to be held on the weekend, possibly on a Sunday when people are not working in order to vaccinate more people. It is unclear at this time when this will be able to occur due to the current push to begin COVID-19 vaccinations.

Mass Vaccination Planning

Nurse Ellis stated that the Springdale Health Department has been approved to be a pandemic vaccine provider. Nurse Ellis included in the packet the December 1, 2020 press release from Governor DeWine that listed information as to the timeline of when vaccine comes in, distribution, and where it will be going to. The State is prepared to distribute and is keeping local health departments informed. Nurse Ellis had also included the Southwest Ohio Public Health Region COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation recommendations for Phase 1A. As Mr. Clayton had previously stated, the vaccine will inevitably trickle out. Phase 1A will be healthcare workers and personnel who are routinely involved in the care of COVID-19 patients. Residents and staff at nursing homes. That definitely needs to be done. Residents and staff at assisted living facilities. Patients and staff at State psychiatric hospitals. People with intellectual disabilities and those with mental illness who live in group homes or centers and staff at those locations. Residents and staff at our Ohio Veterans homes and EMS responders. Those vaccines will be for the Phase 1A and it is for those who choose to receive it. Some facilities might require to make it mandatory, but, the State is not making it mandatory to take the vaccine.

Miscellaneous Items

Nurse Ellis included press releases from Butler County and Clermont County. They simply do not have the staff to keep up with the amount of contact tracing, so, they actually have press releases telling the public that they are unable to call everybody and their first contact will be a letter to them. Nurse Ellis did get a copy of Butler County's letter. It is a great letter and it tells an individual everything that they need to know about quarantine and isolation, but it really does show that the amount of work that is out there because of the amount of people that are testing positive is overwhelming. They are focusing on the outbreaks at long term care facilities versus individual case management and contact tracing. Nurse Ellis wanted to state that once they have received information about a new case, the individuals are being contacted within 24-48 hours of receipt of this information. Mr. Garrison had a question regarding if the vaccines needed to be reconstituted. Nurse Ellis stated that she was unable to check on that information due to the volume of cases and contact tracing needed to be completed in a timely manner. Mrs. Hart had a question if the sample press releases from Butler County and Clermont County include universal precautions. Nurse Ellis agreed that it is something as a region that this area has been trying to put out. The large gatherings seem to be the greatest issue at this point. Students at schools that do contract COVID-19 are not getting it directly from school contact. They are getting it from family gatherings or other events outside of school. Mrs. Hart also stated that it was amazing to her that the Springdale Health Department is able to conduct business as usual, while adding all of the pandemic issues into that situation. Dr. Ketring asked how many other health districts have been approved by ODH in Hamilton County. Mr. Clayton stated that, to his knowledge at least three out of four have been approved. It was unclear at the time if the City of Norwood Health Department had been approved yet.

Board of Health Discussion

No items for discussion.

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Matthew Clayton, Health Commissioner