

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

1800 Washington Boulevard · Suite 610 · Baltimore Maryland 21230-1719

410-537-3304 · 800-633-6101 · www.mde.maryland.gov

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

June 1, 2023· 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen	Paula Montgomery	Christina Peusch
Anna Davis	Barbara Moore	Paul Rogers
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	Adam Skolnik
Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul	

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Benita Cooper
Senator Jill Carter	Jack Daniels

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE	Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD	Tim Rule-MDE
Frederick Banks-MDE	Steven Homola-BC-DHCD	Candace Scott-MDH
Chevelle Bash-GHHI	Darlene Israel-MDH	Stephanie Staats-HUD
Janice Besecker-MDH	Alexia Jones-GHHI	Kevin Stanley-MDE
Akua Boatema-MDH	Dawn Joy-AMA	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Comfort Kissi-GHHI	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Chris Corzine-OAG	Wade McCord-MDE	Chris White-AR
William Doyle-HCHD	Wendy Phillips-MDE	
Shamola Dye-MDE	Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD	

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda
- Draft Minutes
- ECHO Summary for MD LPPCommittee - Final

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chair, Ruth Ann Norton, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

HUD Lead Hazard Control Grants: Chair Norton reminded the Commission that the HUD lead hazard control grants are due Jun 14, 2023 .

National Healthy Homes Month: The Commission was reminded that the National Healthy Homes Month will begin during the month of June 2023.

New Commission Members:

- A Parent of a Lead-Poisoned Child has been nominated and will be applying for a Commissioner position.
- Representative of Local Government: Effective June 1, 2023 Mary Beth Haller resigned as Commissioner. Nicole Hart from the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development has been nominated to fill this position.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Dr. Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Barbara Moore to accept the May 4, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Commission Meeting Schedule/Motion to vote:** Chair Norton has tabled this item until the September meeting where it will be further discussed.

New Business:

- **Commissioner membership:** Membership renewals are due before September 30, 2023 for the following Commissioners: Jack Daniels, Benita Cooper, Jacob Benzaquen, Barbara Moore, and Anna Davis.
- **MDAAP Echo Program Outcomes and Quality Improvement Data Presentation:** Dr. Paul Rogers gave a presentation on the Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) program. The presentation highlighted the goals, steps taken to create a community of learners in Maryland, lessons acquired from a community of learners, QI lessons acquired from a community of learners, barriers for the community of learners, and lessons for the Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission. A copy of the slide presentation titled, "ECHO Summary for MD LPPCommittee - Final" was provided to the Commission prior to the meeting.
- **MDH – report from counties (success of case management efforts):** MDH distributed approximately \$380,000 to local health departments to support case management activities through funding from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. Dr. Mitchell presented a draft progress report during the meeting, and also provided feedback that MDH had received from various Maryland counties. This feedback included specific examples of how the counties utilized the allocated funds to promote education, raise awareness, and emphasize the importance of lead testing. Dr. Mitchell indicated that the report will be available to the Commission when the final report is complete. Will Doyle, from the Howard County Health Department shared his feedback and experience and stated that the communications team from Howard County Health Department developed materials in multiple languages highlighting the threat of lead in spices that will help them reach at-risk families. Mr. Doyle indicated that he will share these resources with the Commission.

- **Child Daycare Regulation Review Subcommittee:** Paula Montgomery suggested the Commission create a Child Daycare Regulation Review Subcommittee in which the Office of Child Care’s attorney’s work with MDE’s attorneys to update the regulations for daycare providers. Christina Peusch indicated that she would like to be included in this Subcommittee.
- **Asthma Awareness Month: Intersection of Lead with Healthy Homes and Work done on Joint Programs of Lead and Asthma:** Dr. Mitchell and Candace Scott gave a brief recap of the success of the Summit which took place on May 18, 2023 . There were approximately 65 attendees in person and 50 online. Dr. Mitchell also shared some of the takeaways from this Summit.
- **Recap of Lead funding for Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (BC-DHCD):** Nicole Hart from BC-DHCD informed the Commission that the organization currently holds two HUD grants totaling approximately 13 million dollars. As of May 31, 2023, the organization is in the process of managing around 212 houses from the beginning to the end of the pipeline. BC-DHCD is actively engaging with duty centers and conducting outreach activities to promote its lead work. Additionally, once BC-DHCD establishes neighborhood sub cabinets, it will expand its outreach efforts to encompass all of its lead programs. The organization is committed to reaching out to the community through multiple channels to effectively communicate its initiatives and objectives.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Tyler Abbott shared that the lawsuit between TTI and its non-accredited contractor consultant is advancing. The incident in question occurred when lead paint chips were spread across a neighborhood in Baltimore due to power washing.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell shared that MDH is collaborating with MDE to display lead-related information at a census tract level on its public portal. This will enable MDH to examine lead levels and lead testing rates across the state, specifically at the census tract level. The release of this information is expected in either July or August.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor shared that BC-DHCD recently received a list from The Health Department of elevated blood lead levels of children in Baltimore City. BC-DHCD is expected to receive a full list covering five years and is currently planning to take proactive steps to assist all those families and initiate necessary actions to address their needs effectively.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Wes Stewart shared that Healthy Housing Month was productive with multiple activities: Climate and Healthy Homes webinar; Healthy Homes and Mental Health; Power in the Park in Montgomery County; lead contractor training; property owner training, lead outreach event in Laurel, AFRAM Juneteenth Celebration at Druid Hill Park; 3 Baltimore County library events; and other community events throughout the month.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dr. Mitchell to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Barbara Moore. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, September 7, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Commission Meeting Schedule/Motion to vote (Ruth Ann)
- Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Paula Montgomery)
- Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Nominations due 09/15/23 & Votes due 09/22/23 (Paula Montgomery)
- MDH Updates: (MDH Subha/Eamon)
 - The public availability of census tract-level data for Lead on the new Environmental Public Health Tracking portal
 - Updated Lead Testing Form 4620, available as either a [printable](#) or [fillable](#) PDF
 - Revised regulations, which are printed in the Maryland Register
- MDE
 - Compliance and Enforcement (MDE reports run on state FY July 1 to June 30) (Jonathan Klanderud)
 - DLHS & DLCL Changes - EPA Lead Workgroup - Update (Paula Montgomery)
- MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs (Jack Daniels)
- Report on the the Commission work done over the summer (Ruth Ann Norton)