



# Cook County Board of Health Meeting

MINUTES

May 19, 2026 | 12:00 P.M. | Cook County Health Department

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## Members Present

Dr. Tom Fausett, Chairman  
Mayor Buddy Duke, Secretary  
Guy Daughtrey  
Col. (Ret.) Ronald Mitchell

## Members Absent

Shelva Keeley-Vice  
Chairman  
Joy Folsom  
Terry McClain

## Others Present

Dr. Mark Eanes  
Dwain Butler  
Allie Pridgen  
Karen Harrison  
Rebecca Allgood  
Beth Magsanay  
Lee Meeks  
Holly Rountree  
Jessica Arnett

## Call to Order

Dr. Fausett called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

## Introduction/Oath

Dr. Fausett introduced Mr. Guy Daughtrey as the newest member to our Board.

## Public Comments

There were no public comments.

## Approval of Previous Minutes

Col (Ret) Ronald Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes as written from February 17, 2026, meeting. Guy Daughtrey seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

## Approval of Proposed FY2027 Budget

Mr. Guy Daughtrey made a motion to approve FY2027 Budget. Col. Mitchell seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

## Financial Updates – Allie Pridgen, (Director of Finance)

- Ms. Pridgen presented The Revenue and Expense Summary Report for July 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 and discussed the FY2025 Audit.

## Public Health Updates – Mark J. Eanes, MD, (District Health Director)

- Dr. Eanes welcomed Mr. Guy Daughtrey as the newest member of Cook County Board of Health.
- Dr. Eanes updated the board on Cook County's Customer Service Survey.
- Dr. Eanes stated Department of Public Health continues with travel restrictions.
- Dr. Eanes announced the states contract for the new EHR system is terminated.
- Dr. Eanes announced to the board of a new dental program starting in Lowndes.

- Dr. Eanes mentioned to the board that we held our Employee Development Day on May 7, 2026, emphasizing customer service internally and externally.
- Dr. Eanes stated Public Health is in the process of renegotiating fees with Lab Corp and Quest Diagnostic.
- Dr. Eanes announced Lisa Thomas, Clinical Nursing Director, is retiring at the end of May and interviews for her position will begin in June.
- Dr. Eanes updated the board on legislative changes.
- HB1096 passed stating that if a county paid employee moves into a state position, all benefits would be transferred to the new position.
- Perinatal Home Visiting Program will provide women with high risked pregnancies with monitoring, education, and follow up care for one year after delivery and that we anticipate expansion to most or all our counties.
- HB1138 allows pharmacists to dispense birth control and SB195 will allow PReP to be dispensed for 90 days with a negative HIV test.
- HB117 requires restaurants to disclose origin of shrimp.
- Dr. Eanes introduced Holly Rountree, with WIC and Jessica Arnett, Opioid Prevention.

#### **WIC – Holly Rountree, (Nutrition Services Director)**

- Ms. Rountree highlighted the services the WIC Program provides to the community.

#### **Health Department Updates - Rebecca Allgood, RN, (County Nurse Manager)**

- Ms. Allgood reviewed the Health Department Productivity Report for January – March 2026.
- Ms. Allgood discussed upcoming outreach programs the health department will participate in.
- Ms. Allgood informed the board that Shelby continues with her classes and clinicals for her NP licensing.

#### **Environmental Health Updates – Lee Meeks, MPH**

- Mr. Meeks reviewed the Environmental Health Updates and Food Service Reports for January – March 2026.

#### **Opioid Presentation – Jessica Arnett, Opioid Prevention**

- Ms. Arnett presented the board with a power point and gave statistics of opioid use in Cook County.
- Ms. Arnett stated she is working closely with Family Connections, partnering with schools and first responders to provide Narcan.
- Ms. Arnett stated that Narcan is okay to use up to 28 years past its expiration date.
- Ms. Arnett discussed with the board a project that will allow Department of Public Health to place a purple Barney, which looks like newspaper boxes in various hot spots around the county. The Barney provides Narcan, Fentanyl strips, resource and educational information.
- Ms. Arnett stated the Opioid Abatement Funds the county and city governments receive annually would help the Department of Public Health Opioid Program provide additional resources for Cook County.

**Announcements**

Dr. Fausett announced that the next meeting will be on August 18, 2026.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business Dr. Fausett adjourned the meeting at 12:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mayor Buddy Duke, Board Secretary  
Beth Magsanay, Typist