

**GOVERNOR'S LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION**  
**Maryland Department of the Environment**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 7, 2021**

**Documents Distributed:**

Annual Report CY2020.pdf  
Draft Minutes 201203.pdf  
Final Agenda 210107.pdf  
GAP\_StrategicPlanningAnalysisLCActions.Updated.01.04.21.pdf  
Maryland and Calif lead testing presentataion.pdf  
Meeting Schedule 2021.pdf  
Reporting Calendar 2021.pdf

**Opening Welcome and Introductions:**

Paula Montgomery called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM with welcome and introductions.

**Members Present:**

Dalya Attar	Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul
Jill Carter	Paula Montgomery	Christina Peusch
Benita Cooper	Barbara Moore	Paul Rogers
Anna Davis	Leonidas Newton	Adam Skolni
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	

**Members Absent:**

Mary Beth Haller

**Guests Present:**

Chevelle Bash-GHHI	Eamon Flynn-MDH	Victor Michelena-Kay
Shante Branch-MDE	Coleen Hess-BCHD	Wendy Phillips-MDE
Camille Burke-BCHD	Lisa Horne-MDH	Wes Stewart-GHHI
Allison Cantos-GHHI	Dawn Joy-AMA	Marissa Tan-JHU
Subha Chandar-MDH	Kaley Laleker-MDE	Patrick Wallis-HUD
Chris Corzine-OAG	Jamal Lewis-GHHI	Daniel Zanchettin-MGA
Jack Daniels-DHCD	Kelsey McClain-GHHI	

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Paula Montgomery, seconded by Anna Davis to accept the December 3, 2020 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

**Old Business:**

- Discuss 2021 Reporting Calendar: Paula Montgomery briefly reviewed the Reporting Calendar for 2021 which outlines what the Commission will be presenting on a monthly basis. The calendar will be added to the Lead Commission website and updated as needed. Items that are listed on the calendar will primarily be related to the GAP Analysis focus items. In February, MDE's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP) will present on the logistics of environmental investigations which is titled "MDE - Environmental Case Management Presentation ". Barbara Moore asked if the LPPP presentation in February would be the appropriate time to invite the representatives from the community health departments to participate in a discussion on case management. Cliff Mitchell indicated that April or May might be a better time for that particular presentation which would be separate from the LPPP presentation. Paula indicated that the invited health departments would not need to be county specific but a general representation of Maryland.
- Gap Analysis-Blood Lead testing and Case Management- Short Term - Strategies to determine % of initial lead testing and follow-up testing performed on the universe of children aged 1 and 2 years: Paula reviewed this GAP Analysis target and achievement with the Commission and asked the Commission to identify and determine what data is needed from MDE or MDH and if this can be done behind the scenes.
- Update from Office of Child Care (OCC) on grants for centers for service lines: Manjula Paul updated the Commission on how the process was going with the grants and loans for replacing service lines in child care centers. Manjula indicated that Tim Rule and Christina Ardito from MDE's Water and Science Administration (WSA) met with OCC's leadership and agreed to move forward with the school screening pilot program. OCC reviewed the information that MDE posted on its website. Once the information is published on MDE's website, OCC will inform its child care community to voluntarily enroll in the pilot program. Currently OCC is working to help the child care community remain open during the pandemic and remain safe. OCC is only going into the facilities if there is an absolute need and following all the precautions to make sure that its entry into the facilities are not at any risk to the children or employees. OCC asked WSA to provide any progress updates regarding posting information on the MDE website.

- 2021 Legislation Discussion:
  - Ruth Ann Norton brought to the attention of the Commission, a recent settlement (20 million dollar fine) that Home Depot had with the EPA that is now open for public comment. Home Depot will need to take certain actions for their failure on disclosure in working with contractors. Ruth Ann indicated that she would like to discuss this at a future meeting. She volunteered to draft a letter from the Commission providing recommendations for a policy change at the federal level which would be sent to the incoming Biden/Harris EPA Administration and the DOJ for Environmental Crime. The correspondence would request a provision of funding to areas of greatest need and request that the fine money be given to the communities and used for lead prevention in terms of clean-up in communities and creating community driven jobs.
  - Adam Skolnik indicated that he, Anna Davis, and Susan Kleinhammer met with the Department of Labor to discuss its interest in regulating general contractors' involvement with Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP). The Department of Labor seemed interested and it is reaching out to its Attorney General to see what can be done. Adam will continue to brief the commission on any updates he receives from the Department of Labor.
  - The below bills were discussed. Wendy Phillips will send out a voting survey poll for HB0049 in order to take a vote on whether or not the Commission supports this bill. Previously the Commission had supported both of the bills discussed. Anna Davis will draft the letter to the House/Senate based on the poll recommendations from the Commission. HB0636/SB0546 will be discussed and voted upon during the February meeting and Anna Davis will draft the letter to the House/Senate.
    - **HB0049 Landlord and Tenant - Repossession for Failure to Pay Rent - Lead Risk Reduction Compliance**  
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2021RS/bills/hb/hb0049F.pdf>
      - Adam Skolnik discussed this bill which is sponsored by Delegate Rosenberg. Adam recommends that the Commission support this bill.
    - **HB0636/SB0546 School Buildings - Drinking Water Outlets - Elevated Level of Lead (Safe School Drinking Water Act)**  
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2021RS/bills/hb/hb0636F.pdf>  
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2021RS/bills/sb/sb0546F.pdf>
      - Jamal Lewis of GHFI discussed the bill and stated that it was similar to the bill that was introduced last session by Delegate Solomen and Delegate Rosenberg. This bill establishes the new definition of elevated lead level to 5 parts per billion on drinking water in schools. Ruth Ann Norton recommends that the Commission support this bill.

**New Business:**

- Impacts of COVID on lead testing and immunization data and discussion: Paul Rogers gave a slide presentation which was shared with the Commission prior to the meeting. After the presentation, the Commission provided its feedback and comments. Ruth Ann Norton and Camille Burke were asked to provide an update to the Commission at the February meeting on their joint efforts in the creation of a statewide ad campaign through radio and internet regarding public education and encouraging people to reconvene tests including lead testing. It was suggested that a subcommittee be created which will be chaired by Paul Rogers. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to evaluate the impact of COVID on lead testing and immunization. The subcommittee would include Paul Rogers, Ruth Ann Norton, Chevelle Bash, Allison Cantos, Camille Burke, Cliff Mitchell, Dr. Shelly Choo, Barbara Moore, Paula Montgomery, Christina Peusch. The Subcommittee name will be decided upon at future subcommittee meetings.
- Presentation of the Commission's Annual report to the Governor for CY 2020: Paula presented the report which was provided to the Commission prior to the meeting. The report was previously sent to the Governor's office and contained information such as: links to all the Commission's meetings, agendas, and minutes, and highlights of the Commissions' tasks and achievements/accomplishments for the reporting year.

**Agency Hot Topics/Current Events:**

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Shante Branch provided the following updates regarding HB1233 (Maryland Healthy Children Act): To date, labs have sent 175 elevated blood lead level referrals to LPPP's enforcement section to investigate. Of those referrals, 53% have been contacted. Of the 53%, some families refused investigations due to COVID but were given the opportunity to contact the department at a later time to request a reopening of the case. Some of the families did not have current contact information which hindered the department from making contact. Shante asked Dr. Cliff Mitchell if he could, during his grand rounds, ask the providers to verify any patient contact information necessary in order to help the department have viable contact information.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Cliff Mitchell provided the following updates on the Open Forum/Grand Round Presentations: Dr. Mitchell will soon be meeting with Loretta Hoepfner the Executive Director of the Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics. In addition he is currently in the process of compiling the content for the Continuing Medical Education (CME). He has asked the local health departments for some cases that demonstrate how a child might interact with MDE, MDH, Medicaid, and DHCD which he will use to illustrate how to manage a child coming out of a clinical setting with lead exposure. There will be a total of 5 hours of CME presentation which will be repeated on two different dates in February and then a final 1 hour case presentation in early March. Discussions will be centered around lead, asthma, radon, taking a healthy homes approach, and COVID

challenges. The forum/grand round presentations will be made available to the public at the conclusion of the presentation series.

- **Maryland DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community) Development: Jack Daniels provided the following updates: There has been a structural change within the agency in aligning with the whole home division which includes whole home, energy, and business lending. DHCD is working to incorporate an emergency funding program for repairs. Jack offered to give a more detailed presentation in March regarding the DHCD restructuring current status and future plans.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Camille Burke provided the following updates: BCHD is awaiting the delivery of several lead care 2 point of care testing machines for distribution to total health care and family health centers of Baltimore (Cherry Hill and Brooklyn)
- **HABC** (Housing Authority of Baltimore City): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **Baltimore City DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care): Manjula Paul stressed the importance of lead testing for children during the pandemic because children are now staying home and more exposed to lead which will impact their growth and development and their learning abilities.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): There were no comments or updates provided.

**Commissioner Comments and Updates:** There were no comments or updates provided.

**Public Comments and Updates:** There were no comments or updates provided.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Paula Montgomery, seconded by Leonidas Newton to adjourn the meeting. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:13am.

**Future Meeting Date:**

The next Lead Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2021 via Google Hangouts, from 9:30 – 11:30 AM.