

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

April 3, 2025 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Adam Skolnik	Cliff Mitchell	Naadiya Hutchinson
Alexandra Nestadt	Fred Banks	Nicola Tran
Barbara Moore	Jacob Benzaquen	Nicole Hart
Benita Cooper	Manjula Paul	Ruth Ann Norton
Christina Peusch	Michael Ichniowski	Susan Kleinhammer

Members Absent:

Anna Davis	Dalya Attar	Mary Washington
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Guests Present:

Adewole Adegborioye-MDE	Ilan Kokotek-MDE	Paula Montgomery-MDE
Anstasia Solano-MDE	Jack Daniels-MD-DHCD	Samantha DiNatale-UMBC
Andrew Roelke-MDE	Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD	Rick Kessler-MDE
Angela Hall-GHHI	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD	Samantha
Brionna Adams-BCHD	Kevin Stanley-MDE	Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD
Carrie Johnson-Public	Kira Videan-MDE	Shadia Musa-GHHI
Chris Corzine-OAG	Laura Nugent-GHHI	Sheneka Frasier-MDE
Chris White-ARC	Leslie Delcid-MDE	Suma Kondle-MDH
Colin Choney-GHHI	Lisa Eibner-MDE	Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE
Cynthia Herrera-GHHI	Lori Tantlinger-JHU	Thelonious Williams-MDH
Dawn Joy-AMA	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE	Tim Rule-MDE
Denifah Bun-Tejan-MDE	Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE	Wade McCord-MDE
Eunice Johnson-GES	Matthew Koning-OAG	Wendy Phillips-MDE
Felicia Graves-MDE	Nancy Servatius-MDH	William Doyle-HCHD
George Stewart-GHHI	Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD	

Documents Distributed:

- Agenda
- Minutes
- Old Lead Frees2

Welcome and Introductions:

The meeting began with introductions of attendees, both in-person and via phone

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

- Gemini Note-Taking System: Wendy Phillips announced the use of Gemini for note-taking, a new Google system approved by the State of Maryland's IT department.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Mitchell seconded by Commissioner Skolnik to approve the March 2025 minutes. All present Commissioners were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Legislation Updates**
 - [SB0238 / HB0127 - Department of Housing and Community Development - Maryland Housing Rehabilitation Program - Local Rehabilitation Program Administration](#): This bill has passed both the House and Senate.
 - [HB1367 - Lead Testing and Inspections - Falsifying Information - Penalty](#): The Lead Commission sent a letter of support to both the House and Senate Committee. The current bill status is that the bill has passed the House and currently in the Senate.
- **Federal Support Changes on Lead**: Commissioner Dr. Mitchell brought up significant changes at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), including staff reductions affecting environmental health programs, potentially impacting cooperative agreements and future programming. He emphasized the uncertainty surrounding the future of these programs. The impacts of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program cuts were also discussed. The commission discussed the potential impact of federal changes and voted to draft a letter to the Department of Health and Human Services to inquire about the future of lead poisoning prevention programs. Commissioner Ichniowski motioned for the Commission to draft a letter seconded by Commissioner Skolnik. There was strong support for writing this letter from the remainder of the Commissioners. Abstentions were Commissioner Dr. Mitchell and Commissioner Paul.
- **Green Environmental Update**: Matthew Koning from the Office of the Attorney General provided an update on the lawsuit against Green Environmental LLC and Rodney Barkley. The case is proceeding, and the defendants have been served. Mr. Koning provided an invalidated lead free list and list for Notice Violations to Wendy Phillips who then emailed the information to the Commissioners.
- **Old Lead-Free Certificates**: Commissioner Kleinhammer highlighted issues with old lead-free certificates, stressing the need for better education, inspection accuracy, and clearer definitions. She explained that current lead-free standards don't guarantee safety and outlined approved abatement methods and safe work practices. Non-traditional methods and evolving regulations suggest a need to revisit definitions and standards, with cleanliness being key to reducing exposure.
- **Spring into Action - Lead Prevention**: Commissioner Banks mentioned the "Spring into Action" campaign to increase public awareness of lead prevention which will be advertised on the MDE social media.
- **Strategic Planning Day**: The commission discussed their meeting schedule, potential consolidation of the June meeting with strategic planning, and the need to select a facilitator and distribution method for a pre-meeting survey. The strategic planning will aim to set a long-term vision for lead and lead poisoning prevention in Maryland over the next 5–10 years, and to establish specific, measurable goals to guide the Commission's work within that broader direction.

- Commission Recess 2025: The Commission confirmed that it will recess in July, August, and December of 2025.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner Dr. Mitchell shared updates on home visiting programs, the evaluation of these programs, and the uncertainty surrounding CDC funding for lead-related initiatives
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Commissioner Tran shared updates from the Office of Lead Hazard Reduction programs and the onboarding of local non-profits.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katheryn Taylor reported that BC-DHCD is transitioning between lead hazard reduction grants, with a new citywide grant starting this month pending final approvals. Enrollment of units will begin soon.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Brionna Adams described challenges in recruiting environmental sanitarians for Baltimore City and explained the lead training program, emphasizing the requirement to become a level two and the cross-training opportunities with partners in food and ecology. They noted some individuals prefer food and ecology roles over lead-focused work.
- **YGG** (Young Gifted & Green) Naadiya Hutchinson provided an update on the lead service line inventory work, focusing on the Santom Winchester area due to ongoing construction that may affect water pipes. Their team aims to prioritize inventory in this area to ensure homes receive lead filters if needed (01:58:33). They also mentioned that they would investigate a Baltimore city lawsuit against the EPA concerning lead and water issues
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Shadia Musa announced GHI's continued participation in Healthy Homes Month in April, despite HUD's non-participation. They detailed plans for a healthy homes tour visiting Baltimore city schools and community centers, as well as a presentation at Red Emma's Free School. Additionally, they publicized the Asthma Summit on May 20th at Morgan State University. The number of attendees for the summit was clarified as approximately 100, with a capacity of 125

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, May 1, 2025, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.