

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION March 7, 2024 • 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	Senator Jill Carter	Benita Cooper
		Thelonious Williams

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE	Shamola Dye-MDE	Angela Perry-Hall-GHHI
Adewole Adegborioye-MDE	Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD	Wendy Phillips-MDE
Fred Banks-MDE	Felicia Graves-MDE	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Chevelle Bash-GHHI	Jason Harding-BCDHCD	Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD	Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE	Steven Homola-BCDHCD	Andrew Roelke-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG/MDE	Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD	Tim Rule-MDE
Marjorie D' Ambrosio-MDE	Eunice Johnson-GES	Kevin Stanley-MDE
Leslie Delcid-MDE	Dawn Joy-AMA	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Jacqueline Kozari-MDH	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
William Doyle-HCHD	Wade McCord-MDE	Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Cover Page
- Agenda March 2024
- Draft Minutes 240201
- HPSCAN_20240306122734486_2024-03-06_122821939
- MDE_LC_Q1&Q2_FY24_PM
- LPPP Calendar Year 2022

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Susan Kleinhammer, seconded by Commissioner Dr. Paul Rogers to accept the February 1, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Welcome and Introductions:

Chair Ruth Ann Norton extended a warm welcome to everyone attending the March 7, 2024 Commission meeting.

Old & New Business:

- **FDA Presentation: “How people can more readily report on things that are in products (not related to lead in paint, water, or soil)” (FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner):** Chair Norton noted that the FDA Consumer Product Safety Commissioner was unable to attend as planned and she will continue to work to secure their participation in a future Commission meeting for the presentation.
- **MDE - Compliance and Enforcement:** Fred Banks presented a PowerPoint to the Commission, offering a comprehensive update on compliance and enforcement activities for the first two quarters of fiscal year 2024. The presentation, titled "MDE_LC_Q1&Q2_FY24_PM," was included in the meeting materials distributed to members and guests ahead of the session.
- **FY2022 Report or Update from MDE:** Mr. Banks presented a PowerPoint to the Commission, on the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report for calendar year 2022. The presentation, titled "LPPP Calendar Year 2022," was included in the meeting materials distributed to members and guests ahead of the session. The presentation highlighted the following: Preliminary Statistical Report; At-Risk Children 0-6 Years Old by Jurisdiction; Number and Percent of Children 0-72 Months Tested for Lead and the Number Reported to Have Blood Lead Level ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ for Calendar Years 2019-2022.
- **WorkGroup Updates**
 - **Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) Contractor Education Workgroup Updates:** Commissioner Susan Kleinhammer reported that contacting the MHIC should be delayed until after the current legislative session. Meanwhile, she discussed with Jason Hessler, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Housing Community Development in Baltimore City, a program launched several years ago that allows online permit applications for work in the city. She reminded Commissioner Hessler of the previous discussion of the possibility of the City requiring documentation of Renovation, Repair, or Painting (RRP) training upon permit issuance. Previously Commissioner Hessler was hesitant to add more requirements to the permit process due to the newness of the database and program. However, in the recent conversation, he provided language related to lead in Baltimore City's permit process, which was shared with the Commission prior to the meeting in the document titled ""HPSCAN_20240306122734486_2024-03-06_122821939."

- **Lead Testing Kit Public Announcement Workgroup:** Chevelle Bash reported that a draft of a public announcement is underway and should soon be finalized in order to be announced multiple times over the next few months.
- **Rental Applications-Obstacles and Application Fees- Workgroup Updates:** Angela Perry Hall reported that the workgroup came up with some ideas to improve the situation. One possibility would be to waive the application fees for the healthy choice voucher participants. The workgroup will also be working on a sharepoint with the homes that are lead-free to be able to share with the clients so they could have access to places that would be suitable for them.
- **Thriving Communities Update:** Ruth Ann Norton reminded the Commission that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded The Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) a 50 million dollar contract to provide technical assistance throughout EPA Region 3. GHHI plans to provide Maryland approximately 3.5 million dollars per year for two years which will go to non-profit groups that work on lead remediation, storm water issues, environmental issues, ect. The money is intended to build the capacity of the non-profit groups. The first grants will be awarded in the summer of 2024.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates

- [HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation](#): Tyler Abbott reported that the bill passed 2nd reader.
- [HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling](#): Wes Stewart reported that this bill still remains in committee and has not moved.
- [HB0351/SB0361 - Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2024, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023](#): Wes Stewart reported that there has not been any movement on this bill.
- [SB0482/HB4601 - Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households \(ENOUGH\) Grant Program \(ENOUGH Act of 2024\)](#): Tyler Abbott indicated that the Maryland Department of the Environment's legislative team reached out to the Governor's Office and confirmed that a community would be able to utilize funds for lead remediation or abatement if the project was within the Enough Act jurisdiction.
- [SB0983/HB1473 - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out](#): Wes Stewart reported that the hearing for this bill was held on February 27, 2024. The house version of the bill has been in the Rules Committee for over three weeks which may mean opposition to the bill.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Tyler Abbott reported that Request for Proposals (RFP) regarding funding that was made available by the Maryland legislature in 2023 for outreach and education and legal services is currently with the Office of the Attorney General for review. Once reviewed it will then go to the Office of State Procurement.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell reported that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced its concerns regarding lead in cinnamon. You can find more information on their website: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-takes-steps-ensure-safety-cinnamon-products-sold-us>
- **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Dr. Paul Rogers reported that the New York Times had an article about the FDA which should be doing around 19k inspections a year of international products but only did 1,200.

- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul reported that she met with MDE's Lead team regarding new opener occupied or rental applications for child care operations. The meeting was productive and useful. OCC is making some changes to its application.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor reported that one of its grants is in the holding process. It still has its 2019 grant available and it is currently taking applications.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): JulieDiGirolamo reported that her team tested 59 children recently at their testing sites. BCHD will continue to do testing throughout the spring.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton reported that GHHI will be hiring 20 new people.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

Commissioner Norton informed the Commission that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) changed the National Healthy Homes month from June to April.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Commissioner Montgomery to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dr. Mitchell. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, April 4, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Educational Programs (Maryland Home Improvement Commission)
- Legislation Outcomes Next Steps