

**BOARD OF HEALTH OF FREDERICK COUNTY**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, October 30, 2024**

**Dr. Barbara Brookmyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**Welcome**

Dr. Barbara Brookmyer, Health Officer for Frederick County and Executive Officer of the Board of Health welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Quorum**

Dr. Barbara Brookmyer recognized those present:

**Board Members:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dr. Barbara Brookmyer (Health Officer)	X	
Council Member Mason Carter	X	
Council Member Jerry Donald	X	
Council Vice-President Kavonté Duckett	X	
County Executive Jessica Fitzwater	X	
Council Member MC Keegan-Ayer	X	
Council Member Renee Knapp	X	
Council Member Steve McKay	X	
Council President Brad Young	X	

**Board Liaisons**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dr. Alison Bomba – Mental health professional		X
Dr. Diana Castiblanco – Chamber of Commerce member	X	
Dr. Jennifer Cooper – Nurse	X	
Dr. Scott Stanley – Science related background	X	
Dr. Rene Najera – Epidemiologist	X*	
Dr. Michael Schaden - Veterinarian	X	

\*Attended virtually

**Guests & Staff**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Carmen Arias, Frederick County Health Department	X	
Elaine Kline, Frederick County Health Department	X	
Colleen Whitmore, Frederick County Health Department	X	
Rissah Watkins, Frederick County Health Department	X	
Ragen Cherney, Frederick County Chief of Staff for County Council	X	

**Agenda Item:** Public Comments

**Presenter:** Dr. Barbara Brookmyer

There were no public comments.

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**Agenda Item:** Approval of the minutes: 5/16/2024 & 8/29/2024    **Presenter:** Dr. Barbara Brookmyer

Motion to approve 5/16/2024 & 8/29/2024 meeting minutes as written. Motion passed 9 – 0

Name	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Not Present
Dr. Barbara Brookmyer (Health Officer)			X			
Council Member Mason Carter			X			
Council Member Jerry Donald			X			
Council Vice-President Kavonté Duckett			X			
County Executive Jessica Fitzwater			X			
Council Member MC Keegan-Ayer		X	X			
Council Member Renee Knapp			X			
Council Member Steve McKay			X			
Council President Brad Young	X		X			

**Agenda Item:** Fall Respiratory Update

**Presenter:** Elaine Kline

Elaine Kline, Registered Nurse in the Communicable Disease Program for the Frederick County Health Department provided an update on Fall Respiratory Illnesses. Ms. Kline covered information and guidance for COVID-19, influenza, respiratory syncytial (RSV), and pertussis.

Ms. Kline also provided a brief update on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1). She covered the history of H5N1, current events, clinical presentation in humans, CDC/MDH initiative, and the plan to protect Frederick County's farmworkers

**Agenda Item:** Overview of School Health Services

**Presenter:** Colleen Whitmore

Colleen Whitmore, Registered Nurse and Director of School Health Services for the Frederick County Health Department provided an overview of School Health Services. The program services almost 48,000 students in 70 Frederick County Public Schools, including four (4) Public Charter Schools. Ms. Whitmore focused on the services provided and data showing a noticeable increase in health room visits through the years.

**Agenda Item:** Update on the current Community  
Health Needs Assessment

**Presenter:** Rissah Watkins

Rissah Watkins, Director of the Office of Planning, Assessment and Communication for the Frederick County Health Department provided an update on the current Community Health Needs Assessment. Ms. Watkins shared that the necessary data has been collected and are currently working on analyzing the collected data and looking at root causes.

**Agenda Item:** Brief report on the Maryland Commission

**Presenter:** Dr. Barbara Brookmyer

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on Public Health

Dr. Barbara Brookmyer gave an update on the Maryland Commission on Public Health and shared the timeline for Commission. Dr. Brookmyer informed the board members that they might be contacted by the University of Maryland, who is performing the assessment for the commission, to schedule interviews as part of the assessment framework.

**Agenda Item:** Old Business

**Presenter:** Dr. Barbara Brookmyer

Orientation for newly appointed liaisons has been completed.

**Agenda Item:** New Business

**Presenter:** Dr. Barbara Brookmyer

None

**Upcoming Meetings**

May 2025 – date to be determined.

Dr. Brookmyer asked the board to let her know if there were any specific topics they would like to discuss in the May meeting.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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Barbara Brookmyer, MD, MPH  
Health Officer for Frederick County  
Board of Health Executive Officer and Secretary