

# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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## LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION April 4, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting Draft/Approved Meeting Minutes

### Members Present:

Benita Cooper	Barbara Moore	Adam Skolnik
Anna Davis	Ruth Ann Norton	Thelonious Williams
Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul	
Paula Montgomery	Christina Peusch	

### Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Senator Jill Carter	Paul Rogers
Jacob Benzaquen	Susan Kleinhammer	

### Guests Present:

Fred Banks-MDE	Angela Hall-GHHI	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Jason Harding-BCDHCD	Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE	Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD	Tim Rule-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG/MDE	Cynthia Herrera - GHHI	Nancy Servatius-MDH
Marjorie D' Ambrosio-MDE	Steven Homola-BCDHCD	Anastasia Solano-MDE
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD	Kevin Stanley-MDE
William Doyle-HCHD	Eunice Johnson-GES	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Shamola Dye-MDE	Dawn Joy-AMA	Lori Tantlinger-JHU
Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MDE	Wade McCord-MDE	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Felicia Graves-MDE	Wendy Phillips-MDE	Chris White-ARC

### Documents Distributed:

- Agenda 240404
- Draft Meeting Minutes 240307

### Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton, President of the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) and Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

## **Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:**

Chair Norton extended a warm welcome to everyone attending the April 4, 2024 Commission meeting and gave some brief reminders about the National Healthy Homes Month and upcoming events and webinars. Additionally she announced organizational changes within GHHI, including promotions and new hires.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Theo Williams to accept the March 7, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

## **Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates**

Wes Stewart of GHHI gave an update on the following bills:

- [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:](#) The bill has passed in the Senate.
- [HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation:](#) The bill passed in the house but has not yet passed the Senate.
- [HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling:](#) The bill has passed both the House and the Senate.
- [SB0983/HB1473 - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out:](#) The bill does not look like it will be passing as it has not moved out of the House or Senate.
- [SB0481/HB0693 - Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024:](#) The bill has passed in the House.

## **Agency Hot Topics/Current Events**

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Fred Banks, Program Manager of MDE's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, discussed ongoing collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health on adult lead issues as well as the Key Bridge clean up which has sparked inquiries, although lead isn't a primary concern. Dr. Banks also announced a partnership with MICA for a kids' calendar on lead safety. Each month, the calendar will cover a lead safety topic. Additionally, two posters were created for social media to promote lead safety.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell commended Dr. Nancy Servatius for her dedicated work since 2008 coordinating between public health departments and state agencies regarding lead exposure. He also expressed gratitude to Barbara Moore and Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital for their efforts in a complex lead exposure case. Dr. Mitchell acknowledged the increasing lead exposure cases possibly due to COVID-related deferred care and emphasized the ongoing collaborative efforts among agencies to address this issue. Additionally, he mentioned progress in lead poisoning surveillance and discussed plans to enhance information sharing among stakeholders while considering limited resources in health departments.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Commissioner, Manjula Paul from MSDE explained that the Office of Child Care (OCC) is collaborating with healthcare providers whose patients attend childcare in Maryland but were not tested for lead. They inform out-of-state healthcare providers whose patients come to Maryland childcare facilities and provide education on the importance of lead testing. The OCC emphasized the significance of early education and development, advocating for late lead testing for these children and working with interstate healthcare providers to facilitate the process.

- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Commissioner, Theo Williams, provided updates on DHCD initiatives, including an unsuccessful healthy homes production grant application and plans for future rounds. They're developing a revised handout to accurately detail what the lead remediation program covers, focusing on critical repairs rather than general remodeling. They're also examining the program holistically to improve efficiencies and are noticing increased application numbers, especially outside Baltimore city, which they're addressing accordingly.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton reported that May 7th, there will be the annual asthma Summit happening at Bowie State University.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

**Future Meeting Date:**

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, May 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

1. Educational Programs (Maryland Home Improvement Commission)
2. Update on Blood Lead Reference Level (MDE/MDH: Fred Banks/Cliff Mitchell)
3. Lead Funding/Unit Production (Baltimore City: Nicole Hart/Katherine Taylor)
4. Legislation Outcomes Next Steps