

**Board of Health
Tuesday, June 2, 2026
Hybrid Meeting / Penn Room**

Members Attending: J. Schwartz, J. Dethoff, K. Schorn - virtually

Others Attending: S. Smith – in person; R. Placido, J. Melendez, C. Reed - virtually

Dr. Dethoff called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. He stated that a quorum is present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Dr. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Schorn, to approve the April 7, 2026 meeting summary as written. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

- Health Inspections

Mr. Placido stated that since the Board's last meeting there have been:

- 71 Health Inspections
- 7 Re-inspections
- 14 complaints
- 2 soft closes

Mr. Placido explained that soft closes close the business for 24 hours to complete the necessary items to be re-inspected to allow businesses with minor infractions to remain open. He stated that this works well with small businesses.

Mr. Placido stated that he has been encountering many coconut stands. He stated that when approached, they move right away.

Dr. Dethoff questioned if the City had regulations for street vendors. Mr. Placido stated that the City does have these regulations.

Dr. Dethoff questioned if these types of businesses would be allowed. Mr. Placido stated that they would be allowed but that there is a permit approval process.

Dr. Dethoff questioned if the City issues permits for food trucks. Mr. Placido stated that it does when they follow the permit approval process.

- Lead Abatement Program

Mr. Melendez stated that the program is currently using ARPA funding to remain operational until December 31. He stated that the City is applying for additional grant funding. He stated

that the grant application is due in August and he feels confident that the City will be awarded this funding. He stated that he is also applying for CDBG funding.

- EMS

Deputy EMS Chief Sninsky provided his report via email due to a schedule change. The report stated:

- FIFA World Cup Watch Party July 3-4 and 18-19th with large 15,000 plus crowds possible, medical set up with outsourced help from neighboring agencies and resources. Anyone interested in the set up and operation, please email me directly and I can get you particulars
- 2 Paramedic School recruits graduate July 24th and will be part of the compliment later in the fall.
- One of our paramedics, Rob Schaeffer, is retiring as of mid-July. He has been involved in EMS in the City of Reading since the early 90's. We wish him well!
- We took delivery of a 4 wheel drive ambulance, that will benefit the Northwest section of Reading in particular, during the winter weather. That is currently in service as Medic 7.
- New cardiac monitors will be placed into service June 8th, 2026. This will allow us to have up to date technology for the next 12 years as we have purchased 12 ZOLL monitors.
- National Night out is early August, please stop by and see the Paramedic crew and myself if you have any questions

Dr. Wang connected to the meeting at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

- Vaping Project with Youth Commission

Dr. Dethoff stated that there has been no follow up from the Youth Commission. He stated that he recommended a separate discussion on this topic before it is discussed with the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Schwartz stated that physicians continue to perform basic screenings for measles but that there have been no new cases reported.

Dr. Dethoff noted his understanding that the hantavirus is not spread human to human. Dr. Schwartz stated that the virus is aerosol based and coughing in close quarters could allow it to spread human to human. She expressed the belief that this is not typical.

Dr. Wang stated that generally a person gets hantavirus from sweeping and inhaling. She stated that this strain of hantavirus did spread person to person. She stated that all those who were quarantined have been released.

Dr. Dethoff questioned if there is cause for alarm. Dr. Wang expressed the belief that there is no cause for alarm.

Dr. Wang stated that she is also staying updated on the recent African Ebola outbreak. She expressed the belief that there is no immediate threat from this outbreak.

PENDING MATTERS

- Berks County Department of Health

Ms. Smith stated that she attended a Spotlight webinar regarding social services in rural areas of the County. She stated that Commissioner Santoni stated during the webinar that the County has created a Healthy Berks Coalition to determine next steps now that the Public Health Services Study is complete.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 4 pm hybridly via Zoom and in the Penn Room.

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelly Smith, CMC
Deputy City Clerk