



KENT CITY HEALTH BOARD MEETING
Kent City Health Department
201 E. Erie Street
5:30 – 7:00 PM
September 8th, 2026



MISSION: Healthy people, Thriving Community, and a Safe Environment.

AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL (1 minute)
2. MINUTES APPROVAL (5 minutes)
3. OPEN COMMENTS/GUEST COMMENTS (3 minutes per guest)
4. REPORTS (20 minutes)
 - A. Statistical Report for August 2026
 - B. Health Department Report for August 2026
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS
6. ACTION ITEMS (15 minutes)
 - A. Expenditures and Encumbrances August 2026
 - B. Kent Mart Inc. Tobacco Retail License Denial
7. EXECUTIVE SESSION
8. ADJOURN MEETING

If you require assistance to attend this meeting, please contact the Health Department at (330) 678-8109.

CC: Health Board
City Manager
Clerk of Council

Health Staff
File
News Media

Post



Kent City Health Department
201 E Erie St. 2nd Floor
Kent, Ohio 44240
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
August 11, 2026



At 5:32pm, Louise Frederick called the Kent City Health Board meeting to order.

Board Members Present: Louise Frederick; Melissa Zullo; Chris Hook; Evan Howe; Lyndsay Nowak; Michelle Frederick

Staff Present: Jalessa Caples; Ashley Beavers; Kyle Kelly

Also Present: Bob Walker; Angela DeJulius; Taqi Ibrahim (Kent Mart)

Motion: A motion to approve the minutes from the June 9th, 2026, meeting was made by Chris Hook and seconded by Melissa Zullo. Without further discussion or objections, the motion passed.

Motion: A motion to move Action Item "B" to before opening comments was made by Melissa Zullo and seconded by Chris Hook.

Action Item

B. Kent Mart Inc. Tobacco Retail License Denial - Appeal

Motion: A motion to table the discussion for more review and guidance from Hope Jones was made by Evan Howe and seconded by Melissa Zullo and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Open Comments

- Bob Walker OPHSC Response
 - o Gave update on quarterly test results
- Dr. Angela DeJulius
 - o Cyclospora update

Reports

A. Statistical Report for June and July 2026. No further comments were given.

B. Health Dept. Report for June and July 2026 reviewed by Jalessa Caples:

- o Communicable Disease – 34 Cyclospora cases during July 2026, many hours of investigation time making calls and visiting restaurants.
- o Community Outreach – Pop Up Pantry will no longer be held.
- o Environmental – Tyler program a concern for EH staff.

- Food Service Organizations – Many inspections due to Cyclospora outbreak including Taco Bell.
- Housing – Failing septic system on Sunnybrook Rd. handed over to the county.
- Vector Control – Kent has 6 cases of Lyme Disease which has increased in comparison to previous years, West Nile has been detected in multiple trapping sites, Artemis Park was sprayed for Kent Summer Movie Nights, waiting to hear back from supplier so we can start spraying on a regular basis.
- Vital Statistics – Got QR Codes from VitalChek, Ashley applied for Indigent Reimbursement through the state and was approved for a total of \$1900.
- Grants – WFD Grant; applied for an additional \$90000 for personnel expenses.
- Accreditation – work began under the new standards and measures.

Discussion Items:

- A. Epi Services Comparison Table – comments made on expanded the current contract.

Action Items:

- A. Expenditures and Encumbrances June and July 2026

Motion: A motion to approve the expenditures and encumbrances for June and July 2026 was made by Chris Hook and seconded by Evan Howe. Without further discussion the motion passed.

Executive Session:

None

Adjourn:

Motion: A motion to adjourn the health board meeting was made by Louise Frederick and seconded by Evan Howe. Without further discussion the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Approved:

Louise Frederick, President

Date

Jalessa Caples, Secretary

Date



Kent City Health Department
201 E Erie St. 2nd Floor
Kent, Ohio 44240
BOARD OF HEALTH SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
July 29, 2026



Board Members Present

Louise Frederick, President
Melissa Zullo, Vice-President
Evan Howe
Lyndsay Nowak

Absent

Michelle Frederick
Chris Hook

Guests

Staff Present

Suzanne Stemnock

Meeting called to order the Kent City Health Board Meeting of July 21, 2026, at 1751 pm.
Roll call taken.

Motion: A motion to enter executive session was made by Lyndsay Nowak, seconded by Evan Howe, all in favor. Motion approved at 1751 pm.

Motion: A motion to exit executive session was made by Melissa Zullo, seconded by Melissa Evan Howe, all in favor. Exit executive session at 2019 pm. Roll call taken.

Motion: A motion to allow the Human Resources Director to negotiate the hire of Andrew Bull was made by Melissa Zullo, seconded by Evan Howe, all in favor.

Motion: A motion to adjourn regular session was made by Lyndsay Nowak, seconded by Melissa Zullo, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 2021 pm.

Approved:

Louise Frederick, President

Date

Jalessa Caples, Secretary

Date



KENT CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STATISTICAL REPORT 2026

HEALTH DEPT. \$ COLLECTED	Aug-26	YTD 2026	Aug-25	YTD 2025
Vital Statistics	\$ 26,477.67	\$ 151,449.37	\$ 19,962.00	\$ 209,280.00
Retail Food Establishments	\$ -	\$ 16,720.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 20,792.50
Food Service Operations	\$ 1,244.00	\$ 102,427.03	\$ 280.00	\$ 93,768.06
Recreational Water- Pools & Spas	\$ -	\$ 11,497.50	\$ -	\$ 11,890.00
Housing	\$ 10,111.25	\$ 82,382.75	\$ 7,642.50	\$ 86,465.75
Body Art Establishments	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ 2,300.00
Solid Waste Haulers	\$ -	\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	\$ 1,175.00
Tobacco Retail Establishments	\$ -	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 14,780.00
Trash Ticketing	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 390.00
Smoke-Free Investigation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00
Nat'l Env. Health Assoc.- FDA Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,000.00
Tobacco Use Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,525.00
EPA Grant for Vector Control	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Workforce Development Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Healthy Eating & Active Living (HEAL) Grant	\$ -	\$ 3,750.00	\$ -	\$ 7,500.00
Americorps (VISTA) Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,485.73	\$ 41,904.38
State Subsidies	\$ -	\$ 15,412.99	\$ -	\$ 25,781.31
Medicaid Administrative Claiming	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,459.47	\$ 21,462.43
Nurse Clinic	\$ -	\$ 2,195.02	\$ -	\$ 3,445.74
Miscellaneous: Other	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00
Copy Fees	\$ -	\$ 1.00	\$ 5.50	\$ 47.30
Mailing Fees	\$ 852.92	\$ 2,178.65	\$ 52.00	\$ 4,541.00
Overpayment/NSF Fees	\$ -	\$ 94.67	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL COLLECTED	\$ 38,685.84	\$ 398,628.98	\$ 40,538.20	\$ 691,924.47
TO STATE				
Vital Statistics	\$ 14,158.83	\$ 123,380.40	\$ -	\$ 119,344.88
Burial Permit Fees	\$ 921.50	\$ 7,856.50	\$ 115.00	\$ 815.00
Retail Food Establishments	\$ -	\$ 896.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 1,148.00
Food Service Operations	\$ 56.00	\$ 4,202.00	\$ -	\$ 4,068.00
Recreational Water- Pools & Spas	\$ -	\$ 1,260.00	\$ -	\$ 1,340.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,136.33	\$ 137,594.90	\$ 143.00	\$ 126,715.88
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 23,549.51	\$ 261,034.08	\$ 40,395.20	\$ 565,208.59

KENT CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STATISTICAL REPORT Continued

	Aug-26	YTD 2026	Aug-25	YTD 2025
PERMIT/License				
Retail Food Establishments	0	31	1	42
Food Service Operations	2	144	0	165
Food Service Operations- Vending	0	5	0	6

Recreational Water- Pools & Spas	0	31	0	17
Housing	0	206	24	221
Body Art Establishments	0	1	0	3
Solid Waste Haulers	0	26	0	23
Tobacco Retail Establishments	0	17	1	26

TOTAL	2	461	26	503
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MOSQUITO CONTROL

	Staff	Total		
Surveillance Hours	12.0	20.0	52.5	233.8
Larvicide Hours	3.0	14.0	5.5	82.5
Adulticide Hours	2.5	2.50	17.0	56.5
Office Hours	2.0	3.0	0.0	39.3
Sites Visited	25	110	69	323

COMPLAINTS

Received	20	102	6	79
Abated	20	102	6	79

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	18	135	46	249
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IMMUNIZATIONS- COVID	0	0	0	0
Child	0	0	0	0
Adult	0	0	0	0
IMMUNIZATIONS- INFLUENZA	0	5	0	3
Child	0	0	0	3
Adult	0	5	0	0
IMMUNIZATIONS- OTHER	0	5	0	0
Child	0	0	0	0
Adult	0	5	0	0

VITAL STATISTICS- Certified Copies Issued

Birth Certificates	1032	3798	381	4350
Death Certificates	621	3637	437	4173



Mission: Healthy people, Thriving Community, and a Safe Environment.

September Health Commissioner Report

September 8th, 2026

1. Nursing Report
 - a. Communicable Disease –
 - Cyclo cases have dropped
 - We have had an increase of Flu cases over the past week. We are looking at how we can increase awareness
2. Community Outreach –
 - a. 8/22/26 attended Rec Welcome Back Resource Fair
3. Environmental
 - a. Food Service Organizations – no updates
 - b. Housing – no updates
 - c. Recreational Water and Campgrounds – no updates
 - d. Body Art – no updates
 - e. Smoke Free Workplace – no updates
 - f. Solid Waste and Water Quality – no updates
 - g. Vector Control – no updates
 - h. Nuisance complaints- no updates
4. Vital Statistics – no updates
5. Grants – no updates

6. Accreditation –

- New standards and measures came out July 2026
 - Domain 1 has been completed
 - 98 total documents
 - Domain 1: 9 documents
 - Domain 2: 18 documents
 - Domain 3: 11 documents
 - Domain 4: 3 documents
 - Domain 5: 8 documents
 - Domain 6: 10 documents
 - Domain 7: 4 documents
 - Domain 8: 8 documents
 - Domain 9: 9 documents
 - Domain 10: 18 documents
- Documents are due for the reaccreditation by January 1st, 2028
 - Planned to submit by December 17th, 2027
 - After documents are submitted a formal virtual site visit will occur in following months
- With VISTA Supervisor leaving various parts of PHAB will need to be reassigned. This includes Domain 9 and 10 and includes measures dealing with Workforce Development and community outreach. No work has been completed since the start of the refreshed standards and measures
- With EH being short staffed over a long period of time, and a lack of an EH Director, some of Domains 2 and all of Domain 6 will need to be reassigned. No work has been completed since the start of the refreshed standards and measures.
- Domain 2 will also need to be reassigned to new nursing director

- 27 Completed Documents
- Additional 7 Documents will need to be rewritten due to updates in standards and measures

7. Other –

Kent City Health Department
Communicable Disease Report: August 2026
Year-over-Year Comparison: August 2025 vs August 2026

Executive Summary

A total of 26 reportable communicable disease records were reported for Kent City in August 2026, compared with 46 in August 2025, a decrease of 20 records, or 43.5%. The decrease was driven by COVID-19, which declined from 31 records in August 2025 to none in the August 2026 extract. Because monthly extract counts can be affected by testing, surveillance, and reporting practices, the zero count should not be interpreted as proof that no COVID-19 transmission occurred.

Excluding COVID-19, Kent City had 26 records in August 2026 compared with 15 in August 2025, an increase of 11 records, or 73.3%. Cyclosporiasis accounted for 8 records, or 30.8% of the August 2026 total, compared with none in August 2025. Chlamydia remained unchanged at 12 records, gonococcal infection increased from 1 to 2, and the August 2026 extract also included 2 suspected Lyme disease records, 1 probable salmonellosis record, and 1 indeterminate animal-rabies record.

Compared with July 2026, total reported records decreased from 52 to 26, a 50.0% decline. Cyclosporiasis decreased from 36 to 8 records, while chlamydia increased from 9 to 12, gonococcal infection increased from 1 to 2, and Lyme disease remained unchanged at 2. The August total was therefore lower than July, but the year-over-year pattern shows a broader non-COVID disease burden than the headline decline suggests.

Data Source and Methods

This report compares records in the supplied ODH Ohio Disease Reporting System extracts with Date Reported to Local Health Department (LHD) during August 2025 and August 2026. Confirmed, probable, suspected, and indeterminate records are included. Counts represent reported records, not population-based incidence rates. The July-to-August 2026 comparison uses the supplied July 2026 Kent City report and the August 2026 extract.

Reportable Condition Comparison

Table 1. Reportable Conditions, August 2025 vs August 2026

Reportable condition	August 2025	August 2026	Change	2026 share
Chlamydia infection	12	12	0	46.2%
Cyclosporiasis	0	8	+8	30.8%
Gonococcal infection	1	2	+1	7.7%
Lyme Disease	0	2	+2	7.7%
Rabies - animal	0	1	+1	3.8%
Salmonellosis	0	1	+1	3.8%
COVID-19	31	0	-31	0.0%
Hepatitis A	1	0	-1	0.0%
Legionellosis	1	0	-1	0.0%
Total	46	26	-20	100.0%

Disease Group Comparison

Table 2. Disease Group Summary, August 2025 vs August 2026

Disease group	August 2025	August 2026	Change	2026 share
STIs (chlamydia/gonorrhea)	13	14	+1	53.8%
Enteric/parasitic disease	0	9	+9	34.6%
Vector-borne disease (Lyme)	0	2	+2	7.7%
Zoonotic/animal-related disease	0	1	+1	3.8%
Respiratory illness	32	0	-32	0.0%
Viral hepatitis	1	0	-1	0.0%
Total	46	26	-20	100.0%

Note. Respiratory illness includes COVID-19 and legionellosis; enteric/parasitic disease includes cyclosporiasis and salmonellosis. The animal-rabies record is not a confirmed human rabies case.

Case Classification Status

Table 3. Case Classification Status, August 2025 vs August 2026

Classification status	August 2025	2025 share	August 2026	2026 share	Change
Confirmed	22	47.8%	17	65.4%	-5
Probable	23	50.0%	1	3.8%	-22
Suspected	1	2.2%	7	26.9%	+6
Indeterminate	0	0.0%	1	3.8%	+1
Total	46	100.0%	26	100.0%	-20

Change Since July 2026

Table 4. Reportable Conditions, July 2026 vs August 2026

Reportable condition	July 2026	August 2026	Change	Percent change
Chlamydia infection	9	12	+3	+33.3%
Cyclosporiasis	36	8	-28	-77.8%
Gonococcal infection	1	2	+1	+100.0%
Lyme Disease	2	2	0	0.0%
Rabies - animal	0	1	+1	--
Salmonellosis	0	1	+1	--
Hepatitis C - chronic	2	0	-2	-100.0%
Legionellosis	1	0	-1	-100.0%
Varicella	1	0	-1	-100.0%
Total	52	26	-26	-50.0%

Note. Percent change is not calculated when the July count was zero.

Epidemiologic Interpretation

Overall communicable disease activity: The 43.5% year-over-year decrease should not be interpreted as an across-the-board reduction in communicable disease. The decline of 31 COVID-19 records accounts for more than the net decrease of 20 records because all other conditions combined increased by 11. The August 2026 extract therefore reflects a substantial change in disease mix, not simply lower overall activity.

Change since July 2026: August volume was half the July total, primarily because cyclosporiasis decreased from 36 to 8 records. The reduction suggests that the local surge eased during August, but it does not establish that transmission had ended. CDC notes that it may take about six weeks from illness onset for a Cyclospora report to reach national surveillance, so recent illnesses and local classifications may still be revised (CDC, 2026a).

Cyclosporiasis: The 8 August 2026 records included 4 confirmed and 4 suspected records, compared with no records in August 2025 and 36 records in July 2026. Since the July Kent City report, the national investigation has advanced substantially. As of September 1, CDC reported 18,445 laboratory-confirmed domestically acquired cases during May 1-August 31, 2026, compared with 1,180 during the same 2025 period; 990 hospitalizations and 2 deaths were reported (CDC, 2026a). CDC's August 27 investigation update linked a major multistate outbreak to processed iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico. That outbreak included 11,458 illnesses across 20 states, at least 495 hospitalizations, and illness onsets through August 15. The recalled products' best-by dates had passed and they should no longer have been available for sale (CDC, 2026b). These national findings provide exposure context but do not establish that the 8 Kent City records were part of that outbreak.

Sexually transmitted infections: Chlamydia remained unchanged at 12 records year over year and increased from 9 in July. Gonococcal infection increased from 1 to 2 records both year over year and month over month. Together, the two infections accounted for 14 records, or 53.8% of all August 2026 records, and remained the largest disease group.

Other reportable conditions: Two suspected Lyme disease records were reported, unchanged from July but higher than the zero recorded in August 2025. One probable salmonellosis record and one indeterminate animal-rabies record were also present. Each requires routine investigation and classification follow-up. The animal-rabies record should be interpreted as an animal event requiring assessment of possible human exposure, not as a confirmed human rabies case. A single salmonellosis record does not, by itself, establish a local outbreak.

Recommended Public Health Actions

Complete cyclosporiasis investigations and connect July-August records. Finish interviews for all 8 August records, verify onset dates and final classifications, and compare them with the 36 July records. Obtain detailed food and restaurant histories for the 14 days before illness onset. Where dates fit, ask specifically about processed iceberg lettuce, implicated restaurants or retailers, and product purchase information, while maintaining a broad exposure assessment because CDC continues to investigate other Cyclospora clusters. Share common exposures promptly with ODH and coordinate specimen or genotyping follow-up when requested (CDC, 2026a, 2026b).

Maintain active monitoring and updated risk communication. Review the combined July-August line list weekly for late reports, shared exposures, and status changes. Public messaging should explain that recalled lettuce should no longer be in commerce but that additional illnesses may still be identified because of reporting delays. Residents with persistent watery diarrhea, cramping, loss of appetite, bloating, nausea, weight loss, or fatigue should contact a healthcare provider and mention possible Cyclospora exposure. Continue promoting handwashing, thorough produce rinsing, removal

of damaged areas, prompt refrigeration, and cooking produce when appropriate; washing alone cannot guarantee removal of *Cyclospora* (CDC, 2026c).

Continue condition-specific follow-up. For chlamydia and gonococcal infections, verify treatment and partner-service completion and continue prevention and testing outreach. Resolve the 2 suspected Lyme records and reinforce tick-bite prevention. Complete the salmonellosis exposure interview without presuming an outbreak linkage. For the animal-rabies record, confirm animal testing and disposition, identify any exposed people, and ensure timely rabies risk assessment and post-exposure prophylaxis when indicated (CDC, 2024; CDC, 2026d, 2026e).

Limitations

This report compares records reported to the LHD during August 2025 and August 2026 and does not measure illness-onset incidence. Counts are small for many conditions, so percentage changes can appear large and should be interpreted cautiously. Population denominators were not supplied; therefore, incidence rates were not calculated. Reported records may be affected by testing access, surveillance practices, reporting delays, case-definition changes, provider reporting, and data-entry timing. The large COVID-19 difference may reflect some of these factors as well as actual changes in diagnosed disease. A zero count in the August 2026 extract is not proof of no community transmission.

Confirmed, probable, suspected, and indeterminate records are included, and classifications may change after investigation or additional laboratory information. The animal-rabies record is not equivalent to a human rabies case. The July-to-August comparison uses the previously supplied July report rather than a pooled multimonth analytic file. National *Cyclospora* figures were current as of September 1, 2026, are preliminary, and should not be interpreted as Kent City or Ohio-only counts. External outbreak information does not prove that any local record was linked to the processed-iceberg-lettuce outbreak.

References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024). *Preventing Salmonella infection*. <https://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/prevention/index.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2026a). *Cyclospora case data* (updated September 1, 2026). <https://www.cdc.gov/cyclosporiasis/cases/index.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2026b). *Investigation update: Cyclospora outbreak, July 2026* (updated August 27, 2026). <https://www.cdc.gov/cyclosporiasis/outbreaks/07-26/investigation.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2026c). *Preventing cyclosporiasis*. <https://www.cdc.gov/cyclosporiasis/prevention/index.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2026d). *Preventing Lyme disease*. <https://www.cdc.gov/lyme/prevention/index.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2026e). *Clinical screening for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis*. <https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/hcp/diagnosis/index.html>
- Kent City Health Department. (2026). *Communicable disease report: July 2026 - Year-over-year comparison: July 2025 vs July 2026* [Internal surveillance report].

Expenditures - August 2026

8/4/2026	Ohio Division of Real Estate	Burial Permit Fees July 2026	\$912.00
8/10/2026	Treasurer, State of Ohio	Vital Statistics Security Paper	\$1,560.00
8/17/2026	Billow Company/Bissler & Sons Funeral	Indigent Cremation 2026-4	\$1,000.00
8/26/2026	Amazon	Utility Carts (HEAL Grant)	\$998.27