

SUMMARY: Subcommittee Review of Public Health Governance Workgroup Recommendations

Participating members: Greg Ayers, MD
Jane Weida, MD
Jay Suggs, MD
Joseph Marchant
Stuart Lockwood, DMD
Jim Wright, DVM

Also attending: Scott Harris, MD
Brian Hale

The subcommittee met virtually on Thursday, October 28, 2021. A quorum was present. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to express the gratitude of the subcommittee to the members of the Public Health Governance work group, and especially to Dr. Paul Erwin, who moderated the discussions of the group.

The subcommittee reviewed the recommendations of the work group and stated its support for continuing the current procedure that invests the State Committee of Public Health (SCPH) with the authority to employ the State Health Officer. The subcommittee spent the remaining time in discussion about how to include a diversity of views within the State Committee, reviewing the recommendations of the work group.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to recommend to the full State Committee of Public Health that consideration be made to change the composition of the SCPH to nineteen (19) members, as follows:

- Seven (7) physicians, appointed by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA), with one from each Congressional District;

- Five (5) additional physicians, appointed by MASA, to at-large positions, which allow for diversity of race, gender, and professional expertise;

- One (1) appointee of the Governor;

- Six (6) additional appointees, with one from each of the following groups:

 - Alabama Dental Association

 - Alabama Hospital Association

 - Alabama Nursing Home Association

 - Alabama Veterinary Medical Association

 - Alabama Council of Engineering Companies of America

 - Alabama Pharmacy Association

This recommendation will be submitted to the full SCPH for further action.