



**CITY OF GARY**  
**EDDIE D. MELTON**  
MAYOR

GARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**KATRINA WALKER**  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DR. JANET SEABROOK, MBA, MD  
HEALTH COMMISSIONER

## GARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 13, 2026

4:00PM

### **In attendance**

Dr. Linda Gunn, PHD, CHPRM, ACC, President, Board Member  
Dr. Janet Seabrook- MD, MBA, Health Commissioner  
Veronica Collins-Ellis, MPA, Executive Director  
Dr. Eugene Boone, D.D.S.  
Celona Hayes- Assistant City Attorney II (**On Google Teams**)  
Will Miller, MBA OWDS, Chairman of the Gary GOP, Professor/Teacher  
Dr. Matthew Tipton, MD  
Dr. Steve Simpson, M.D.  
Ellis Dumas III, City of Gary-Chief of Staff  
Albert Gay- Managing Partner, Chief of Development, and a Master Trainer for SheRay's & Associates, LLC & TTJ Group, Board Member

### **Not in attendance**

Dr. Matthew Tipton, MD

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Dr. Gunn, at 4:05pm.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting held in November. Dr. Gunn called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Gay carried the motion. Dr. Simpson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Mr. Dumas shared with the Board that the franchises in Gary had concerns regarding their turnover rate during the onboarding process. The businesses voiced that this is due to the Health Card requirement in the City of Gary. There has been an extensive search to see if other companies are doing Health Cards. Dr. Simpson shared that TB can be undetectable and having the card will protect the community. Ms. Berry, Health Services Manager, clarified that when employers speak about a "certificate" that is a SERV Safe document. The Health Card and a SERV Safe document are different. As the TB cases rise in Indiana, the Board reiterated the importance of constituents getting a Health Card. Dr. Seabrook suggested that the Health Department can visit franchises and administer TBs on-site. This matter would also be discussed during the Annual Food Establishment Meeting.

Mrs. Collins-Ellis shared that the community Baby Shower will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, @11am. It will be at the Gary Public Library. The Marquette Pavilion was not compatible for the guests last year. A Blood Pressure Kiosk was purchased for constituents to check their blood pressure for free. The Behavioral Health Manager is currently working on starting a hygiene drive and looking for places to drop off donations. The Board suggested to find establishments that are easily accessible for the community to drop off donations. It was also recommended that Mrs. Collins-Ellis write to the Colgate National Association. The Health Inspectors have been receiving an influx of housing complaints. Due to the possible inhabitable conditions of the homes; a temporary housing plan would need to be made for tenants. Mayor Melton requested each department to present their goals for 2026. The STI, Insurance Navigator, Nursing, and Health Inspector departments will be doing more outreach this year. Lastly, the Hudson and Campbell design is complete, and bids are being developed. The goal is to move the Health Department by the end of 2026.

Meeting adjourned @5:12pm

Submitted by:  
Karynton Holliday  
Recording Secretary