



BOARD OF HEALTH

JANUARY 20, 2022, MEETING MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Patricia Checko called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M. via zoom and telephone.

Present: Patricia Checko, Chairman (via Zoom)
Charles K Brown Jr., Secretary-Treasurer/Director of Health
Ann Marie Diloreto (via telephone)
Dianne Doot (via zoom)
Barbara Gilbert (via zoom)
Deborah Henault (via zoom)
Ray Jarema (via telephone)
Lecia Paonessa (via zoom)
Marti Stiglich (via telephone)
Roy Zartarian (via zoom)

Excused: Judith Sartucci

Absent: Jerilyn Nagel and David Wemett

Quorum present. No one

Meeting notice posted: January 18, 2022.

Staff Present: No one

B. PUBLIC FORUM – No one

C. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA –

MOTION by Gilbert, seconded by Zartarian to approve the agenda as posted.
Motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

1. Minutes of November 18, 2021, Board meeting

MOTION by Zartarian, seconded by Diloreto to approve the Minutes of the November 18, 2021, regular Board meeting as posted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

E. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2022 –

MOTION by Henault, seconded by Doot to approve the board meeting dates for CY 2022. **Motion carried unanimously.**

F. PRESENTATION OF FY 2020-2021 AUDIT - Brown introduced the agency's auditor, Charles Costello of Costello Associates of Hebron, CT. Costello has served as the agency's auditor for several years. Costello reviewed the FY 2020-2021 report and answered Board member questions. It was a clean report. There were no recommendations from Costello.

G. OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS -

1. Chairman's Report -

- Checko read an article in the Hartford Courant about secondhand vaping effects and how they are claiming it is safe and not harmful. Testing is seeing that secondhand vaping gives you the same effect as cigarettes.
- A colleague and former commissioner of health is now the director of health in Orange County, FL. He had sent email to staff to the affect that only 60 % of about 300 people have been vaccinated. He feels that the employees that practice public health, should live public health. After the email was sent, he was removed from this position and could face legal charges.

2. Director Health and Staff - Brown highlighted the following:

- COVID-19 vaccination clinics are complete. Home bound shots are still being addressed but the state is contracting with nurses that will provide support soon.
- Posting for Public Health Nurse and Epi continue to be an issue, no applicants for us or many of our colleagues
- Environmental health - Union contract negotiations to begin soon. Informal kickoff next week. Insurance renewal first on the list but seems uncontroversial.
- Lost Environmental Health inspector Andrea Vitrano to Somers shortly after she received her food certification. Posting for Environmental Health position have been conducted.
- Registered sanitarian Jeff Vecchitto lost his father over the weekend. Please keep the family in your thoughts.
- Administrative staff is finished with FY 2020-2021 audit. Grant reporting and licensing for "normal operations" continues.
- Doot questioned if Narcan will be distributed to schools in our district. Brown will investigate with superintendents and report back to the board at next board meeting.

MOTION by Wemett, seconded by Diloreto to accept the monthly report of the Director of Health dated November 18, 2021, as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS -

1. **Governance Committee** – Nothing to report. Next meeting is February 7, 2022.
2. **Human Resources Committee** – Nothing to report. Next meeting is February 9, 2022.
3. **Finance Committee** – Nothing to report. Next meeting is February 15, 2021.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of FY 2020-2021 Audit-

MOTION by Zartarian, seconded by Doot to approve the FY2020-2021 Audit as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2. COVID-19 update -

- Staff have been keeping up with information from CDC and CT Department of Public Health for close to 2 years now. Currently 16,588 confirmed and probable cases in the district (10,310 in November); 3319 in Rocky Hill, 5416 in Newington, 3164 in Berlin and 4689 in Wethersfield. 353 deaths in the district; 137 in Rocky Hill, 123 in Newington, 45 in Berlin and 48 in Wethersfield.
- Towns continuing the school year. Schools challenged by contact tracing with everyone being in school. Screen and stay are still being implemented. Department of Public Health allowed schools to suspend in-school tracing and is focusing on supporting symptomatic students,
- Cold weather and holidays drove cases up just like last year. Highest numbers we have seen but least amount of governmental action to address it.
- Volunteers are continuing our contact tracing. Over 10,000 cases and contacts have been tracked using the state system since May 20th. Number of cases have been increasing significantly.
- Health education is focus of calls at this point and education for self-tracing and notification.
- New York and New Jersey and others have suspended statewide tracing efforts.

3. CCHD Presentations to Town Councils

J. Next Meeting – February 17, 2021, 6:30 PM, CCHD Offices in Rocky Hill, CT

K. ADJOURNMENT –

MOTION by Gilbert, seconded by Doot to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charles K. Brown, Jr., MPH
Secretary-Treasurer

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY BOARD: February 17, 2022