



BOARD OF HEALTH

JANUARY 21, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Patricia Checko called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. via zoom and telephone.

Present: Patricia Checko, Chairman (via Zoom)
Charles K Brown Jr., Secretary-Treasurer/Director of Health
Kevin Borrup (via zoom)
Dianne Doot (via zoom)
Barbara Gilbert (via conference call)
Deborah Henault (via zoom)
Ray Jarema (via conference call)
Lecia Paonessa (via zoom)
Judy Sartucci (via zoom)
Marti Stiglich (via conference call)
David Wemett (via zoom)
Roy Zartarian (via zoom)

Excused: Ann Marie Diloreto and Jerilyn Nagel

Quorum present.

Meeting notice posted: January 20, 2021.

Staff Present: No one

B. PUBLIC FORUM – No one

C. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA –

MOTION by Gilbert, seconded by Wemett to approve the agenda as amended to add I. 3 “CCHD Conflict of Interest Policy Board” under New Business. **Motion carried unanimously.**

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

1. Record of Votes and Minutes of December 17, 2020 Board meeting

MOTION by Wemett, seconded by Doot to approve the Record of Votes of the December 17, 2020 regular Board meeting as posted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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PUBLIC HEALTH for BERLIN, NEWINGTON, ROCKY HILL, WETHERSFIELD

MOTION by Zartarian, seconded by Borrup to approve the Minutes of the December 17, 2020 regular Board meeting as posted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

E. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2021 - Will do under new business.

F. OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS –

1. Chairman’s Report – Chairman Checko reported:

- The availability of the COVID-19 vaccine and sites are getting close. Outreach to the over 75 population.
- Conflict of interest statement were discussed whether changes should be made. It was decided to go ahead and send to board members, fill out and if there aren’t any issues will leave it alone.
- Advocacy – Checko discussed the legislative process. 62 bills with numbers have already been written. CCHD writes testimony through the Executive Committee. Some of the bills that are coming up are.
 1. Marijuana
 2. Many tobacco bills, most to do with vaping and trying to outlaw flavors.
 3. Assistance in dying
 4. Vaccine related bills – eliminate religious exemptions which we will be discussing.
 5. Types of people who can give vaccines.
 6. Opioid bills – recovery and access to treatment.
 7. Racism as a public health crisis.
 8. Appropriations and budgets.
 9. COVID-19 related bills including funding.
- Checko touched base about Municipal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), which is money that has been given to the towns for COVID-19 expenses. It was suggested to distribute some of the money to the Health District.

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

- Opioid Initiative -Pantoja and Hartman have been having weekly meetings with Recovery coach Sara Piatti who continues outreach mainly on the Berlin Turnpike. Goody bags made up of hand warmers, hand sanitizers, face masks, gift cards and wool socks have been purchased to provide to folks she encounters on the turnpike.

- Environmental personnel have issued 2 notices to cease and desist for repeated complaints at a retail store and a gym. CCHD issued the first ticket to a restaurant that refused to wear masks, may have to suspend license as they were defiant.
- Jane Knotek have been fielding COVID-19 calls and starting to gear up for vaccinations by calling insurance companies about reimbursement. Kissinger has been out for some health issues but has been working from home as she can.

MOTION by Sartucci, seconded by Henault to accept the monthly report of the Director of Health dated January 21, 2021 as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS -

- 1. Governance Committee** – Next meeting is February 8, 2021.
- 2. Human Resources Committee** – Next meeting is February 10, 2021.
- 3. Finance Committee** – Next meeting is February 16, 2021.

H. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Sanitary Code Update** – All requirements have been met. Next step is to schedule a public hearing.

MOTION by Doot, seconded by Wemett to move the Sanitary code to public hearing and to approve Patricia Checko as hearing officer on February 18 at 6:00 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2. COVID-19 Update -

- Staff have been keeping up with information from CDC and CT Department of Public Health for a year. Currently 6262 confirmed cases in the district (3987 last month); 1263 in Rocky Hill, 1957 in Newington, 1098 in Berlin and 1944 in Wethersfield. 248 deaths in the district (221 last month); 106 in Rocky Hill, 90 in Newington, 26 in Berlin and 26 in Wethersfield.
- Towns looking at moving schools to back to in-school and starting winter sports. Each town has had many in-school issues to deal with that required assistance from the health district. Number of full online students have increased

- Volunteers are continuing our contact tracing but have been taxed recently due to the number of cases. Over 5000 cases and contacts have been tracked using the state system since May 20th.
- Getting ready to do clinics the 1st week in February. Supply is limited.

I. NEW BUSINESS –

1. Municipal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) – Brown contacted town managers. Waiting for a response back.

2. 2021 Board Committee Meeting Schedules –

MOTION by Gilbert, seconded by Borrup to adopt the 2020-2021 board meeting schedule as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. CCHD Conflict of Interest Board – Knotek will email the conflict of interest policy to each board member.

NEXT MEETING – February 18, 2021, 6:30 PM, CCHD Offices in Rocky Hill, CT

J. ADJOURNMENT –

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY BOARD: March 18, 2021