



BOARD OF HEALTH

FEBRUARY 17, 2022, MEETING MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Patricia Checko called the meeting to order at 6:30 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)
Judith Sartucci (via zoom)
David Wemett (via zoom) arr. 6:43 pm
Roy Zartarian (via zoom)

Excused: Marti Stiglich

Absent: Jerilyn Nagel

Quorum present. No one

Meeting notice posted: February 16, 2022.

Staff Present: No one

B. PUBLIC FORUM – Luis Pantoja

C. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA –

MOTION by Sartucci, seconded by Gilbert to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

1. **Record of Votes amended for November 18, 2021, Board meeting**

MOTION by Gilbert, seconded by Paonessa to approve the Record of Votes of the November 18, 2021, amended Board meeting as posted. Approved: Checko, Diloreto, Gilbert, Henault, Jarema, Paonessa, Sartucci, and Zartarian.
Opposed: No one. Abstained: Doot. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2. **Record of Votes and Minutes for January 20, 2022, Board meeting**

MOTION by Gilbert, seconded by Paonessa to approve the Record of Votes and Minutes of the January 20, 2022, Board meeting as posted. Approved: Checko, Diloreto, Doot, Gilbert, Henault, Jarema, Paonessa, and Zartarian. Opposed: No one. Abstained: Sartucci. **Motion carried unanimously.**

E. OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS –

1. **Chairman’s Report** – Checko reported that Conflict of Interest forms have been sent in the packet and will need to be signed and sent back.

Next month Checko will be discussing board appointments.

Several bills have been proposed for the legislative session that are of interest to the health district:

- Governor’s budget will not cut the per capita rate for local health departments of \$1.85.
- Name gun violence prevention as a public health crisis.
- An act concerning children’s and youth mental health.
- Registered pharmacist about to administer flu vaccine to anyone over 12 years of age.
- Testing for HIV
- Senate bill 88, aid in dying terminally ill patients.
- Tobacco fund receiving 12 million for prevention control.
- No tax on COVID-19 rapid test kits.
- Tax credit for farmers for donation of food to charitable organizations.
- Decreasing lead poisoning levels to ≥ 3.5 mcg/dl.

2. **Director of Health and Staff –**

- One town asked what our position is for recreational marijuana. Brown will stay consistent with previous positions.
- Posting for the public health nurse has been filled and she will start on March 14 for 30.5 hours a week.
- Epi continues to be an issue but may seek a consultant firm to assist us to start a program and bring someone in when the program is established.
- Lost Environmental Health inspector Melissa Miller to DCP. There are 2 positions open now.
- Grant reporting and licensing for “normal operations” continue.

MOTION by Sartucci, seconded by Doot to accept the monthly report of the Director of Health dated February 17, 2022, as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS -

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

G. OLD BUSINESS-

1. Approval of COVID-19 testing and sick leave policy-

MOTION by Doot, seconded by Wemett to approve the COVID-19 testing and sick leave policy. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2. COVID-19 update -

- Staff have been keeping up with information from CDC and CT Department of Public Health for over 2 years now. Currently 17,893 confirmed and probable cases in the district (10,310 in November); 3599 in Rocky Hill, 5853 in Newington, 3406 in Berlin and 5035 in Wethersfield. 368 deaths in the district; 143 in Rocky Hill, 129 in Newington, 46 in Berlin and 50 in Wethersfield.
- Towns continuing the school year. Mask mandate ends on February 28th in schools. Our towns will end their mandates though we feel it is premature to do so. All four towns are still in the red.
- 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 decreasing significantly.
- Health education is still the focus of calls at this point and education for self-tracing and notification.
- Case investigation is the new buzzword instead of contact tracing.

H. NEW BUSINESS-

1. **Conflict of Interest Forms** – Discussed in Chairman’s report, Checko would like them back by the next board meeting.

I. ADJOURNMENT –

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

1. **Next Meeting** – March 17, 2022, 6:30 PM, CCHD Offices in Rocky Hill, CT

Respectfully submitted,

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

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY BOARD: March 17, 2022