



## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

### **JUNE 17, 2021 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  
Kevin Borrup (via zoom arr. 6:33 pm)  
Dianne Doot (via zoom)  
Barbara Gilbert (via zoom)  
Deborah Henault (via zoom)  
Ray Jarema (via zoom call)  
Jerilyn Nagle (via zoom)  
Lecia Paonessa (via zoom)  
Judy Sartucci (via zoom)  
Marti Stiglich (via conference call)  
Roy Zartarian (via zoom)

**Excused:** Ann Marie Diloreto and David Wemett

**Quorum present.** No one

**Meeting notice posted:** June 15, 2021.

**Staff Present:** No one

**B. PUBLIC FORUM –** No one

**C. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA –**

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

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

#### **1. Record of Votes and Minutes of May 21, 2021, Board meeting**

**MOTION** by Gilbert, seconded by Sartucci to approve the Record of Votes of the May 21, 2021, regular Board meeting as posted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION** by Sartucci, seconded by Gilbert to approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2021, regular Board meeting as posted with a minor change. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## **E. OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS –**

### **1. Chairman's Report –** Chairman Checko reported:

June is celebrating the districts 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Proclamations from the towns were given out during the council meetings. Checko acknowledged past chairs with the board.

Legislative bills:

- CT is the 19<sup>th</sup> state in the country to legalize marijuana. Borrup expressed his displeasure for passed bill.
- Vaccine bill to remove the religious exemption has passed and will take effect in 2022. Already in litigation.
- To establish a pilot program for Opioids that involves 5 communities around the state, will have 2 peer navigators in each of these communities to increase engagement between providers of treatment services, health care and social services and persons with opioid use disorder. The team shall travel throughout the community to address many issues in person and for follow up treatment.
- Racism as a public health crisis has passed. Sets up a commission of racial equity and public health. Will require DPH to collect and analyze certain data to evaluate equity issues.
- More money for the immunization fund.
- Tobacco flavor bill never made it to the floor.
- Appropriations committee has decided to increase the per capita rate for health department and districts by .75, to \$2.60 for districts.

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

- Staff have been busy supporting homebound vaccinations 2<sup>nd</sup> doses this week.
- Testing out online appointment scheduling for the flu clinics.
- Targeted clinic in Rocky Hill at Concierge apartments 2<sup>nd</sup> shots is the last formal clinic for a while.
- Environmental health staff continue completing pool inspections.
- Temporary events are increasing as state reopens.
- Administrative staff supporting clinics with data entry and billing.
- Medicare reimbursement has increased significantly.
- Total amount of COVID-19 shots that we have received so far is \$66,754.76.
- Sartucci asked about ticks this season. Brown responded saying dog ticks and ticks with Lyme have been reported.

**MOTION** by Henault, seconded by Doot to accept the monthly report of the Director of Health dated June 18, 2021, as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## **F. COMMITTEE REPORTS -**

- 1. Governance Committee** – Next meeting is July 12, 2021.
- 2. Human Resources Committee** – Next meeting is July 14, 2021.
- 3. Finance Committee** – Next meeting is July 13, 2021.

## **G. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. CCHD 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – The rare reminder issued an article about the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Luis Pantoja designed a new logo and will be put on t-shirts for board and staff.
- 2. In-person meetings** – Members discussed in person meetings and will resume in August 2021 for board and committees, with an individual choice for mask wearing. The option for online meetings will still be an option with the primary and preferred being in person. A decision was made to cancel the July 2021 meeting.
- 3. COVID-19 Update**
  - Staff have been keeping up with information from CDC and CT Department of Public Health for over a year. Currently 8598 confirmed and probable cases in the district (8579 last month); 1809 in Rocky Hill, 2716 in Newington, 1585 in Berlin and 2488 in Wethersfield. 294 deaths in the district (294 last month); 123 in Rocky Hill, 100 in Newington, 31 in Berlin and 40 in Wethersfield.
  - Towns moving schools towards end of school year. Each town has had many in-school issues to deal with that required assistance from the health district. Assisting with planning for graduations and proms. Testing and mask policy for the future.
  - Volunteers are continuing our contact tracing. Over 10,000 cases and contacts have been tracked using the state system since May 20<sup>th</sup>. Number of cases have been decreasing in the past couple of weeks.

- Vaccine clinics continuing in our District. 34 Clinics since February 10, 2021. In Wethersfield we had 12 clinics and served 480 people, Berlin we had 8 clinics and served 260 people, Rocky Hill we had 4 clinics and served 160 people and Newington we had 10 clinics and served 500 people. Additional 5 homebound days and 2 clinics at concierge about 2850 shots to date.
- Checko commented that Connecticut is within the top 5 states for vaccination rates.
- Brown discussed the ELC grant which gave the health district \$157,000 the first year and \$213,000 the second year. There are open full time grant positions for Health Educator, Epidemiologist, and a Public Health Nurse.

**H. Next meeting** – August 19, 2021, 6:30 PM, CCHD Offices in Rocky Hill, CT

**I. ADJOURNMENT –**

**MOTION** by Borrup, seconded by Paonessa to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

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

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY BOARD: September 16, 2021