

Eastern Highlands Health District Board of Directors

Regular Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Virtual meeting Via  
Zoom\*

Thursday August 20, 2020

**Members present:** E. Anderson (Andover), J. Carrington (Mansfield), J. Kelly (Bolton), T. Nuccio (Tolland), E. Paterson (Mansfield), M. Rosen (Tolland), D. Walsh (Coventry), M. Walter (Columbia), E. Wiecenski (Willington)

**Staff present:** R. Miller, M. Brosseau, K. Dardick, C. Trahan, A. Gonzalez

E. Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**Public Comments**

Outreach was done per Executive order. No comments were received.

**Approval of minutes**

D. Walsh made a MOTION seconded by E. Wiecnski to approve the minutes of the 4/23/2020 meeting as presented. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

**Per Capita Grant in Aid Funding Application for SFY 2021**

R. Miller presented an overview of the grant.

D. Walsh made a MOTION, seconded by E. Wiecenski to authorize the execution and submittal of the Eastern Highlands Health District's Fiscal Year 2020/2021 State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Per Capita Funding Application as presented August 20, 2020. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

**Subcommittee Reports**

**Finance Committee – Financial report, period ending 6/30/2020**

R. Miller presented to the board an overview of the financial report for the period ending 6/30/2020.

E. Anderson made a MOTION, seconded by J. Kelly, to accept the financial report as presented. MOTION PASSED unanimously

**Director's Report**

**COVID-19 Response Activities - Update**

R. Miller provided an update on some of the activities with which the health district is involved. R. Miller informed the board that the health district has been awarded funding for pandemic response activities. This funding will cover a 30 month period.

There was discussion regarding the way cases of UConn students are reported. A news article stated that cases of students living off campus are being reported in the town that is their permanent address. R. Miller determined that the article is incorrect.

### **EHHD Isaias Response**

R. Miller reported on the efforts of the Health District in supporting citizens and businesses during wide spread power outages.

### **Quarterly Activity Report for the periods ending 6/30/2020**

R. Miller presented an overview of the quarterly activity report, noting that efforts for the next quarter will include the implementation of the state EEE plan that outlines thresholds for response at the state and local level.

### **Town Reports**

#### **Willington**

E. Wiczenski informed the board that the Willington Town Offices are closed to the public. Services are available by appointment. Concerts in the park have been successful. Basketball courts have been reopened with signage to "Play at your own Risk". The Willington Parks and Recreation director is working with other towns to investigate implementing a basketball program.

#### **Tolland**

M. Rosen reported that the Town hall is fully open to the public and they have had no issues so far. People are wearing masks and being respectful. M. Rosen thanked the health district for the assistance provided during the tropical storm. M. Rosen informed the board that the recreation program has been "guttled". Additionally, the town investigated providing a child care program for parents returning to work. At this time, the town is unable to offer that service.

#### **Columbia**

M. Walter reported that the parks and rec department will be offering childcare for up to 14 children. This will be run similar to a camp program. The Columbia town hall remains closed to the public. Services are available by appointment. M. Walter informed the board that the town was able to provide potable water and charging stations during the power outages following the tropical storm. M. Walter noted that the beaches have remained open all summer with spacing in place to protect the lifeguards. And The Main Moose is booming!

#### **Mansfield**

J. Carrington reported that the Mansfield Town Hall remains closed to the public, with services available by appointment. He is considering bringing employees back to work at the town hall. J. Carrington informed the board that the mayor will be holding a press conference Friday regarding reducing the size of gatherings. J. Carrington noted that the Mansfield Community Center provided showers and charging stations during the power outages following the tropical storm. Additionally, non-potable water was available at MCC and the town hall. J. Carrington informed the board that C. Trahan will be retiring and Charmain Bradshaw-Hill will be the new Director of Finance. Additionally, the Town Council is interviewing for the Town Manager position.

#### **Coventry**

D. Walsh informed the board that hydrilla treatments of the lake have been completed. D. Walsh reported that the farmer's market is trying to reopen in a new way by allowing people to shop by appointment. D. Walsh noted that the Town hall is open and only a limited number of people are allowed in the building at any one time. D. Walsh initiated discussion regarding recruitment of primary care physicians. Dr. Dardick noted that there are very few private practices and they must do their own recruiting.

### **Andover**

E. Anderson reported that the town hall is open by appointment only. E. Anderson informed the board that youth athletics have been allowed to continue and they have had no issues yet. Teams are required to have a COVID safety plan. E. Anderson noted that Andover lake has remained open to members only. And, the farmers market has been running smoothly with entrance and exit monitored by CERT members. E. Anderson reported that the senior transportation program for medical appointments and food shopping continues. The senior center meals are occurring with proper social distancing. .

### **Adjournment**

MOTION made by D. Walsh, seconded by E. Anderson to adjourn at 6:11 pm. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Miller  
Secretary