

Eastern Highlands Health District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
Coventry Town Hall Annex
Thursday, June 15, 2017

Members present: J. Elsesser (Coventry), M Hart (Mansfield), E. Paterson (Mansfield), P. Schur (Willington), P. Shapiro (Mansfield), J. Stille (Bolton), S. Werbner (Tolland), M. Walter (Columbia), D. Walsh (Coventry)

Staff present: R. Miller, K. Dardick, M. Brosseau

Call to Order: E. Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:39 pm.

R. Miller welcomed P. Shapiro as the new representative for the Town of Mansfield. P. Shapiro was welcomed by all.

Approval of minutes of April 13, 2017 M. Hart made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2017 meeting as presented. MOTION PASSED with P. Shapiro and D. Walsh abstaining.

Old Business

Proposed FY17/18 Operating & CNR Budget, and Fee Schedule

R. Miller noted that the finance committee met on June 12, 2017 to review the changes to the proposed budget. The updated budget was distributed at the meeting. R. Miller presented an overview of the changes.

J. Elsesser made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille to adopt the fiscal year 2017/2018 operating budget as presented on June 15, 2017, which includes \$816,010 in total expenditures, a member town per capita contribution rate of \$5.295; and further, adopt the fiscal year 2017/2018 capital non-recurring budget as presented on June 15, 2017 which includes \$20,060 in total expenditures. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

J. Elsesser made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille to adopt the fiscal year 2017/2018 fee schedule as presented on June 15, 2017. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

J. Elsesser made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille to increase the employee health insurance premium cost share from 15% to 15.5% effective July 1, 2017. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

New Business

CNR fund expenditure authorization for Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan

R. Miller presented an overview of the recommendation. J. Elsesser inquired as to whether this should have been included in the budget. J. Elsesser expressed concern that the money is being taken out of the Capitol Non Recurring budget prior to the state budget being adopted. Others expressed similar concerns.

J. Elsesser made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille that the Health Director bring the proposal back to the Board after the State budget is clear. P. Shapiro offered an amendment to change the wording from "after the State budget is clear" to "after the State budget is adopted." Accepted as a friendly amendment, the MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED unanimously.

Town Reports

Mansfield – M. Hart reported on the water and sewer project. The Environmental Impact Evaluation has been completed and the sewer project will move forward. M. Hart also noted that Spring Hill Café has opened.

Coventry – J. Elsesser reported that the Main Street project was delayed slightly due to CT Water finishing the water project. J. Elsesser expects that paving will be finished in August.

S. Werbner left the meeting at 5:00 pm

Subcommittee Reports

Finance Committee – Quarterly financial reports for the period ending 3/31/17

R. Miller noted that there was not a quorum at the 6/12/17 Finance Committee meeting to accept the financial report. R. Miller presented an overview of the report, noting a projected shortage of approximately 10% on budgeted fees for service.

J. Stille made a MOTION, seconded by J. Elsesser to accept the financial report as presented on June 15, 2017. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

J. Stille requested the distribution of the 4th quarter financial report as soon as it is complete.

J. Stille informed the Board that the Finance Committee had a discussion regarding fees. They will begin this summer to look at how fees are assessed and on whom especially those that are now gratis. R. Miller was charged with putting together a list of all services that are now gratis and an estimated cost associated.

Directors Report

Legislative/advocacy – CADH bill Tracking

R. Miller reported on HB7222. This bill increases the threshold for which DEEP involvement is required for septic systems. The current threshold is 5000 gpd; the new threshold will be 7500 gpd.

R. Miller reported on SB901 that will transition the state from using Connecticut Public Health code for food service to the FDA food code, noting that there are many benefits. However transition will be challenging as staff will need to be retrained, and workflows modified. The effective implementation date is July 1, 2018.

Quarterly Activity Report for the period ending 3/31/17

R. Miller directed the Board members' attention to the histograms noting specifically the decline in deep test holes between last year and the current year.

Strategic Plan – Progress Report

R. Miller informed the Board that there has been progress in the development of ViewPermit, most recently in the Septic module. He also noted that unfortunately, due to the adoption of the FDA code the forms that have been developed for food service inspections are now obsolete.

Staffing updates

R. Miller informed the Board that 2 rounds of interviews for the Sanitarian I/Environmental Health Inspector have been completed and 2 viable candidates have been chosen. R. Miller is checking references and hoping to make an offer in the next couple of days.

Communications

USGS re: Arsenic & Uranium in Private Wells

D. Walsh inquired about the involvement of the health district in the testing of private wells. R. Miller noted that testing of private wells is the responsibility of the homeowner. Water test reports are required by the Health District when a new well is drilled. Test reports are also received from the labs when there is a sale of a home.

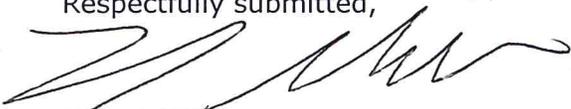
There was discussion of testing.

Adjournment

J. Stille made a MOTION seconded by P. Shapiro to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 pm.
MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Next Board Meeting, August 16, 2017, 4:30 PM at Coventry Town Hall Annex

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Miller
Secretary