

EASTERN HIGHLANDS HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2010
4:30 PM
COVENTRY TOWN HALL ANNEX

Members Present: D. Walsh, E. Paterson, J. Elsesser, M. Hart, M. Kurland, P. Schur, R. Fletcher, S. Werbner, T. Tully, C. Mailhos (Alternate)

Staff Present: R. Miller, C. Trahan, M. Remy, Dr. Dardick, M. Capriola

Members Absent: F. Daniels, J. Luiz, J. Stille, Andover Appointee, Scotland Appointee, M Zambo (Alternate)

David Skoczulek was present at meeting. He is the Chairman for the North Central District Dept of Health.

E. Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Election of Officers: A MOTION was made by D. Walsh, seconded by P. Schur to elect Elizabeth Paterson as Chair, John Elsesser as Vice Chair and Joyce Stille as Assistant Treasurer. The MOTION was PASSED unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: A MOTION was made by M. Hart, seconded by T. Tierney to approve the October 21, 2010 minutes as presented. The MOTION passed with D. Walsh, P. Schur and J. Elsesser abstaining.

Public Comments: none

Old Business: none

New Business

1. Proposed Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Presentation & Set Public Hearing Date:

R. Miller reported on the salient factors incorporated into the budget proposal. They include a 0.3% reduction in spending for a total budget of \$717,200, with no change in the contribution rate for member towns. Other items discussed include fee for service revenue, state grant in aid, salary increases (deferred pending state budget), benefits and operation costs.

R. Miller reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the proposal and recommends consideration of the proposed budget.

A MOTION was made by R. Fletcher, seconded by J. Elsesser to set a public hearing date of Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 4:30 p.m., Coventry Town Hall Annex, to hear the public's comments regarding the Proposed Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Eastern Highlands Health District budget and associated fee schedule. The MOTION was PASSED unanimously.

2. Health Insurance Plan Design Changes:

R. Miller reported on proposal of the new health insurance plan design for employees.

D. Walsh made a MOTION, seconded by M. Kurland to authorize the Director of Health to make the changes to the health insurance benefits, effective March 1, 2011, as recommended in this memorandum dated December 8, 2010. The MOTION was PASSED unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

3. Health Care Pooling Opportunities Subcommittee Update:

R. Miller reported that the sub-committee members had a conference call in November. Then met with representatives from Milliman on December 13, 2010 to discuss potential for cost savings, initial steps needed to obtain more data, and exploring other partners for inclusion in the pool. Towards that end, a meeting with EASTCONN is being pursued.

M. Capriola reported on Employee Wellness Program within Town of Mansfield. She and M. Hart both expressed pleasure with the performance and outcomes of the program. Further discussion on program activities commenced.

J. Elsesser to inquire if employee wellness program can be unbundled from insurance plan. Town leaders on the board were encouraged to inquire with plan administrators to see if wellness could be unbundled.

Board members requested that R. Miller to develop a proposal for district wide Employee Wellness Program for the next meeting.

TOWN REPORTS

Coventry – report on sewer studies in town and parallel sewer line with Bolton

DIRECTORS REPORT

4. Quarterly Activity Report Period Ending September 30, 2010:

R. Miller reported food establishment inspections were down . Staff is spending additional time on special projects such as the Bolton sewer project, farmer's market permit reviews/inspections, and (as noted by Dr. Dardick), there are fewer establishments to inspect.

J. Elsesser relayed concern expressed by Coventry market masters that district is conducting too many inspections at farmer's market.

R. Miller reported that inspection frequency is already below professional standards.

Other:

Discussion ensued regarding the following: 1) Farm to Table Dinner and the NUVAL system created by the speaker at the dinner, Dr. Katz. 2) School luncheon program and childhood obesity 3) Rob to report to Board on CHART activities addressing obesity.

5. Commissioners Council on Local Public Health Regionalization Update

R. Miller updated board on council activities. One council charge is to link state funding to local health through performance standards. Council progress has slowed presumably due to state administration changes.

COMMUNICATIONS/OTHER MATERIALS

6. DPH RE: ACHIEVE RFP Award

R. Miller reported that the District received a two year \$45,000 grant to work with three other health districts training them on the ACHIEVE model.

Other:

Dr. Dardick reported no issues with flu this season and plenty of vaccine supply.

R. Miller reported that it is mandated that preschoolers that attend daycare are required to have flu shot.

Next board meeting will be on January 20, 2010.

A MOTION was made by J. Elsesser, seconded by P. Schur to adjourn the meeting at 6 p.m. The MOTION was PASSED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert L Miller
Secretary