

Eastern Highlands Health District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Members present: R. Aylesworth (Mansfield - Virtual), J. Elsesser (Coventry), S. Powers (Scotland-Virtual), T. Nuccio (Tolland - Virtual), M. Walter (Columbia - Virtual), B. Foley (Tolland - Virtual)

Staff present: R. Miller, M. Brosseau

J. Elsesser called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm

Approval of Minutes T. Nuccio made a MOTION seconded by S. Powers to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2023 meeting as presented. MOTION passed unanimously.

Appointment of Auditor FY22/23

M. Walter made a MOTION seconded by T. Nuccio to appoint CliftonLarsenAllen as auditor for FY22/23. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Town Reports

Columbia – M. Walter informed the board that the bank next to the town hall has been purchased. There is a possibility that a restaurant will be going in there.

Scotland – S. Powers reported that the town received a \$50,000 grant to improve the town hall.

Mansfield – R. Aylesworth informed the board that the new Elementary school has opened. They are still getting high copper in water samples throughout the building. They expect that to clear up by the fall. R. Aylesworth also reported that a raccoon was sighted at the town hall during daytime.

Tolland – T. Nuccio reported that a new farmers market will be opening on the Tolland Green. T. Nuccio also reported on a septic issue at a local café.

Coventry – J. Elsesser reported that Lakeview has signed a lease with 4 Dad's Pub. In addition the town has received a school air grant. The plan is to go out to bid by June. This will put air conditioning into the High School.

J. Elsesser reported that Congressman Courtney has directed congressional spending funds to the town for a water tower. 75% of the funding will be from the grant and 25% of funds will be from CT Water DSF funds. Hiring a well person to deal with well contamination issues. Things are still moving ahead with extending sewers in to Bolton.

Financial Report for the period ending 12/21/33

R. Miller presented an overview of the report, highlighting the salient features. T. Nuccio made a MOTION, seconded by M. Walter to accept the financial report as presented. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

B. Foley joined the meeting at 4:51pm.

Directors Report

R. Miller provided an update on the order issued for the establishment in Tolland with a septic problem.

Cosmetology Program Implementation

R. Miller reported on the implementation and progress of the program. Implementation generally going well and as planned. R. Miller recommends no changes to the sanitary code at this time.

Public Health Workforce Development and Infrastructure Grant

R. Miller reported that the Health District will receive \$229,000 this year. This will be worked into the next budget cycle. R. Miller is still waiting for guidance and contract terms from the state.

CDC Immunization and Vaccines for Children Supplemental Grant

R. Miller reported that this funding of \$185,000 will be used toward promoting and supporting vaccination programs. R. Miller is still waiting for spending guidance and contract terms from the state.

Quarterly Activity Reports for periods ending 12/31/22 and 3/31/23

R. Miller presented a brief overview of the reports and offered to answer any questions. R. Miller noted that some COVID-19 activities are winding down at the state and federal level. EHHD will continue with vaccinations, education and infection control for the foreseeable future.

R. Miller updated the board on the FDA Food Code implementation. He went over the background. He noted that local LHD and EHHD are scrambling to implement the new code. Staff training, orientation for businesses, new tracking software and new operational protocols are in development. R. Miller also noted that inspections have slowed due to the new form.

R. Miller reported that the Itinerant Food Vendor MOU was executed in March 2023. IFVs can now travel to participating jurisdictions without additional permits and fees. This supports small businesses.

R. Miller asked members to notify us if they have any ideas on where to set up opioid harm reduction risks at high volume town events.

CADH Bill Tracking Report

R. Miller called attention to 2(two) bills:

Bill HB5902 Local public health departments will be required to post to website restaurants that are in or out of compliance with food allergies training.

Bill HB6727 Lead bill – implementation of lower blood level standards. CADH will be investigating why the office of fiscal analysis indicated that no funding is being given to local health for this initiative.

Northeast District Department of Health Per Capita Increase - Implications

An increase in per capita fees at NDDH has lead to some of the towns in that district reaching out to other districts to join a new district. R. Miller outlined concerns with adding additional town(s) at this time. By consensus the board concurred with R. Miller's recommendation to not take on any new towns at this time.

Health District staffing update – job opening

R. Miller informed the board that Holly Hood will be retiring June 2nd. Recruiting for her replacement is being done now.

Communication/Other

DPH re: Meet & Greet with new DPH Leadership Team

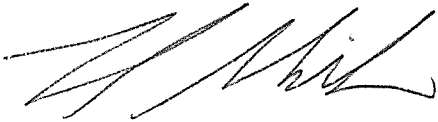
R. Miller informed the board that DPH will be scheduling a meeting with the district. At that time the board will be notified.

Adjournment

R. Aylesworth made a MOTION, seconded by M. Walter to adjourn the regular meeting at 5:20 pm. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Next Board Meeting – June 15, 2023, 4:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Miller

Secretary

