

Eastern Highlands Health District  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes  
Coventry Town Hall Annex  
Thursday, October 20, 2016

**Members present:** J. Elsesser (Coventry), M. Hart (Mansfield), R. Field (Tolland), E. Paterson (Mansfield), J. Stille (Bolton), B. Syme (Scotland), D. Walsh (Coventry), M. Walter (Columbia), S. Werbner via phone (Tolland)

**Staff present:** R. Miller, B. Clinton, M. Brosseau

**Call to Order:** E. Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

**Approval of minutes of August 18, 2016**

J. Stille made a MOTION, seconded by M. Walter to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2016 meeting as presented. MOTION PASSED with R. Field abstaining.

**Introduction of Brian Clinton**

R. Miller introduced Brian Clinton, EHHD Community Health and Wellness Coordinator. Brian was welcomed by the Board.

**Community Wellness Survey Results Presentation**

R. Miller introduced Russ Melmed, epidemiologist from Ledge Light Health District. R. Melmed was contracted to analyze the community wellness survey data compiled by DataHaven. His presentation to the board was a highlight of this analysis.

Following the presentation, R. Miller noted that next steps would include a full community health assessment leading to a community health improvement plan.

**EHHD Substance Abuse Workgroup – objectives & budget**

Under direction from the Board, R. Miller organized a workgroup to look at opiod substance abuse in the EHHD community. R. Miller presented an overview of the objectives identified by this group that has met 3 times. The group is actively engaged in the process of planning a public forum. The forum is scheduled for February 8, 2017 at Tolland High School. The keynote speaker will be Greg Williams, a national leader in the field of recovery.

J. Stille made a MOTION, seconded by D. Walsh to authorize additional spending up to \$5000 from the general fund in support of a substance abuse public forum event scheduled for the winter of 2017.

R. Miller made an additional point that he is hoping for town contributions to this event. J. Stille questioned if there was a snow date. R. Miller noted the snow date is 2/28/17. J. Elsesser recognized the efforts made on the topic.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

R. Miller noted that a follow up email will be sent to the workgroup and copied to the Board

### **FY 2017 DPH Lead Grand Application**

R. Miller informed the board that this is a grant that is received annually and is used to administer the health district lead protection program. The deadline for submitting the application was the end of September.

M Hart made a MOTION, seconded by R. Field to ratify the Eastern Highlands Health District SFY 2017 Lead Poisoning Prevention Financial Assistance Application as presented on October 20, 2016. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

### **Proposed 2017 Regular Meeting Schedule**

R. Miller presented the proposed 2017 regular meeting schedule. R. Field made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille to adopt the Eastern Highland Health District Board of Directors 2017 regular meeting schedule as presented. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

### **Finance Committee**

#### **Financial Report, period ending 9/30/16**

R. Miller informed the board that the finance committee met and accepted the report for the period ending 9/30/2016.

### **Chairs Report**

#### **DPH Proposal to consolidate Connecticut Local Health Departments**

R. Miller gave a brief overview of the proposal. Discussion ensued. M. Hart suggested that perhaps the Board should issue a letter. It is the sentiment of the board that this proposal is not realistic, and further, the director will keep the board informed on this matter.

### **Executive Session**

M. Hart made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille to enter Executive Session at 6:15 PM. MOTION passed unanimously. Executive Session ended at 6:22 PM

R. Field made a MOTION, seconded by J. Sille to add the Director's compensation to the agenda. MOTION passes unanimously.

M. Hart made a MOTION, seconded by J. Stille for a 2.5% annual salary increase for the Director of Health retroactive to July 1, 2016. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

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### **Adjournment**

R. Field made a MOTION, seconded by M. Hart to adjourn at 6:28 PM. MOTION passed unanimously.

**Next Board Meeting, December 15, 2016, 4:30 PM at Coventry Town Hall Annex**

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Miller  
Secretary