

Eastern Highlands Health District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
Audrey P. Beck Building, Mansfield
Thursday, January 15, 2015

Members present: J. Elsesser (Coventry), R. Field (Tolland), M. Hart (Mansfield), M. Paquette (Columbia), P. Schur (Willington), J. Stille (Bolton), D. Walsh (Coventry), S. Werbner (Tolland)

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

Scheduled Business – Public Hearing – Proposed Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budgets and Fee Schedule

J. Elsesser opened the public hearing at 4:37.

No public comments.

J. Elsesser closed the Public hearing at 4:38.

J. Elsesser called the regular meeting to order at 4:38.

J. Stille made a MOTION seconded by R. Field to adopt the minutes of the December 29, 2014 regular meeting with a correction noted by R. Miller that the start date for Sherry McGann was December 29. MOTION PASSED unanimously, with D. Walsh and P. Schur abstaining.

Proposed Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budgets and Fee Schedule

R. Field made a MOTION seconded by J. Stille to adopt the fiscal year 2015/2016 operating budget, CNR budget and fee schedule as presented. The operating budget includes a \$5.01 per capita member town assessment and a \$791,691 in total spending. The CNR budget includes \$49,890 in total spending. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

R. Miller commented that an additional motion needs to be made to increase the employee cost share contribution.

S. Werbner made a MOTION seconded by J. Stille to increase the employee contribution to health insurance premiums by 1% for a total of 14%. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Town Reports

Columbia M. Paquette informed the board that the town of Columbia is working on a pump-out ordinance for properties near the lake.

Mansfield M. Hart reported to the board that a petition for public hearing has been submitted regarding the CT Water project. The sewer project is in the design phase. And redevelopment of the property previously known as Zenny's is underway.

Tolland S. Werbner informed the board that there will be a Public Hearing with the Planning and Zoning commission regarding allowing drive-thru restaurants in Tolland.

Coventry J. Elsesser reported that the town of Coventry is applying for a small community water grant to bring water to the village. The bridge on route 275 over the Willimantic River will be replaced sometime in the near future. And there will be construction on Lake street and Cross street as sidewalks and drainage are added. CVS donated a drug lock box

to the town for the purpose of allowing people to drop off unwanted medications. The box is in the lobby of the police station.

Directors Report

Advocacy R. Miller gave a brief overview of pending bills related to public health.

Quarterly Activity Report R. Miller noted that in the FY 15 first quarter report number of deep test pits is up, septic repairs have increased, b100a reviews are down slightly; complaints are up significantly. The decline in food service inspections is due to the vacancy of a sanitarian position. R. Miller speculated that the increase in well permits is due to new houses and an aging housing population.

Strategic Plan Update R. Miller reported that a date has been set for a kick off meeting with View Point for January 20. After this he will have a better timeframe for implementation of the new software.

Chairs Report

Board quorum discussion R. Miller reminded the board that the purpose of this discussion is to come up with options for obtaining board quorum. Some of the ideas include creating rosters of potential candidates for those towns not represented, changes in the by-laws, reduction of the number of town reps for quorum. J. Stille suggested that if a town doesn't appoint someone, then that should not count against the quorum in the by-laws. Voting by proxy was also suggested. Further discussion was deferred to the next board meeting. J. Stille will reach out to Andover and R. Field will reach out to Ashford.

Communications

DPH re: Seasonal Influenza

K. Dardick presented updated information on the increase in influenza activity. He also spoke on the pneumonia vaccine Prevnar 13 and its current use in adults.

DPH re: Connecticut 4th Healthiest State

R. Miller shared with the board that Connecticut is the 4th healthiest state and within Connecticut, Tolland County is the healthiest county.

CDC re: Ebola Case count

R. Miller gave a brief update on ebola.

Adjournment

J. Stille made a MOTION seconded by R. Field to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 pm.

Next Board Meeting – February 19, 2015, 4:30 PM at Coventry Town Hall Annex

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Miller
Secretary