

Eastern Highlands Health District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 18, 2016

Members present J. Elsesser (Coventry), R. Field (Tolland), M. Hart (Mansfield), M. Kurland (Mansfield), N. Nau (Columbia), E. Paterson (Mansfield), P. Schur (Willington), J. Stille (Bolton), D. Walsh (Coventry), S. Werbner (Tolland)

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

Call to Order: E. Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

Approval of minutes of January 21, 2016

J. Stille made a MOTION, seconded by R. Field to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2016 meeting as presented. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Plan4Health Initiative Presentation

A Makuch showed the video created to introduce the Plan4Health Initiative. In addition, she presented to the board the progress being made in this initiative.

Town Reports

Mansfield

M. Hart reported on the following:

- 2 new restaurants have opened in Mansfield- Blaze Pizza and Little Aladdin Restaurant
- Good progress is being made by CT Water on the water project. It is about 60% complete with expectation of 100% completion by the end of summer 2016. The sewer project has been delayed due to EIP.
- Enrollment projections at UConn are leveling off and may affect those who own Apartment complexes. UConn has been asked to present at the Town Council meeting next month
- The Be Well program continues to be quite successful. There was a significant increase in the number of individuals receiving the full incentive in the Rewards program. In addition, Be Well has been assisting with the adoption of smoke free campus policies by providing cessation resources.

M. Hart initiated a discussion about lead in drinking water and requested that R. Miller talk about it further.

R. Miller reported on the efforts done by EHHD to get information to the public about this issue. In addition to efforts completed a press release is being considered.

Tolland

S. Werbner inquired of M. Hart if he thought UConn would consider another quarterly meeting to update the surrounding towns about issues at UConn. M. Hart will follow up with UConn.

S. Werbner thanked R. Miller for his assistance with a consent order regarding a DEEP issue.

Columbia

N. Nau reported on the following

- The DEEP issue regarding the random inventory of dams.
- A new salt shed may be built as the current one is not DEEP compliant.
- Hoarding issue continues
- The meeting place is being transitioned into a museum
- Progress is being made on the library
- A septic pump out ordinance for the properties around the lake is in the works.
- An ordinance regarding fertilizer and pesticide use around the lake is being considered
- Looking to add an AED to the Town hall
- Development of a 55+ community has been delayed
- Wellness program options are being considered
- There is a new hair salon on Route 6

Bolton

J. Stille reported that there will be a meeting with Coventry to discuss the extension of sewers into Coventry.

Coventry

J. Elsesser reported on the following:

- Transitioning the farmer's market to the town is going well. Mountain Dairy has committed as a sponsor and Whole Foods will be donating 5% of 1 day sales.
- Ongoing work to change the traffic flows on Main street
- A grant will be used to redo Lake & Cross Street which will include the extension of sewers.
- CT Water has replaced the water lines in the Villages
- Discussions with DEEP are ongoing regarding the hydrilla in the lake. The cost to treat with herbicide would be \$24,000 per year.
- The Fly Board study has revealed that fly boards are bad for lakes.
- Insurance companies are requiring inspections of foundations before insuring new policies.
- Contract for ambulance staffing has been signed with Vintech.
- Coventry police chief will be attending a conference regarding Narcan

Director's Report

R. Miller reported on budget implications. Health insurance premiums will be increasing by 18% resulting in a \$9100 gap in the budget for next fiscal year. R. Miller is exploring options and has preliminary comparisons in the works with towns of Mansfield, Tolland, Coventry and Region 19. Information will be brought to the next Personnel Committee meeting for discussion of the options.

J. Elsesser suggested the state plan. R. Miller will research.

R. Miller reported that the Health department line in the Governor's budget appears to be a decrease of 12.3% which may result in an additional \$10,000 gap in the EHHD budget.

Quarterly Activity Report

R. Miller directed attention to the histograms showing that EHHD is ahead on soil testing suggesting that more raw property is being looked at district wide. Complaints have increased over last year. And, Food service inspections have significantly increased. A decrease in food service inspections will be seen in the next quarter due to a vacancy in the near future.

S. Werbner inquired of R. Miller if assessments of individual towns will be increased due to the budgetary issues. R. Miller noted that contingency plans will be developed.

The finance committee will meet before the April board meeting to discuss contingency plans.

Strategic Plan Progress

R. Miller reported that the online permit tracking implementation is progressing slowly and incrementally. 4 health departments are meeting biweekly with View Permit to make the product useable for all CT Health Departments.

A meeting of R. Miller, Chair Paterson and the CT DPH will be happening in the near future regarding the issue of "entire time". In the interest of full disclosure, R. Miller made the full board aware that he works as a part-time seasonal employee at Mt. Snow, Vermont on weekends during the winter months.

Communications

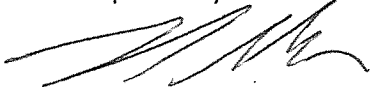
K. Dardick noted that the board should stay alert to the zika issue. While zika is a non-issue in our community now, it could become an issue anytime.

Adjournment

J. Stille made a MOTION, seconded by R. Field to adjourn at 6:15 pm. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Next Board Meeting, April 21, 2016, 4:30 PM at Coventry Town Hall Annex

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Miller
Secretary

