

Eastern Highlands Health District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
Audrey P. Beck Building, Mansfield
Thursday, February 19, 2015

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

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

J. Elsesser called the meeting to order at 4:37pm.

J. Stille made a MOTION seconded by M. Paquette to adopt the minutes of the January 15, 2015 regular meeting with a correction noted by J. Stille that Under "Budget quorum discussion" it should read "J. Stille suggested that if a town doesn't appoint someone, then that should not count against the quorum in the by-laws." MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Public Comments None

Old Business None

New Business

Main office space reorganization-FY14/15 CNR Proposed Budget Amendment/spending authorization

R. Miller presented an overview of the plan to reorganize the space in the main office. After investigating space expansion options, it was concluded that reorganizing the existing main office space what the best option. The finance committee passed a motion to recommend that that full board allocate up to \$22,000. It was noted that this recommendation is aligned with the agency strategic plan priorities.

Discussion ensued about options for furniture purchases and layouts. M. Hart asked that he have the opportunity to review this one on one with R. Miller. After further discussion, R. Field made a MOTION seconded by S. Werbener to table the item to the next meeting. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Directors Report

Financial Report R. Miller reported that the governor's recommended biannual budget preserves funding to local public health. R. Miller informed the board that EHHD was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the American Planning Association in partnership with the American Public Health Association.

Quarterly Activity Report Strategic Plan Update R. Miller reported that progress continues on the implementation of Viewpoint. Information was gathered from the assessor of each town. An additional request will be forthcoming, asking that regular data be provided.

R. Miller informed the board that several staff members attended Customer Service Training offered by Connecticut Conference of Municipalities.

Town Reports

Mansfield M. Hart informed the board that the development at the four corners is progressing. Public America will be adding a drive-thru for the Dunkin Donuts and there will be 2 restaurants opening in the property formerly known as Zenny's.

Coventry J. Elsesser announced that this will be the last season for Coventry Regional Farmers Market current organizers.

Advocacy R. Miller reported that CADH Advocacy Committee identified priorities of bills that included: cottage food & home bakeries, as well as hoarding, e-cigarettes and tobacco issues and pesticides in schools.

J. Elsesser requested that they also follow the issue of opiate restrictions.

Communications

NBC CT re: Salmonella Secret R. Miller brought to the boards' attention this item that highlights how the CT State statutes protect not only the individual(s) involved in an outbreak, but also the establishment

DPH re: Measles information for area providers R. Miller brought to the attention of the board the efforts being made regarding the domestic outbreak of Measles. This outbreak has an epicenter of California and is spreading across the states. There is a chance of it reaching Connecticut. An effort is being made toward leaning forward and proactively reaching out to schools to identify those that are not immune. K. Dardick spoke of the extreme contagiousness the disease. M. Kurland spoke about the preparedness efforts at the University of Connecticut.

D. Dardick mentioned that flu cases are on a downward trend.

Discussion ensued about the issue of hoarding and how it is becoming a growing issue in public health.

J. Elsesser informed the board, for the good of the order, that he received an email stating that budgets for Regional Mental Health boards and Youth Services Bureaus have been zeroed and the budget for Regional Action councils has been cut almost in half in the Governor's recommended biannual budget.

Adjournment

J. Stille made a MOTION seconded by R. Field to adjourn the meeting at 5:28 pm.

Next Board Meeting – April 23, 2015, 4:30 PM at Coventry Town Hall Annex

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Miller
Secretary