

Eastern Highlands Health District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 20, 2011
1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT
Coventry Town Hall Annex

Members Present: J. Elsesser, M. Hart, J. Luiz (via teleconference), M. Kurland, E. Paterson, P. Schur, J. Stille, S. Werbner, D. Walsh

Staff Present: R. Miller, K. Dardick (5:10), M. Brosseau

Members Absent: F. Daniels, R. Fletcher, C. Mailhos (Alternate), T. Tully, M. Zambo (Alternate), Andover Appointee (vacant), Scotland Appointee (vacant)

E. Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:40pm.

J. Stille made a MOTION, seconded by P. Schur to approve the minutes of August 18, 2011 meeting as presented. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Public Comments None

Old Business None

New Business

1. Proposed 2012 Regular Meeting Schedule

MOTION made by J. Elsesser, seconded by M. Kurland to adopt the Eastern Highlands Health District Board of Directors 2012 regular meeting schedule as amended. The December 20, 2012 meeting was amended and rescheduled to December 13, 2012. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

2. Public Health Preparedness Grant #2012-1073 - ratification

MOTION made by M. Hart seconded by D. Walsh to ratify the Public Health Preparedness Grant, Contract # 2012-1073, as signed and submitted by the Director of Health to the Connecticut Department of Public Health. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Town Reports

Mansfield: M. Hart reported that the Storrs center project is continuing. The health district will become involved with that project eventually as there will be restaurants on the first floor.

New tenants at College mart plaza will be Petco and Farmer's Cow.

The four corners water and sewer project continues. The town of Mansfield and UConn are working together to jointly conduct an Environmental Impact Evaluation to bring additional water to serve town and university. A draft of the Environmental Impact Evaluation is expected to be completed by January.

B. Patterson expressed her appreciation of the partnership between UConn and town administration in response to hurricane Irene.

Tolland: S. Werbner reported that the town of Tolland is applying for a water diversion permit and a solid waste plan.

Coventry: D. Walsh asked to revisit the issue of school lunches. There was discussion about the role that the EHHD BOD should have with this issue. M. Hart suggested that a summit be convened to start an awareness discussion with the Boards of Education. R. Miller reported that this falls in line with the mission of the ACHIEVE initiative. J. Elsesser suggested that regionalization of food services be considered. D. Walsh will prepare a list of questions that each town can then bring to school officials. The objective of which is to conduct an assessment of existing and current practices.

J. Elsesser reported that the 3 part sewer study will finish in December.

Bolton: J. Stille reported that phase 3 of the sewer project continues. J. Stille stated that a Thai restaurant will be opening in Bolton.

Subcommittee Reports

3. Healthcare pooling opportunities update

S. Werbner reported that Eastconn is planning a meeting in November. At this meeting the bylaws will be introduced.

Chairs Report

4. Directors FY2012 compensation

J. Elsesser forwarded a recommendation from the joint Financial and Personnel committee to the full board that there be a multiyear action plan for wages. MOTION made by J. Elsesser, seconded by J. Stille that the board accept the multiyear action plan for staff wages forwarded from the joint Financial and Personnel committee. First year of the plan includes approval of a 2% increase in wages for staff not eligible for step increase and a 0% increase for staff that are eligible for step for FY12, effective 7/1/2011. Second year of plan includes a 1% staff wage increase for FY13.

Discussion ensued. M. Hart asked about the integrity of the pay ranges. R. Miller stated that plans are underway to modify the pay plan. S. Werbner suggested it is a risk to lock in at a 1% increase for FY13 since there is still unknowns regarding cost of other staff compensations benefits. J. Elsesser suggested this motion can be changed at a later date and provides budgeting guidance for next year.

The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

J. Elsesser made a MOTION seconded by J. Stille to authorize the district to cover the Executive Director's position under long-term disability insurance effective July 1, 2012. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Directors Report

Quorum lost with departure of J. Luiz at 5:15 pm.

5. Community Transformation Grants

R. Miller reported that the State DPH was awarded the Community Transformation Grant by the DHHS; EHHD share of the reward is expected to be \$83, 900 per year for 5 years. EHHD is the fiduciary for Tolland County. This will fund an expansion of the ACHIEVE initiative.

6. Action Institute/Leadership Farm to Table Breakfast

R. Miller reported that the Action Institute was a success with 85% attendance. The leadership farm to table breakfast will be rescheduled.

7. Quarterly financial report for period ending 9/30/2011

R. Miller reported that the finance committee met and voted to accept the quarterly reports for the period ending 9/30/2011. R. Miller noted that the fee for services revenues are down as compared to the same time last year.

8. Annual FY2011 Reports

R. Miller presented the FY11 Annual report. R. Miller provided an overview of the report content and stated that the district is finding difficulty meeting minimum mandates. District staff conducted 67% of mandated routine food service inspections in FY11. Cosmetology inspections continue to be an unfunded and unimplemented mandate.

8a. After Action Report for Hurricane Irene

R. Miller presented the report and highlighted strengths and weaknesses in the district response identified in the report.

Communications

9. CCM re: Draft legislative proposal establishing a council within DPH to ensure local health representation

R. Miller provided background on new legislation. Objective is to obtain capacity for local health to exercise more influence over DPH decisions affecting local resources.

Adjournment at 6:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Miller
Secretary