



MONMOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION NO. 1

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Giles called the meeting to order 11:30 a.m. He then led the Regional Board of Health in the salute to the flag. President Roman next read the "Open Public Meeting Act Statement".

ROLL CALL:

Boro of Brielle – Denise Murphy, Fair Haven – Theresa Casagrande, Little Silver – Dr. Tim Sullivan, Ocean Twp. – Vinnie Buttiglieri, Township of Middletown – Rich DeBenedetto, Rumson – Therese Wollman, Sea Bright – Dr. Meg Fisher, Shrewsbury Boro- Paul Roman, Spring Lake – Mary Anne Donahue, Spring Lake Heights – Dr. Len Giles, Boro of Tinton Falls -Doreen Hoffmann, Boro of West Long Branch – Stephanie Dollinger

Upon completion of the roll call, the Secretary reported that a quorum was present.

ABSENT:

Allenhurst – Donna Campagna, Deal - Stephen Carasia, Boro of Interlaken – Lori Reibrich, Loch Arbour – Marilyn Simons, Boro of Monmouth Beach -Joe Nardone, Sea Girt – Diane Anthony, Boro of Tinton Falls,

OTHERS PRESENT:

David A. Henry, Health Officer, Sal Alfieri, Esq (remote), Stephen Gallagher, CFO (remote)

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

OPEN SESSION:

CLOSED SESSIONS:

Approved Minutes January 25, 2022

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Hiring of REHS 1 – person has been working with the Manalapan Health Department, and came highly recommended as she has been interning with the Long Branch Health Department for several months. Hirer at the midrange guide for basic inspector at \$50K.

RESOLUTION 2021-81

Paul Roman, Shrewsbury motioned to approve the Resolution 2021-81, seconded by Dr. Tim Sullivan, Little Silver.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fair Haven	Yes	Shrewsbury	Yes
Little Silver	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Ocean Twp	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Rumson	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes
Sea Bright	Yes	West Long Branch	Yes

VOTE: 11 Ayes,0 Nay, 0 Abstain
Motion Carries.

RESOLUTION 2021-82

Hire Communicable Disease Investigator at a salary of \$44, 000.

Dr. Tim Sullivan, Little Silver motioned to approve the Resolution 2021-81, seconded by Paul Roman, Shrewsbury.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fair Haven	Yes	Shrewsbury	Yes
Little Silver	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Ocean Twp	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Rumson	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes
Sea Bright	Yes	West Long Branch	Yes

VOTE: 11 Ayes,0 Nay, 0 Abstain
Motion Carries.

RESOLUTION 2021-80

PART TIME CFO.

We are delaying this because the candidate has taken another position and she is working for our auditor. Steve and the committee that interviewed her thought she was great, but we will have to talk with Bob Swisher and see if we can use her and hire someone else as our auditor.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Nothing at this time

CLOSED SESSION:

Resolution 2021-84

Contracts and negotiations

Vinnie Buttiglieri, Ocean Township motioned to enter CLOSED SESSION for the purpose of Contracts and Negotiations, seconded by Theresa Casagrande, Fair Haven.

Closed Session ended at 11:45 a.m.

BUDGET AND FINANCE:

At our last meeting we put forth an assessment to change our methodology. Since that time, we have learned that Ocean Township has given their six (6) month notice that they are leaving, and that took us by surprise. We need to find out where we want to go forward, I need to speak with all Administrators, and find out their feeling about the Commission. I have received responses from several towns and it seems what they really want is a limited number of services at the least possible cost they can get.

Comment was made that Ocean has given their notice, Shrewsbury is leaving, and Red Bank and Wall recently left. I think that indicates there needs to be a good internal look at what is going on, and are there things the commission can do more effectively than going on your own or with the county.

Dr. Meg Fisher added that she is disappointed that people don't seem to see the value of global health department especially now in the midst of a pandemic. Just wanting to get as many services as you can as cheaply as you can is really a sad place we have ended up.

Steve Gallagher added that he has worked up a rough budget for 2022. Right now, I am feeling that overall appropriations will go down about \$200,000 +/- and that is mainly due to going from five REHS to three, with the retirement of the Principal REHS. The loss of Mike and replacing him with lower salaries we have been able to realize some savings. For the November meeting I am going to present a budget that shows our current method with the towns we have, and a proposed method to use for towns that are over the county. Of course, without Ocean and Shrewsbury the percentages for the weighted average workload and the population changes. Probably putting more stress on Tinton Falls, and West Long Branch.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

No report at this time

CFO REPORT:

Steve Gallagher questioned the REHS salary range, and Dave Henry responded that it is \$57,000-\$75,000, but we still haven't met with the union and those ranges will change with new contract.

Mr. Gallagher asked if it was prudent to hire someone in that range with Ocean leaving. Dave feels if it's an internal promotion it would be. We had originally discussed bringing the REHS to parity but based on further information it has come to our attention that people are looking for more money than that.

Mr. Gallagher reminded everyone that we are already looking at a difficult budget for 2022. Len suggested advertising more and see what come in.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

Len – Office Coordinator/Commission Secretary has not been filled. I am disappointed that two months have passed and we have only done one interview, and that was an internal interview that was unreasonable. Dave needs to do a better job.

Dave- Len, I appreciate the help in going through all the applicants, but with one of our principal REHS leaving I have had to refocus my efforts to get someone to do data bases as well, and staff. I will be looking forward to get the commissions blessing to hire someone between now and the next meeting.

In regard to the REHS 2 position we have one internal applicant from the REHS 1 staff person. I have only had one applicant for the Principal REHS position.

The accounting clerk / HR position has had no applicants at this time. There might be some good applicants for the accounting clerk position from those who applied for the Office Coordinator. I will keep you apprised.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Resolution 2021-85

Resolution to amend the budget. We weren't able to get it on in September agenda because it arrived on the same day, this authorizes us to amend the budget so we can spend it.

MaryAnne Donahue, Spring Lake motion to approve Resolution 2021-85 to amend the budget, seconded by Dr. Meg Fisher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fair Haven	Yes	Shrewsbury	Yes
Little Silver	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Ocean Twp	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Rumson	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes
Sea Bright	Yes	West Long Branch	Yes

VOTE: 11 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain
Motion Carries.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

We don't have any monthly bills; we have had some employees out on leave so we couldn't get those done in time for this meeting.

HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT:

This has been a very busy month. We have received checks close to \$100,000 this week, and all grants are moving forward. We have had some difficulty with the Lead Grant because the laboratory strips used to test he blood of children have been recalled.

We have been very successful with the Vaccine Grant. Colts Neck is our shared services partner for this, and we have ordered 100 doses of the children's formulation from Pfizer so we expect to be ready with the CDC passes the approval for that.

We are offering Boosters to the First Responders with the Little Silver EMS. We are reaching out to schools to see if they want to hold clinics.

I want to thanks our health partners, the VNA of Central New Jersey and Walgreen's who have been vaccinating.

I have had several discussions with the REHS staff and I am feeling very optimistic about the future.

Communicable Disease has been on target in getting all reporting and investigations done. We recently worked together with Colts Neck to investigate a West Nile virus complaint. Our staff worked with the Monmouth County mosquito control commission to detail and coordinate spraying.

Public Health departments across the state are looking to receive \$100 million dollars over the next two years, and that will have a measurable impact on our budgets for the next two years. I estimate we will receive between \$400,000- \$500,000 each year for the next two years.

Dr. Meg Fisher made a motion to approve the Health Officer's Report, seconded by Dr. Tim Sullivan.

VOTE: Unanimous by those in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Paul Roman has prepared a Pandemic Preparedness document to use a template in case there is another pandemic. This is a document based on a Covid response plan, and has been generalized for anything in regard to future outbreaks. We will now call it the MCRHC preparedness and response plan for a community wide viral outbreak. I would like to move the document for approval as a commission plan.

Paul Roman motioned to accept the MCRHC Preparedness Response Plan, seconded by Dr. Meg Fisher.

VOTE: Unanimous by those in attendance.

Accreditation Project Update:

Extension for Accreditation Grant. We are working closely with the Liaison from PHAB. We will be submitting document to make sure we are on the path, and should be finished before the March 29, 2021 deadline for review and submission. Len asked if we would be finished by end of year, and Dave said he hoped so.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave said he is looking for the commission's blessing to get some initial hiring for the office coordinator, and Payroll clerk prior to next meeting to be memorialized by the next meeting.

President Giles said OK, as long as Human Resources Committee reviews this.

Steve Gallagher says we should hold off until next meeting given the budget situation.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Giles- I am calling all the administrator, and in a couple of weeks I will email everyone, administrators and commissioner the summary of what I have found and then we can move forward. The whole idea is to keep everyone in the commission, and at a reasonable price. Keeping everyone would be helpful to the group as a whole.

Dr. Sullivan responded that this underscores what Dr. Meg Fisher said earlier. There has to be a demonstration of value to stay with the commission with what we can provide more locally and I think that what's important going forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned
Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Pro Tem

Approved Minutes January 25, 2022