



NEW JERSEY LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Regular Meeting Location

South Brunswick Municipal Building

540 Ridge Avenue * South Brunswick, New Jersey

P.O. Box 5069 * Kendall Park, NJ 08824

October 16, 2021* Meeting held Virtually

The Regular Meeting of the New Jersey Local Boards of Health Association was called to order by Chairman Christine Harris at 11:00 am followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: George DiFerdinando, Steve Papenberg, Paul Roman, John Saccenti, Laura O'Reilly–Stanzilis, Nancy Wilson, Christine Harris

Absent: Jerry Grayson, Jo Hochman, Michael Richmond, Robert Uhrik, Joan Valas

Approval of Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2021

The motion to approve the meeting minutes dated *June 19, 2021* was first moved by Mr. Papenberg, seconded by Mr. Saccenti, all in favor by voice vote included DiFerdinando, Papenberg, Roman, Saccenti, Harris

Abstain: Wilson

July 10, 2021

The motion to approve the meeting minutes dated *July 10, 2021* was first moved by Mr. Saccenti, seconded by Mr. Papenberg, all in favor by voice vote included Lukenda, Papenberg, Roman, Saccenti, Harris

Abstain: DiFerdinando, Wilson

September 25, 2021

The meeting did not have a quorum, however treasurer report was provided.

The motion to approve the expenditures discussed at the meeting dated *September 25, 2021* was first moved by Dr. DiFerdinando, seconded by Mr. Saccenti, all in favor by voice vote included Papenberg, Roman, Saccenti and Harris

Abstain: DiFerdinando, Lukenda

Chair Harris announced that the League of Municipalities will be held live November 16–18, 2021 in Atlantic City. Precautions and changes will be take place due to the pandemic.

NJ Public Health Association (NJPHA) hosted their annual conference on October 10, 2021. Topic was *Diversity, Equality and Inclusion in Public Health Practices*.

Chair Harris read Bob Uhrik, President of Environmental Health Association (EHA) report on their activities for the upcoming year. CEU renewal requirements have been suspended for 2022 due to the pandemic.



Membership – Steve Papenberg

Mr. Papenberg reported on updated membership: 71. We have openings on the Board. Chair Harris announced that Laura Montenegro who was on our Executive Board resigned due to time constraints.

Mr. Saccenti did not receive an update from Councilwoman Jo Hochman.

PHACE – Paul Roman and Steve Papenberg

Legislative – Paul Roman

Mr. Roman reported that there has been no action on two legislations he has been watching. The S1 (consolidation of agencies) has passed in the Senate but will not be acted on in the Assembly until after the election. The legislation regarding the towns with a population of 30,000 that would allow the local Governing Body to be the Local Board of Health, also passed in the Senate and waiting to be addressed in the Assembly after the election.

Mr. Roman reported that there is no information on the Design Team with Kevin McNally and others who are working on with Sylvia Bookbinder and the national network of public health institutes. Mr. McNally reported that things are moving slowly at this time.

Mr. Roman reported that there was an article in Newsweek regarding the pandemic and how it is affecting the health industry.

Mr. Roman reported that NJ Dept. of Health has awarded \$800,000 for infectious funding to a number of organizations.

Mr. Roman reported that he received a letter from Senator Booker in response to his writing elected officials regarding regional health commissions' rights in NJ.

Mr. Roman reported that he recently sent the Board Executive Officers a package of stationary.

Mr. Roman reported that the NJ Public Health Association (NJPHA) has announced their award nomination forms are available for this year; should be submitted by November 1st. NJPHA has four standard awards given out annually.

Mr. Roman reported that we will be included in a newly founded publication, *Content Providers Healthcare Guide*.

Mr. Roman reported that the study we are working on, *the Face of NJ Health, Robert Wood Johnson's Study on Health* with Rutgers University. He did the final edits to the first 3 chapters; he described the topics of the other chapters. A Zoom conference registration invitation for the December 1st roll out has been sent, *Assessing Local Public Health Capacities in NJ, Challenges and Opportunities*. Mr. Roman explained who will be presenting and topics to be discussed. He encouraged the members to register for the conference.



Mr. Roman reported that the Public Health Council (PHC), announced that the cottage foods regulations have been adopted by the state. He explained how it got to this point. PHC approved in July and August they voted to rescind their approval. The next PHC meeting is scheduled for November. Mr. Roman has applied to join PHC; John and Paul had previously applied. There were further discussions regarding the cottage foods legislation; the cottage food regulation was adopted.

Mr. Roman reported that he is interested in joining the NJ Public Health Association; he sent an email August 29 with his reasons. He read an email of items from Kevin McNally, the benefits of joining NJPHA. Organization membership fee is \$250 which will allow five members to participate. Mr. Saccenti is already a member; he receives a number of valuable informational emails from NJPHA.

Mr. Papenberg made the motion to join NJPHA for the 2022 year. Chair Harris asked if this would conflict with PHACE; there were further discussions and benefits of joining NJPHA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Saccenti, all in favor by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Stephen Papenberg

Mr. Papenberg reported that as of Sept. 30, balance is \$9,862.41; there are some outstanding invoices that are marked to be paid:

- \$198 for Class Marker
- \$483 for new stationary
- \$200 for Recording Secretary for the months of September and October

The \$250 for joining NJPHA will be paid in 2022. Current balance after the above outstanding invoices is \$8,981.41.

The motion to accept Mr. Papenberg's financial report was first moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Roman, all in favor by voice vote.

COVID Vaccinations

Chair Harris stated that there has been talk about the booster shot and vaccination for young adults and their reactions to the vaccine.

Dr. Diferdinando stated that data is not out yet on vaccination reactions for 5–11 year-old children. Currently the Pfizer vaccine that is approved for children is a small dose; side effect data is not out yet. We will not know the full the side effect profile until we hear the full discussion of shots. Dr. Diferdinando stated that it was discussed on Oct. 15 on giving a second shot to young adults over 18. Moderna is talking about giving out half dose to young adults over 18. There was discussion on the vaccination and natural immunity and how effective it may be. Meredith Hodach–Avalos, MD also commented on the natural immunity along with vaccination.



Sustainable Jersey

Mr. Papenberg provided a brief updated on the Gold Star. Per Mr. Roman the information on Gold Star is out; was published in the League of Municipalities magazine this month.

Ms. O'Reilly–Stanzilis brought up the discussion on Board of Health Training; Rutgers has offered to assist in the past. Ms. O'Reilly–Stanzilis asked if the Executive Committee is interested in re–opening Board orientation training discussions with Rutgers. The Board is interested; she will reach out to Rutgers to discuss; not to take over our on-line certification program. Mr. Papenberg suggested Rutgers offer an orientation program about local boards of health to the students.

Ms. O'Reilly–Stanzilis commented that her organization, the North Jersey Health Collaborative is formal partnership with NJ Healthcare Quality Institute (NJHQI). She can connect this Board with NJHQI if needed. There were discussions regarding their connections with NJHQI.

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn at 12:35 pm was first moved by Mr. Papenberg, seconded by Ms. O'Reilly–Stanzilis, all in favor by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie M. Moy
Recording Secretary