



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*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM)

MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2022 * 10:15 am * By Zoom

1. Call to Order

2. Salute to the Flag

3. Attendance

- Voting EXCOM Members Present – Paul Roman, John Saccenti, Joan Valas, Steve Papenberg, George DiFerdinando, Robert Uhrik
- Past Presidents Present (other than Elected Officers) – Christine Harris, Laura O’Reilly–Stanzilis
- Staff Present (Legal Counsel, Paid Secretary, Webmaster, Interns) – Julie Moy
- Liaisons Present – None
- Guests Present – Derrick Webb, Assistant Health Director, Mt. Olive Health Department
- Excused – None
- Absent – Jeremy Grayson, Diana Lachman

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) – August 20, 2022 – MSP: Papenberg, Uhrik

5. Secretary’s Report – Including Correspondence – None

6. President’s Report – Paul Roman

President Roman sent his condolences to Ms. Harris and family for the loss of her husband, Joe Harris.

President Roman reported that we will be securing our own Zoom account. This will eliminate meeting overlaps with Mr. Saccenti’s trainings. Ms. Chelenza will set up the account; Ms. Moy will coordinate. Fee is \$149.99 annually; Mr. Papenberg will add to his list of bills.

President Roman reported that in reference to the CDC Grant, State is working on securing a large sum of money. Their proposal does not include the consideration of sharing the grant with local Boards of Health; 40% is supposed to go to the local Board of Health. The proposal is written around re–building the State’s Health Departments by building back up their staff. Once this is completed, their intentions is to secure regional staff to assist with the local Boards of Health. We do not need assistance, we need funding. The State had asked for letters of support prior to submission. PHACE issued a letter of non–support at this time until they have the opportunity to review the submission; we need to know if it would benefit the Health Departments. CDC should receive their response in November. President Roman reported his Regional Health Commission applied for funding separate from the State. There is a provision that Special Districts can apply for funding. President Roman reported that Annex A to the Orientation Manual is on our website. Annex A was initially drafted by Michael Richmond; President Roman completed the document following Mr. Richmond’s death.



President Roman reported that the NJ Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO) received approval to distribute funding to the local Health departments. Distribution will be based on a formula referencing underserved population and need with a minimum funding of \$100,000. County Health departments will receive a minimum of \$500,000. It may be a two year commitment; no one is sure at this time.

President Roman reported that he heard from Lynn Rosner from Camden County. She was working with Pascal Nwako, Camden County Health Officer, who is willing to speak with local Boards in Camden County or towns who were supposed to have Boards; he has not met with groups yet. President Roman will partner with Ms. Rosner to encourage Health departments join NJLBHA. Ms. Rosner is part of a training team in surrounding counties. Ms. Rosner is working hard to help us increase membership and is an asset to NJLBHA.

President Roman reported that he and Ms. Valas have been trying to meet to discuss and complete the Montclair State internship application. We will apply for an intern for next semester from Montclair.

President Roman reported that David Adinaro, MD, who was the Deputy Commissioner for Public Health Services, has resigned. Margaret Fisher, MD is the new Acting Deputy Commissioner.

President Roman reported that Ms. Chelenza has been working on updating our website. She has been working with President Roman on updating and revising the newsletter, *On Board*. We are now using Constant Contact to get our newsletter out. We received a report that shows our Open Rate is 28.7%; Click Rate is 1.4%. Ms. Stanzilis explained the differences between the two rates.

Ms. Stanzilis reported on the conferences she attended. Novo Nordisk invited her to attend their first Health Equity Conference in NJ with 50 key stake holders participating. Ms. Stanzilis stated that there could be opportunities for public health infrastructure funding for Board of Health Associations. She presented the opportunity for this Board to consider supporting social determinates of health and diversity, equality and inclusion in boards of health; this would provide us opportunities to make a great impact in that arena.

President Roman reported that he wrote a news article for NJACCHO and it was returned; article included information on this Board and PHACE. NJACCHO was not willing to support other organizations; they asked President Roman to revise the article. President Roman revised and returned the article to NJACCHO.

President Roman reported that there was an article on Tom Szaky, "*The Master of Trash*" in New Jersey Monthly's August edition. Mr. Szaky owns a worldwide company, TerraCycle, headquartered in Trenton. TerraCycle collects and recycles waste. TerraCycle has donated \$50 million dollars to organizations that collect and recycles waste. They also offer grants for groups who advocate for waste recycling. President Roman reported that he sent an email to TerraCycle regarding funding, on October 2, 2022; he is waiting for a response.

President Roman reported that the New Jersey Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics (NJAAP) will be hosting its 12th Annual Children's Ball on November 16, 2022. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available; President Roman asked if this Board is interested in



purchasing a half page ad for \$250. Mr. Uhrik mentioned that this event takes place the same time as the League of Municipalities. Ms. Stanzilis will send a blurb to President Roman for the ad.

Mr. Saccenti asked for the status of our participation at the League; there was discussion. President Roman read the email from NJACCHO in September, directed to the PHACE presidents. NJACCHO will be hosting a breakfast and invited one complementary ticket for each PHACE organization to attend the event.

7. Executive Vice President's Report – John Saccenti

Mr. Saccenti will draft an email to send to Health Departments encouraging them to join NJLBHA. Membership renewal letters were sent out. He opined that the email should be sent under President Roman's signature.

Mr. Saccenti revisited the issue regarding the grant; it sounds like the State Dept. of Health is manipulating the grant in their favor. If this is the case, if this Board thinks it can help, he can discuss this with Jack Ciattarelli. President Roman stated that we will handle this issue through PHACE. There were continued discussions regarding the distribution of the State funding.

Mr. Saccenti stated that we received an email from Rick Hagger from the State regarding children's mental health issues; he will respond to Mr. Hagger's email to see if funding is available.

8. Treasurer's Report – Steve Papenberg

Mr. Papenberg provided the financial report and a list of anticipated invoices.

9. Presentation and Approval of Bills– Steve Papenberg

The motion was made to authorize the payment Ms. Moy; MSP: Valas, DiFerdinando

10. Legal Counsel – No Action

11C. Membership – Steven Papenberg

Mr. Papenberg reported that we have 58 full members and 5 individual members. We received 3 new members from Union, Vineland and North Haledon. He reported that we received a number of returned mail from the Boards of Health mailing. Follow up emails will go to the Health Officers. Memberships will expire March 31.

11D. Legislative

President Roman reported that there has been no movement on the Public Health Priority Funds Bill. He will meet with Senator Gopal on a variety of topics. There has been no push from other PHACE groups to be more active and to advocate for the bill. The PHPF Bills are S2413 and A4115.

President Roman reported on the former Sweeny Bill, which was to encourage shared services between public divisions. The Bill was re-introduced in current legislative session; currently there is no movement.

President Roman reported that there is another Bill that allows Health Departments and other agencies allowing them to share services with none neighboring towns. This Bill also has not moved.



President Roman reported that PHACE has been trying to get a meeting with the Commissioner, to no avail. NJACCHO had a meeting with Shereen months ago prior to the CDC application; nothing came from the meeting. Ms. Stanzilis is on the Healthy New Jersey 2030 Action Plan Advisory Council. Part of her role is to review the action plan; the plan includes local Boards of Health and their roles. Ms. Stanzilis reported on her conversation with Jamie Weller, Assistant to Shereen. Ms. Stanzilis will be meeting with six representatives from the State Health Department to discuss the infrastructure of public health.

13. PHACE Report

President Roman reported that Linda Brown is looking for a volunteer from NJLBHA to work with volunteers from other PHACE organizations and others to support the 21 Century Learning Community (21C Grant) that NJ is part of. The study is funded through Robert Wood Johnson and others. President Roman explained the purpose of the study; to determine the cost to operate a health department. Ms. Stanzilis will contact Ms. Brown to ask what the level of commitment is and additional details. Ms. Stanzilis, Harris and Valas will discuss roles once the information is received.

President Roman reported on the Institute; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation gave two million dollars over two years to a group that will become the incubator to form a public health institute for New Jersey. Acenda Integrated Health was chosen to set up the Institute. Listening sessions will be held for the public health community explaining the plan of the Institute. PHACE members will be invited to a private session at a later date. President Roman had discussions with Melissa Fox, Chief Operating Officer for Acenda to discuss Boards of Health; he explained what was discussed. Ms. Fox is also on the Healthy New Jersey 2030 Action Plan Advisory Council along with Ms. Stanzilis and will be reviewing the action plan together. President Roman will also be meeting with Jim Curtin, Acenda's Government Affairs representative.

President Roman reported that PHACE is still trying to incorporate.

President Roman stated that articles were emailed to members; he summed up two of the articles sent by NJ Spotlight.

14. Old Business

Rutgers University

President Roman reported that once the Montclair State University internship application is completed, he will reach out to Colleen McKay Wharton, from Rutgers' School of Public Health to upgrade our training program.

President Roman received an email from Rick Haggard; Mr. Saccenti commented earlier that he will email Mr. Haggard regarding funding opportunities. President Roman explained that this is for a statewide student services support network, *NJ 4S*. They are looking for feedback on the plan they proposed. Ms. Stanzilis provided suggestions on how NJLBHA can present themselves as service providers.

President Roman stated that he sent members *Childhood Lead Exposure in New Jersey Annual Report* from NJACCHO for review.



President Roman brought up the discussion on our annual event; we do not have funding to host a live event. We may have the opportunity to have a possible panel discussion followed by an awards ceremony by Zoom. Mr. Saccenti suggested we give out awards for activities for the previous year and host an event in February.

15. New Business – None

18. Announcement of Next Meeting Date, Time, and Place

Next meeting is Saturday, November 19, 2022 beginning at 10 am by Zoom.

19. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 am

Respectfully submitted by:

Julie M. Moy
Recording Secretary