



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

November 16, 2024 * 10 am * By Zoom

1. Call to Order at 10:10 am
2. Salute to the Flag
3. Attendance
 - Voting EXCOM Members Present — Paul Roman, John Saccenti, Stephen Papenberg, Robert Uhrik, Joan Valas, Steve Ember
 - Past Presidents Present (other than Elected Officers) — Christine Harris
 - Staff Present (Legal Counsel, Paid Secretary, Webmaster, Interns) — Julie Moy
 - Liaisons Present —
 - Guests Present — Kim Laloma (Dept. of Health), Donna Lisi, Chair of the Franklin Township Board of Health Advisory Council
 - Excused — George DiFerdinando, Diana Lachman, Laura O'Reilly–Stanzilis
 - Absent —
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):
 - October 26, 2024 – MSP – Papenberg, Harris*
 - Abstain: Valas*
5. Secretary's Report, Including Correspondence: No report
6. President's Report:

President Roman reported that he was able to get a 30 minute meeting with Dr. Kaitlan Baston, the Commissioner of Health on Friday, November 15, 2024. Kevin Sumner participated in the meeting with President Roman. Their discussion included the local boards of health, structure and education, funding sources and PHACE. The Commissioner will present a chart of funding resources, *Local Health Grant Funding Through the Division of Local Public Health*, at the League of Municipalities that would support the local boards and departments. He read off the list of grants listed and will send the chart to EXCOM members after the League. They did not discuss the PHPF Bills in the Legislature, which are not moving. President Roman and Mr. Sumner spoke to the Commissioner about PHACE and its six organizations, letting the Commissioner know they would like to work with DOH. The Commissioner suggested they establish a liaison relationship. Mr. Sumner will discuss this at a PHACE meeting to see if any of the organizations object to a DOH liaison joining them.

Senator Gopal has met with some individuals regarding the Senate bill; he may be able to get some movement. However, President Roman stated that he heard that the bills may not move. The Speaker of the Assembly is not in favor of the bill.

President Roman reported that there are four organizations that are not on the Division of Local Public Health's stakeholders list; we are one of the four. President Roman has requested numerous times, to include NJLBHA, the Society of Public Health Education (SOPHE), NJPHA and NJEHA



to the stakeholders call list. President Roman sent an email to Dr. Baston informing her of this situation.

President Roman reported that they also spoke about the OPIOID settlement money that is available. When the OPIOID Advisory Council was created, he testified that local boards should be involved since they will be doing some of the work over the years. The money has been going to local councils; 221 towns and counties are eligible for the money. Dr. Baston said the local boards of health should be communicating with the local councils in their towns who are eligible.

President Roman reported that he is personally considered as a member of NJ Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO); Linda Brown is researching to confirm his membership. President Roman would like to set up an organizational relationship between NJACCHO and NJLBHA. He reported on the various membership levels NJACCHO has to offer.

President Roman stated that there are two EXCOM Member bios he still needs before he can post on the website.

The League of Municipalities: President Roman, Ms. Harris and Mr. Saccenti will attend. President Roman will attend the NJACCHO Business Meeting Luncheon. Stephanie Gorman from the Morris County Health Dept. will be the new President and Christopher Hellwig will be the new President-Elect. President Roman has again been invited to speak following the Commissioner.

President Roman reminded EXCOM that we placed an ad in the Conference of Mayors event. He reached out to Mary Zajack, Conference of Mayor's Operations Manager; she will connect him with someone from the organization.

President Roman was contacted by someone from the Borough of Raritan in Somerset County; they are having issues with their Board of Health quorum. President Roman left messages for a return call. The Borough of Raritan is a member.

7. Executive Vice President's Report — John Saccenti

Mr. Saccenti attended the DEP meeting regarding the water emergency. He provided a summary of the discussions. President Roman recited some of the water restrictions issued by the Governor and DEP.

8. Treasurer's Report — Steven Papenberg

Mr. Papenberg went over the financial report.

9. Presentation and Approval of Bills

Cary Chelenza — Postage \$292
Paul Roman — Copies (Office Max) \$85.48
Paul Roman — Supplies \$184.96
Julie Moy — October Invoice \$100

Last month's invoices:

Post Office Box \$236
Zoom Account \$195



The motion was made to authorize the payments: MSP: Saccenti, Valas

The general liability insurance policy will be coming up for payment soon.

10. Legal Counsel's Report — No report

11. Committee Reports:

A. By-Laws — No report

B. Finance — No report

C. Membership —

Mr. Papenberg reported that he received a payment from Chatham Boro, bring our membership to 60. Per President Roman, we still need to work on increasing membership to a minimum of 90 or we will need to look for grants or secure sponsorships. The second mailing went out last weekend.

D. Legislative —

President Roman reported that the PHPF Bill is not moving. Senator Gopal may be able to get it moving in the Senate through the Appropriations Committee. The Assembly Speaker does not feel the PHPF Bill is necessary. With the funding chart from the Commissioner, she understands the need for funding for foundational services.

E. Communications, Including Newsletter(s) and Website —

President Roman reported that the open rate of the *On Board* newsletter was 52.6% and the click rate was up to 27% this month.

Mr. Papenberg attended the Franklin Township, Health Advisory Council Board meeting in Somerset County. They developed strong partnerships through their Advisory Board. He summarized what was discussed. That Board is looking for Best Practices of Local Boards. Per President Roman, this was something Michael Richmond was working on before his passing. President Roman will pull together an EXCOM group to work on it. Mr. Ember stated that it is part of the Sustainable Jersey initiative, where funding opportunities are available. President Roman will reach out to his contact at Sustainable Jersey for more information. Donna Lisi stated that Mr. Papenberg's visit was informative. Following the meeting, Dr. Lisi sent an email to all their members to visit the NJLBHA website. Dr. Lisi became Chair in January; she listed the groups that they developed partnerships with. She is an active member of the *Community Health Improvement Plans* (CHIP) program. Dr. Lisi's email is drdonnalisi@gmail.com.

Mr. Papenberg will be a PHACE panel member at the NJ Society for Public Health Education's (NJSOPHE) meeting on December 6, 2024. This will be NJLBHA and PHACE's first time participating at a SOPHE meeting.

F. Audit (as necessary) — No report

G. Nominating (as necessary) — No report

12. Public Health Associations' Collaborative Effort (PHACE)



President Roman reported that the next PHACE meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2024. PHACE received \$10,000 in grant funding from the NJACCHO. PHACE logo contest is underway; President Roman submitted an entry.

President Roman opined that creating an advocacy liaison relationship with DOH is good idea; this will be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Public Health Institute (PHI)

President Roman reported that the Institute Bills have not moved. The leaders of Acenda are adamant in getting the Bills through. The Bills are needed so they can receive formal recognition as a National Public Health Institute (NPHI). Acenda had a meeting with members of the administration in the past two months and agreed to revising the wording to the bills. At the APHA meeting in Detroit, some members saw the proposed wording amending the bills, which still do not limit the amounts of control by DOH with regards funding not from the Department. The amendment was not shared at the Institute's Executive Board meeting. Dr. Denise Anderson, the new Executive Director of the Institute, met individually with each Board Member, where she shared the synopsis of the changes. The revisions to the Bills has not been published yet.

14. Public Health Council (PHC)

President Roman reported that they had their second closed meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 to discuss the procedural matters implemented by the Attorney General's office. The AG put forth limitations as to what the PHC is allowed to handle. We should be returning to open meetings next month where nominations for Vice Chair will be taken. The Public Health Council has several vacant slots; the application process is a rigorous and lengthy process.

15. Liaison Reports:

Kim Laloma stated that he is a Co-Chair on the NJPHA Advocacy Committee along with Azare Ali. They were focusing on certain bills, but they have been re-directed to focus on writing white papers. The topics for the white papers are uncertain at this time.

Mr. Laloma reported that the next Rural Health Conference will be on November 20th sponsored by the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health. Mr. Ember will attend the conference.

16. Old Business:

Training Program: President Roman is still waiting to hear back from Colleen Wharton from Rutgers's School of Public Health regarding the updates to our training program.

Interns: President Roman is still trying to secure interns to work with us. He has a new idea which he will discuss at our December meeting.

17. New Business:

President Roman asked EXCOM to come up with ideas and/or information on grants, scholarships or ways to increase membership.



Proposed 2025 Dates; MSP: Papenberg, Harris

January 18	April 12
February 15	May 17
March 15	June 21

18. Educational Presentation (as necessary) — No report
19. General Discussion — None
20. Announcement of Next Meeting:
December 14, 2042 LIVE at 10:00 am at Mr. Saccenti's home.
21. Adjournment:
Motion to adjourn at 11:30 am: MSP: Saccenti, Ember

Respectfully submitted,

Julie M. Moy
Recording Secretary