Ocean County Board of Health  
175 Sunset Avenue  
Toms River, New Jersey  
July 8, 2020  
9:30 AM  

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on July 8, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room, at 175 Sunset Avenue, Toms River, Ocean County, New Jersey, and remote participation, with Chairman John J. Mallon presiding.

1. Reading of “Open Public Meeting Act:”

2. Pledge of Allegiance:  

Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman asked everyone to remember our military servicemen and servicewomen who protect our freedom every day.

3. Roll Call:

Ms. Jennifer Bacchione – participated remotely  
Ms. Carol Blake – participated remotely  
Ms. Barbara Jo Crea – participated remotely  
Dr. Maurice Hill  
Ms. Veronica Laureigh  
Mr. Henry Mancini – participated remotely  
Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro – participated remotely  
Senator Robert Singer  
Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman

Daniel E. Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer  
John Sahradnik, Board Counsel – participated remotely  
Freeholder Gerry P. Little, Liaison to the Board of Chosen Freeholders – participated remotely

Chairman Mallon thanked everyone for their cooperation. Chairman Mallon informed the Board members of a couple members who will be getting medical procedures.

4. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

On motion made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Ms. Barbara Jo Crea and Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining, the open meeting minutes from the June 17, 2020 meeting were approved.

| Name Ayes Blakes Crea Hill Laureigh Mancini Scaturro Singer Mallon |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Ayes            | X       | X       |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Abstain         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Nays            |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Absent          |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on Resolutions 192(20) through 201(20). Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

5. Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 192(20) – Finance Committee Report – July 8, 2020 – $600,106.21 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Item #20-01326; Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Items #20-01300 and #20-01370; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Item #20-01326, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 193(20) – Personnel Committee Report – July 8, 2020 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 194(20) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Rees Scientific – vaccines and medications temperature monitoring – not to exceed $4,555.67 – for the period August 8, 2020 through August 7, 2021 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 195(20) – Authorization to accept the recommendations of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (LACADA) to allocate funds from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ocean County Board of Health to provide Innovative Programs to Ocean County residents – in a total amount not to exceed $229,936.00 – for the period June 30, 2020 through June 29, 2021 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 196(20) – Authorization to accept funding from the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders for the Recycling Enhancement Act Bonus Grant – in the amount of $60,000.00 – for the calendar year 2020 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 197(20) – Authorization to apply for the New Jersey Department of Health Overdose Fatality Review Teams grant – in an amount not to exceed $100,000.00 – for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 198(20) – Authorization to apply for the Bureau of Justice Assistance Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program Overdose Fatality Review Database Pilot Site Selection grant – in an amount not to exceed $20,000.00 – for the period September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 199(20) – Authorization to apply for the Fifth Quarter Municipal Alliance Program – in an amount not to exceed $71,980.00 – for the period July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 200(20) – Recognition of August 2020 as National Immunization Awareness Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 201(20) – Recognition of August 1-7, 2020 as World Breastfeeding Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
6. Comments: Freeholder Gerry P. Little, Liaison to the Board of Chosen Freeholders:

Comments from Freeholder Little: Freeholder Gerry Little, Liaison to the Board of Chosen Freeholders thanked the Board members for participating. Freeholder Little stated that prayers are with the members with health issues and hopes that everyone is safe.

Freeholder Little informed the Board about the County of Ocean receiving the CARES (Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security) Act funding and allocating some of the funds for disease investigation/contact tracers, testing site at Ocean County College as well as refunding the difference beyond the FEMA reimbursement of COVID expenses to the Ocean County Health Department.

7. Other Matters:

Overdose Fatality Review: Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer stated that in the NACCHO Exchange, a national publication for the National Association of County and City Health Officials is an article entitled “Ocean County Overdose Fatality Review: Conducting Social Autopsies for Answers and Action” written by Kimberly Reilly, MA, LPC, Chief of Administrative Services, Department of Substance Abuse, Addiction and Opioid Dependency of the Ocean County Health Department. The article highlights some the work done at the Ocean County Health Department over the last couple of years and some of the efforts done under Ms. Reilly’s leadership of that program.

Mr. Regenye noted that on the agenda was resolution 197(20) authorizing the Ocean County Health Department to apply for funding for $100,000 for overdose fatality review. Senator Robert Singer stated that it was his legislation that the State of New Jersey provided money for the state for this program. Mr. Regenye agreed and added that funding will be going to eight sites throughout the state.

CCMP: Mr. Regenye provided an update for CCMP (Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program). Mr. Regenye stated that the Ocean County Health Department has been collecting water samples of the public bathing beaches for testing prior to Memorial Day. Mr. Regenye noted that only two beaches had exceeded water quality standard.

Seasonal flu program: Mr. Regenye stated that meetings have been held regarding the seasonal flu vaccination program to begin regional clinics in Ocean County and everything is falling into place for that with an anticipated start date of October.

COVID-19: Mr. Regenye stated that all the Board members received COVID information in their packets. Mr. Regenye provided a quick update of some of the actions. Mr. Regenye stated that the school task force has already held several meetings. There is a summer advisory committee with the school administrators and school nurses. The Ocean County Health Department is helping them navigate the guidance that is coming from the State of New Jersey; helping with graduation taking place this week and reviewing some of the school openings for September.

This week the Ocean County College COVID testing site has opened up the testing for asymptomatic individuals without a script to be tested for COVID-19. The number of testing has increased; 100 on Monday, July 6th and today there are reservations for 105 tests.
Also this week, the contact tracing and the disease investigations has merged with the State of New Jersey efforts at Rutgers and that is going well. Mr. Regenye stated that the State of New Jersey has requested that the Ocean County Health Department identify a quarantine/isolation site within Ocean County and the Health Department is currently working with the County of Ocean on that.

Mr. Regenye commented that the positivity rates at the Ocean County College testing site has gone down considerably. The overall rate is 15.6% taking into consideration the very high number of positives in March and April. In May, June and now July the positivity rates are very low, in the low single digits.

Freeholder Little discussed the problem finding a place for isolation in Ocean County. The previous identified location was a hotel; now that it is summer, the hotels and motels are full to capacity. Senator Singer suggested contacting Encompass Health (formerly HealthSouth) that has a wing for people with COVID.

Comments from Board of Health Members: Ms. Carol Blake stated that the article Ms. Kimberly Reilly wrote that was published in the NACCHO Exchange about the Ocean County Overdose Fatality Review was absolutely phenomenal. Dr. Maurice Hill thanked Mr. Regenye for the disease profile included in the COVID information packet, it was very helpful, not just stating the number of positives but showing who seems to be most susceptible; the data broke it down nicely.

8. Comments from the Public: Comments from members of the audience were invited at this time with a limit of five (5) minutes per speaker: Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. No one wished to speak.

9. Authorization to Enter Into Closed Session If Necessary: Closed Session was not needed at this time.

Chairman Mallon reminded all that the next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2020.

10. Adjournment: A motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and the meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.