

Ocean County Board of Health  
175 Sunset Avenue  
Toms River, New Jersey  
September 23, 2020  
9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on September 23, 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 join him in honoring our military servicemen and servicewomen who protect our freedom every day.

**3. Roll Call:**

Ms. Jennifer Bacchione  
Ms. Carol Blake  
Ms. Barbara Jo Crea  
Dr. Maurice Hill  
Ms. Veronica Laureigh  
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

**4. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:**

On motion made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, the open meeting minutes from the September 2, 2020 meeting were approved.

Name	Bacchione	Blake	Crea	Hill	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Abstain									
Nays									
Absent						X			

Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on Resolutions 251(20) through 263(20) noting an amendment to resolution 252(20). Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

## 5. Adoption of Resolutions:

**Resolution 251(20)** – Finance Committee Report – September 23, 2020 – \$445,393.97 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, with Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Item #20-01894; Ms. Veronica Laureigh abstaining on Item #20-01789; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Item #20-01894, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 252(20)** – Personnel Committee Report – September 23, 2020 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 253(20)** – Authorization for a one time change on the accumulation and usage of vacation leave time – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 254(20)** – Authorization to extend the lease agreement with Beth Medrash Govoha of America – for a period of five years – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 255(20)** – Authorization to continue the consultant services agreement with New Hope Integrated Behavioral Health Care – 12 hour IDRC program – for the period October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 256(20)** – Authorization to extend the 48 hour IDRC component to New Hope Integrated Behavioral Health Care – for the period November 10, 2019 through December 31, 2020 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 257(20)** – Authorization to accept the New Jersey Department of Health Childhood Lead Exposure Prevention Project Grant – in an increased amount not to exceed \$27,165.00 – new revised total not to exceed \$222,165.00 – for the period July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 258(20)** – Authorization to apply for the New Jersey Department of Health Childhood Lead Exposure Prevention Project Grant – in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 – for the period October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 259(20)** – Recognition of October 18-24, 2020 as International Infection Prevention Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 260(20)** – Recognition of October 23-31, 2020 as Red Ribbon Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 261(20)** – Recognition of October 2020 as National Dental Hygiene Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 262(20)** – Recognition of October 2020 as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 263(20)** – Recognition of October 2020 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

**6. Comments: Freeholder Gerry P. Little, Liaison to the Board of Chosen Freeholders:**

**Comments from Freeholder Little:** Freeholder Gerry P. Little, Liaison to the Board of Chosen Freeholders, was absent from the Board of Health meeting.

**7. Other Matters:**

**NJ LINCS Health Officers Association:** Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer informed the Board of the formation of a LINCS Health Officer Association of New Jersey. Mr. Regenye explained the importance of this association and provided some history. Mr. Regenye stated that every county in New Jersey and the city of Newark, New Jersey has a LINCS agency. Mr. Regenye added that there was overwhelming support to create the association, the vote was 20 to 2 with only Monmouth and Morris counties opposed. Mr. Regenye named the officers of the New Jersey LINCS Health Officer Association which has good representation throughout the state. Mr. Regenye stated that the association has been meeting weekly for coordination purposes with COVID and a conference call with the New Jersey Commission of Health was held a couple months ago.

**COVID-19 vaccination response:** Mr. Regenye stated that he was asked to sit on a statewide COVID vaccination response group to plan the coordination efforts for the vaccination statewide for COVID once it becomes available. Mr. Regenye added that the seasonal flu vaccination plan has been modified to be more regional base and will transition into a COVID vaccination response. Mr. Regenye updated the Board regarding several front running vaccinations and vaccines related to COVID vaccinations and the different requirements for the vaccines.

**Fatality Review:** Mr. Regenye referred to the *The Overdose Response Strategy* HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) 2019 Annual Report. Mr. Regenye stated that the work done in Ocean County was highlighted in the report. Mr. Regenye commended Ms. Kimberly Reilly, Chief of Administrative Services, on all the hard work with the Ocean County Overdose Fatality Review. Mr. Regenye added that this is good testament of the great work being done in Ocean County.

**COVID:** Mr. Regenye provided an update on COVID, noting Ocean County has surpassed 12,000 cases. Mr. Regenye stated the nearly 10,000 tests were performed at the Ocean County College testing site. Mr. Regenye added that while there is an increase of cases, there is a decrease, a declining trend of severe cases, hospitalizations, and even deaths. Mr. Regenye continued that there has been a changing epidemiology of disease transmission and the affect on the community; typically are 20 and 30 year olds and exhibiting mild symptoms.

Mr. Regenye stated that a lot of time has been spent with the Ocean County schools, working closely with the schools, going through their reopening plan and their sports programs. The Ocean County Health Department staff has spent a tremendous amount of time with the schools, providing support and guidance needed for the schools. Mr. Regenye noted everyone at the Health Department is doing a phenomenal job.

Dr. Maurice Hill questioned the areas in Ocean County seeing the increase positives. Mr. Regenye responded that typically approximately 50% of the daily numbers would be Lakewood, followed by Toms River and Jackson. Mr. Regenye noted that a primary transmission mode is household contacts; increase cases are households that have large family sizes. Mr. Regenye stated that he requested the New Jersey Department of Health to look into this and the report received from the New Jersey Department of Health indicated 19 households in Ocean County accounted for almost 100 cases. Dr. Hill also noted that in Toms River, the number of addresses always is lower than the number of cases, figuring multiple cases in a single address. Mr. Regenye added that college students away at college use their home address when getting COVID tested which does affect the number of positive cases. Dr. Hill stated that hospitalizations have been low.

Mr. Regenye stated that the Ocean County Health Department has been aggressively promoting the importance for the seasonal flu vaccination to avoid seeing any co-infections of seasonal flu with COVID. Mr. Regenye stated that in addition to the 4,500 doses of seasonal flu vaccine ordered, the Ocean County Health Department is receiving 2,000 doses from the State of New Jersey.

Ms. Jennifer Bacchione questioned the safety of Halloween this year. An in-depth discussion followed with the inclusion of the CDC guidelines.

**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.

**10. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and the meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

  
Assistant Secretary