Ocean County Board of Health
175 Sunset Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey
February 24, 2021
9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on February 24, 2021 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 those who protect our safety and freedom every day.

3. Roll Call:

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

   Daniel E. Regenye, Public Health Coordinator
   John Sahradnik, Board Counsel

4. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

   On motion made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, the open meeting minutes from the January 27, 2021 meeting were approved.

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   Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on Resolutions 69(21) through 90(21), noting the addition of resolutions 89(21) and 90(21) and to follow the abstention list. Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.
5. Adoption of Resolutions

Resolution 69(21) – Ratification of Finance Committee Report – February 10, 2021 - $60,384.10 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 70(21) – Finance Committee Report – February 24, 2021 - $261,130.93 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, with Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Items #20-02738, #21-00182, #21-00183 and #21-00184; Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Items #20-02798 and #21-00251; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #21-00182, #21-00183 and #21-00184, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 71(21) – Personnel Committee Report – February 24, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 72(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Versatile Physicians Solutions (VPS) – to provide insurance billing and coding – in an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 – for the period March 8, 2021 through February 28, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 73(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Linda Dziedzic, DVM, LLC – to provide veterinarian services – at a rate of $85.00 per hour – in an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 – for the period of March 8, 2021 through February 28, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 74(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with the Friends of the Southern Ocean County Animal Shelter – in an amount not to exceed $6,000.00 – and authorization to execute an agreement with The Volunteer Auxiliary for Animals, Inc. – in an amount not to exceed $6,000.00 – for the period March 5, 2021 through February 28, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 75(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Falasca Mechanical for HVAC preventative maintenance for the Barnegat facility – in an amount not to exceed $4,200.00 – for the period March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 76(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Falasca Mechanical for HVAC preventative maintenance for the Lakewood facility – in an amount not to exceed $900.00 – for the period March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 77(21) – Authorization to bill all insurance plans for reimbursement of administration fee in the distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations – for the period December 24, 2020 through December 23, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 78(21) – Authorization to accept donated HCV tests and serologic testing from Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Department of Pathology – for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 79(21) – Authorization to accept the New Jersey Department of Health Special Child Health Services Grant – in an amount not to exceed $145,000.00 – for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.
Resolution 80(21) – Authorization to accept the County Comprehensive Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant – in the amount of $1,267,895.00 – and matching funds in the amount of $192,783.00 – for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 81(21) – Authorization to enter into additional Memorandums of Understanding to provide referrals and linkage to heart disease and stroke prevention clinical case management and self-monitoring blood pressure devices – at no cost to the agency – for the period October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 82(21) – Recognition of March 2021 as National Colorectal Awareness Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 83(21) – Recognition of March 2021 as National Nutrition Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 84(21) – Recognition of March 8-12, 2021 as National School Breakfast Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 85(21) – Recognition of March 8-12, 2021 as National Flood Safety Awareness Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 86(21) – Recognition of March 21-27, 2021 as National Poison Prevention Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 87(21) – Recognition of March 22-28, 2021 as National Drug & Alcohol Fact Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 88(21) – Recognition of March 24, 2021 as National World Tuberculosis Awareness Day – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 89(21) – Authorization to accept additional funding from New Jersey Department of Health, Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program Grant – in an amount not to exceed $5,000.00 – for a total amount not to exceed $2,843,752.00 – for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 90(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Partnership Health Center (PHCTR) – for clinical nursing services – in an amount not to exceed 17,500.00 – for the period March 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Carol Blake, and unanimously approved.

6. Comments: Commissioner Deputy Director Gerry P. Little, Liaison to the Board of Commissioners:

Comments from Commissioner Deputy Director Little: Commissioner Deputy Director Gerry Little, Liaison to the Board of Commissioners was absent from today's meeting.
7. Other Matters:

WIC: Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer recognized the Ocean County WIC Program on an outstanding job, especially during the last year with restructuring of the program and meeting the challenges serving the clients during the pandemic. Mr. Regenye referred to an internal email stating that the Ocean County WIC Program is now the largest WIC program in the State of New Jersey.

QR code: Mr. Regenye stated that in front of each Board member is a QR code for potential users to utilize when downloading the new Ocean County Health Department app. Mr. Regenye added that the Ocean County Health Department is promoting the app to residents to get updates and access the link to book COVID-19 appointments for vaccinations and testing. Mr. Regenye stated that so far there are over 5,000 downloads of the app; noting that everyone does not have access to the hand-held technology but it is another way to reach the population and get information, notifications, and press releases out. Mr. Regenye explained the steps to utilize the QR code in order to download the Ocean County Health Department app.

Mr. Regenye informed the Board that the Ocean County Health Department is also utilizing a QR code at the vaccination sites. After the residents have received their COVID-19 vaccination, they are handed a card with a QR code for them to complete a survey of their experience going through the clinic. Mr. Regenye stated that he would present a report in the future with the result of this survey.

COVID 19: Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer stated that the Ocean County Health Department has received numerous wonderful acknowledgments and referred to some of the letters included in the Board packet. Mr. Regenye stated that once the resident had their appointment and had gone through the vaccination sites, there is nothing but positive feedback; they are very impressed and appreciative of the operation and the staff.

Mr. Regenye stated that as of last night, February 23, 2021, the Ocean County Health Department has surpassed 41,000 total vaccinations given; estimating by the end of the week over 50,000 doses will be administered by the Ocean County Health Department. Yesterday at the two locations, Toms River and Stafford, there were 2,800 residents receiving shots. Mr. Regenye stated that according to the New Jersey State COVID dashboard 103,000 Ocean County residents have received either their first (1st) or second (2nd) dose within Ocean County at this point, with 40% of the vaccinations of the residents of Ocean County administered by the Ocean County Health Department.

Mr. Regenye discussed the continuance of very high volume of calls relating to COVID-19. Mr. Regenye referred to the COVID-19 vaccination call center report showing the number of calls and the purpose of the call. Mr. Regenye continued that some of the calls require Ocean County Health Department to follow-up but the call center arranged for by the County of Ocean is a huge help.

Ms. Jenniffer Bacchione stated that she has received many compliments of the vaccination sites. Ms. Bacchione added that she has also heard comments about people having a difficult time getting appointments. Ms. Bacchione commented that she was happy to see the custodial staff included on the personnel resolution because they are very important especially now.

Ms. Carol Blake stated that she and her husband received their second (2nd) dose on Saturday; everything went along wonderfully and they were treated so nice.
T. Kelaher: Dr. Maurice Hill informed the Board of the passing of the former mayor of Toms River, Mr. Thomas Kelaher. Dr. Hill stated that on behalf of the Kelaher family, he extends his gratitude to everyone for the overwhelming number of messages of condolences to the family. Dr. Hill shared some of the life history of this iconic figure of Toms River and provided details for Mr. Kelaher’s services today.

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 Mr. Henry Mancini, and the meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.