Ocean County Board of Health
175 Sunset Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey
June 2, 2021
9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on June 2, 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 join him in honoring our military servicemen and servicewomen who protect our freedom every day.

3. Roll Call:

   Ms. Jennifer Bacchione
   Ms. Carol Biale
   Ms. Barbara Jo Crea – participated remotely
   Dr. Maurice Hill
   Ms. Veronica Laureigh
   Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro
   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 Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining, the open meeting minutes from the May 12, 2021 meeting were approved.

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   Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on Resolutions 166(21) through 175(21), and to follow the abstention list. Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.
5. Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 166(21) – Ratification of Finance Committee Report – May 26, 2021 - $124,820.47 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 167(21) – Finance Committee Report – June 2, 2021 - $366,752.59 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, with Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Items #21-01155; #21-01157, #21-01158 and #21-01253; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #21-01155, #21-01157 and #21-01158, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 168(21) – Personnel Committee Report – June 2, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 169(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Summit Benefit Consultants – for GASB 75 actuarial services – in an amount not to exceed $7,800.00 – for the period June 3, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 170(21) – Authorization to enter into a fee-for-service contract with Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey (VNACJ) – Cancer Education and Early Detection services – reimburse the Ocean County Health Department allowable expenses not to exceed $13,331.00 – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 171(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement for laboratory testing for sexually transmitted diseases to be performed by the NJDOH Public Health and Environmental Laboratory – ARCH Project – in an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 – for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 172(21) – Authorization to apply for the Local Core Capacity for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Grant – in an amount not to exceed $825,860.00 – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 173(21) – Authorization to apply for the ARCH/State Opioid grant – in an amount not to exceed $209,000.00 – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Motion made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 174(21) – Authorization to apply for the DHSTS State HIV Prevention Program grant – in an amount not to exceed $23,000.00 – for the period July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 175(21) – Authorization to enter into Affiliation Agreements to accept referrals, as well as provide referrals – at no cost to the Ocean County Health Department – for the period June 2, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

Award congratulations: Chairman Mallon congratulated Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer and Mr. Mukesh Roy, Public Health Planner, for being honored by the Girl Scouts for their "Unsung Hero Recognition."
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:**

   **COVID-19:** Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer provided an update on COVID-19 in Ocean County. Mr. Regenye stated that vaccine demand continues to decrease, noting less than ten percent (10%) of the vaccine appointments are first (1st) dose appointments. Mr. Regenye had discussed statistical data relating to COVID vaccinations in Ocean County. Mr. Regenye added that the Ocean County Health Department had administered nearly 110,000 doses of vaccine.

   Mr. Regenye informed the Board on the direction moving forward regarding the COVID-19 vaccination clinics utilizing a more community-based model. Mr. Regenye stated that the schedule with the Ocean County Library system had been included in the Board packet showing the locations of the clinics throughout Ocean County. Mr. Regenye also stated holding clinics in interested municipalities. Mr. Regenye added that COVID vaccination clinic for employees would be at Six Flags Great Adventure. Mr. Regenye stated that the Waretown Fire and First Aid Academy is among several sites to conduct a COVID vaccination clinic.

   **Seasonal influenza:** Mr. Regenye informed the Board that for the 2021/2022 seasonal flu, the Ocean County Health Department has received approval to co-administer seasonal influenza with pneumococcal and COVID vaccinations. Mr. Regenye also informed the Board that the current recommendation is not to give the vaccinations at the same time in case there is an adverse reaction; it would be unclear which vaccine may have caused the adverse reaction.

   **OCHD programs:** Mr. Regenye stated that the Ocean County Health Department is moving ahead to re-opening the agency’s programs. Mr. Regenye segued into introducing Mr. Peter Curatolo, Coordinator Community Health Services, to provide a quick update on the Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program (CCMP).

   **COVID clinic site:** Senator Robert Singer stated that based on the decrease numbers of vaccinations administered, he would like to make a motion to close the northern site at RWJBarnabas Healthcare Arena-Toms River High School North as of July 1, 2021 and bring back the clinic to the Ocean County Health Department building. Senator Singer discussed the number of vaccinations given at Toms River High School North. In addition, Senator Singer stated that the Ocean County Health Department would be holding COVID vaccination clinics in multiple locations throughout Ocean County including using the Ocean County Library system. Chairman Mallon stated that he supports the decision to close the northern site.

   Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer to close the COVID-19 vaccination clinic site at the RWJBarnabas Healthcare Arena-Toms River High School North as of July 1, 2021; motion was seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and unanimously approved.

   Mr. Regenye stated that he and Mr. Brian Rumpf, Director of Administration and Program Development have been meeting with Commissioner Director Gary Quinn, Commissioner Deputy Director Gerry Little, Mr. Carl Block, County Administrator, and Mr. Michael Fiure, Assistant County Administrator since March regarding this and he will brief them about closing the site at Toms River High School North.
CCMP: Mr. Peter Curatolo, Coordinator Community Health Services, stated that Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program (CCMP) is very visible and it is tied into Ocean County tourism. Mr. Curatolo informed the Board that results are posted on the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection website and the Ocean County Health Department website. Mr. Curatolo discussed the excellent seasonal personnel, developing great relationships working with the Ocean County Utilities Authority, the Department of Public Works, the municipalities and the recreation departments. Mr. Curatolo also discussed educating the public and posting the appropriate signage. Mr. Curatolo stated that the Ocean County Health Department covers Ocean County fresh and salt water bathing beaches from the northern part of Point Pleasant to the southern part of Stafford, noting Long Beach Island Health Department takes care of the beaches on Long Beach Island. Chairman Mallon stated that this is an excellent program and it does benefit tourism in Ocean County.

Ms. Jennifer Bacchione asked about one of the beaches in Berkeley Township. Mr. Curatolo explained the water sampling results and beach closures. Mr. Curatolo explained advisories are posted when the first water sample collected exceeds the water quality standard; should the second sample also exceed the water quality standard the beach would be closed. Mr. Curatolo further explained when a beach is closed, water samples are collected and tested consecutive days until it passes. Mr. Curatolo stated that should there be an issue, for example, with migratory birds at one of the beaches, Department of Public Works would be made aware of this and they will comb the beach daily to prevent the waste from getting into the bathing beach water.

Ms. Veronica Laureigh asked how long before getting the result from the water sample collected. Mr. Curatolo responded it takes 24 hours. Mr. Curatolo stated that the Ocean County Utilities Authority does an impressive job. Senator Singer added that the Ocean County Health Department did once operate our own lab, which was very costly; using the county’s lab is more effective.

Budget Hearing: Chairman Mallon reminded everyone that the Public Hearing for the 2021 Ocean County Board of Health Operating Budget will be held at the next Board of Health meeting on June 16, 2021.

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. Ruthanne Scaturro, and the meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.