

Ocean County Board of Health
175 Sunset Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey
September 1, 2021
9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on September 1, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room, at 175 Sunset Avenue, Toms River, Ocean County, New Jersey, 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. Barbara Jo Crea
Dr. Maurice Hill
Ms. Veronica Laureigh
Mr. Henry Mancini
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, the open meeting minutes from the August 11, 2021 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 238(21) through 250(21) and to follow the abstention list. Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

5. Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 238(21) – Ratification of Finance Committee Report – August 25, 2021 - \$59,612.93 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 239(21) – Finance Committee Report – September 1, 2021 - \$441,673.86 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Ms. Jennifer

Bacchione abstaining on Item #21-02075; Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Items #21-01734, #21-02004, #21-02005, #21-02086, and #21-02124; Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Items #21-01994, #21-01996, #21-02026, #21-02075, and #21-02117; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #21-01734, #21-02004, #21-02005, #21-02086, and #21-02124, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 240(21) – Personnel Committee Report – September 1, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 241(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Township of Lakewood – for the provision of administrative and programmatic Lakewood Municipal Alliance oversight – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 242(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Borough of Ocean Gate – for the provision of administrative and programmatic Ocean Gate Municipal Alliance oversight – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 243(21) – Authorization to execute a purchase order with Winner Ford – for ten (10) 2021 Ford Escapes – utilizing Ocean County Cooperative Contract System – in an amount not to exceed \$254,750.00 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 244(21) – Authorization to accept the New Jersey Department of Health Local Core Capacity for Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Grant – in an amount not to exceed \$725,860.00 – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 245(21) – Authorization to accept the New Jersey Department of Health ARCH/State Opioid Grant – in an amount not to exceed \$209,000.00 – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro; seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 246(21) – Authorization to accept funding from the Ocean County Board of Commissioners for the Recycling Enhancement Act Bonus Grant – in the amount of \$60,000.00 – for the calendar year 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 247(21) – Authorization to enter into a Secure Protection and Data Handling Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Health – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 248(21) – Authorization to enter into agreements with Simon Properties and Jackson Premium Outlets – for use of their property and resources for the purpose of COVID-19 vaccinations – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 249(21) – Authorization to enter into a Subgrant Agreement with CHEMED for the implementation of the HRSA funding – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 250(21) – Recognition of September 28, 2021 as World Rabies Day – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, 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:

COVID-19: Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer stated that the Board members received a more detailed COVID-19 information packet with their Board of Health packets. Mr. Regenye continued, stating that the number of positive COVID-19 cases are rising with approximately 20% of those being breakthrough cases. Mr. Regenye explained what breakthrough cases are. Mr. Regenye added that with these individuals, the illness is milder, not necessarily resulting in hospitalization; most of the hospitalization are in a unvaccinated status.

Mr. Regenye stated that the Ocean County Health Department is continuing with providing COVID-19 vaccinations. Mr. Regenye also stated that the Ocean County Health Department has been working with ten (10) other counties and the New Jersey Department of Health, what is called the Ambassador County Initiative. The New Jersey Department of Health identified eleven (11) counties with vaccination rates less than 70% of receiving the first dose. Mr. Regenye informed the Board that as of yesterday, August 31, 2021, three (3) of our five (5) towns in Ocean County are at or very close to the 70% vaccination rate of receiving the first dose.

Mr. Regenye recognized the phenomenal work of the Ocean County Health Department staff and the coordination with all our partners, including but not limited to CHEMED, OHI, and VNA along with the local hospitals, schools and municipal officials, all working very diligently over the summer with vaccination opportunities and educating the community.

Mr. Regenye reported that currently the focus is the schools opening. Mr. Regenye stated that last week there was a "Road Forward" document distributed from the New Jersey Department of Health and this morning there was the newest guidance and more details which was forwarded to the Ocean County schools to make the adjustments. Mr. Regenye added there are questions regarding mandate for vaccination of the staff and faculty and the testing option, which the Ocean County Health Department is providing assistance to the schools with this.

Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro asked about quarantine period should one of the students get COVID. Mr. Regenye responded that if tested positive, you would isolate ten (10) days from the onset of symptoms or date of test if asymptomatic and Mr. Regenye added that there are variations. Mr. Regenye stated that Ocean County Health Department will continue to assess the information and provide guidance to all schools in Ocean County as requested.

Senator Robert Singer asked if the students are required to wear masks. Mr. Regenye stated that it is a requirement that the students are to wear masks unless they have a note from the doctor for a medical exclusion. Ms. Jennifer Bacchione provided more information regarding the masks requirements and exemptions.

Ryan White Clinic: Ms. Patricia High, Assistant Public Health Coordinator stated that through the Ryan White Program, the Ocean County Health Department has been able to treat Hepatitis C to those which are co-diagnosed with HIV. Mr. Daniel Gonzalez, Supervising Program Analyst, discussed the prevention program aspect to help HIV and Hepatitis C clients such as help navigate through insurances and providers.

Ms. Janine Estevez-Mazur, Public Health Nurse, working primarily with the Ryan White Care and Treatment Clinic, provided information on the success of viral suppression of HIV, therefore lowering transmission of the virus in the community. Ms. Estevez-Mazur informed the Board that the Ocean County Health Department has recently started treating Hepatitis C for the dually diagnosed clients and about a patient who viral load is undetected for Hepatitis C. Ms. Estevez-Mazur explained the program and when you are considered cured of Hepatitis C. Ms. High explained that Hepatitis C treatment was long, intense and painful and the difference now is

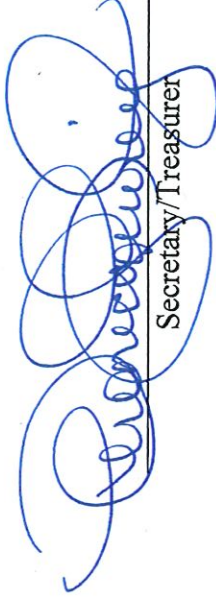
the treatment program is tolerable and treatable; a treatment program on the forefront of what the Ocean County Health Department is able to do for our residents.

Third Dose/Booster: Mr. Regenye stated that the Ocean County Health Department is currently offering third dose or additional dose for anyone who received Moderna or Pfizer, there is no recommended additional dose for J&J at this point, to those who are immunocompromised, 28 days post the second shot. Mr. Regenye also stated that the booster is for anyone who received the Moderna or Pfizer, at this point the time period is eight (8) months post the second dose and currently should begin September 20th. Mr. Regenye provided information on COVID-19 clinic locations and time. Mr. Regenye stated that more information will come out in the Press Releases. Ms. Bacchione asked about scheduling appointments. Mr. Regenye responded that the Health Department will be going back to scheduling appointments if demand increases significantly. Chairman Mallon asked what the difference was between a booster and the third dose. Ms. High responded the time frame. Mr. Henry Mancini asked if there will be a priority list of who will receive the booster. Mr. Regenye stated that the Health Department is waiting on guidance. Mr. Mancini also asked about getting the flu shot and COVID-19 booster the same day. Mr. Regenye stated that the New Jersey Department of Health is now recommending co-administration of the flu shot and the COVID booster, just different arms.

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 Mr. Henry Mancini, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and the meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.



Secretary/Treasurer