Ocean County Board of Health  
175 Sunset Avenue  
Toms River, New Jersey  
December 8, 2021  
9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on December 8, 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.

   Senator Robert Singer asked for a moment of silence for the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

3. Roll Call:

   Ms. Jennifer Bacchione  
   Ms. Carol Blake  
   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  
   Mathew Thompson, Board Counsel

4. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

   On motion made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Mr. Henry Mancini, the open meeting minutes from the November 10, 2021 meeting were approved.

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Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on resolutions 322(21) through 370(21) and to follow the abstention list. Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

5. Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 322(21) — Ratification of Finance Committee Report — November 24, 2021 - $70,966.74 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 323(21) — Finance Committee Report — December 8, 2021 - $443,655.89 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Ms. Jenniffer Bacchiione abstaining on Item #21-02722; Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Items #21-02522, #21-02684, #21-02753, #21-02754, #21-02757, #21-02758, #21-02782, #21-02861 and #21-02937; Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Items #21-02522, #21-02532, #21-02673, #21-02726, #21-02769, #21-02807, #21-02808, #21-02811 and #21-02968; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #21-02684, #21-02753, #21-02754, #21-02757, #21-02758, #21-02782, #21-02861 and #21-02937, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 324(21) — Personnel Committee Report — December 8, 2021 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 325(21) — Salary increment for part time personnel — effective December 9, 2021 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 326(21) — Authorization to bill all insurance plans for reimbursement of administration fee in the distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations — for the period December 24, 2021 through December 23, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 327(21) — Authorization to execute an agreement with Frank Giannantonio & Associates — in an amount not to exceed $200,000.00 — for the period December 24, 2021 through December 23, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 328(21) — Authorization to execute an agreement with CHEMED to provide dental clinic services for the calendar year 2022 — in an amount not to exceed $300,000.00 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 329(21) — Authorization to execute an agreement with Ocean Health Initiatives to provide dental clinic services for the calendar year 2022 — in an amount not to exceed $150,000.00 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 330(21) — Appointment of Hearing Officer — Bonnie R. Peterson, Attorney at Law — in an amount not to exceed $15,000.00 — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 331(21) — Authorization to execute an agreement with DiPersia Technology Solutions, LLC for Information Technology Systems Monitoring and Maintenance — in an amount not to exceed $50,000.00 — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturo, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
Resolution 332(21) – Authorization to enter into contract with MES Diagnostic, LLC – in an amount not to exceed $15,000.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 333(21) – Authorization to enter into contract with University Radiology Group, P.C. – in an amount not to exceed $8,000.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 334(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Visiting Homecare Service of Ocean County for certified home health aide services, indigent care – in an amount not to exceed $250,000.00 – calendar year 2022 final year of the total five years – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 335(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Visiting Homecare Service of Ocean County – for Adult Day Care – in an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 336(21) – Authorization to enter into contract with National Screening Services for Background Searches, Consulting and Training Matters – in an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 337(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with AFLAC/Maestro Health for elective benefit plans for 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 338(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with RWJBarnabas Health Corporate Care for fitness for duty testing – in an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Dr. Maurice Hill and Senator Robert Singer abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 339(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Suppression Systems, Inc. for fire suppression system maintenance services – in an amount not to exceed $1,180.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 340(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Edmunds and Associates, Inc. for maintenance for proprietary software and hardware – in an amount not to exceed $13,714.20 – for calendar year 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 341(21) – Authorization to enter into contract with TimeTrak Systems, Inc. – Time Management System Equipment and Maintenance (State Contract #41264) – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 342(21) – Authorization to execute documents to purchase from The Home Depot Pro through OMNIA Partners contract #16154 – for cleaning supplies, equipment and custodial related products, services and solutions – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
Resolution 343(21) – Authorization to enter into contract with Monmouth Feed Supply, Inc. for cat litter—for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 344(21) – Authorization to enter into contract with Orchard Hill Memorial Park, Inc. dba Abbey Glen Memorial Park for animal crematory services – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – extending for one additional one year term – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 345(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Banquest Payment Systems – credit card services – in an amount not to exceed $5,000.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 346(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with EasyPay – credit card services – clinics – in an amount not to exceed $8,000.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 347(21) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Elavon – credit card services – animal care facilities – in an amount not to exceed $10,000.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 348(21) – Authorization to execute an agreement with LogMeIn – for Information Technology Support – in an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 349(21) – Authorization to renew the agreement with Apple to access and have the ability to download the Ocean County Health Department Public Health app – at no cost to the agency – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 350(21) – Authorization for leases and purchases through the New Jersey State Contract Awards – for the calendar year 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 351(21) – Authorization to make purchases under the County Cooperative Contract – for the calendar year 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 352(21) – Authorization to accept the recommendations of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse 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 – totaling amount not to exceed $1,450,358.00 – effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 353(21) – Authorization to establish a fee schedule for sexually transmitted infection screening and testing services – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 354(21) – Authorization to collect health insurance deductibles and copayments as outlined in insurance provider contracts – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
Resolution 355(21) — Authorization to enter into contracts with non-participating municipalities — for animal facility services — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 356(21) — Authorization to enter into contract with United Communities, McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst — for animal facility services — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 357(21) — Authorization to sign the Letter of Commitment allowing no-cost partnership with the New Jersey Coalition for Addiction Recovery Support (NJ-CARS) — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 358(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 January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 359(21) — Authorization to enter into business associate agreements — at no cost to the Ocean County Health Department — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 360(21) — Authorization to enter into HIPAA business associate agreements — at no cost to the Ocean County Health Department — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 361(21) — Authorization to execute agreements with any appropriate retailer or agency for loaner or rental equipment which is deemed necessary on an emergent basis — at an amount not to exceed $17,500.00 — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 362(21) — Authorization to execute agreements with community partners for the delivery of community-based public health services on the mobile clinical unit — at no cost to the agency — for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 363(21) — Authorization to enter into Letter of Understanding with Yeled v'Yalda Early Childhood Center — to provide maternal and child health services supporting the goals and objectives of the Ocean County WIC Program — at no cost to the Ocean County Health Department — for the period December 8, 2021 through September 30, 2022 — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 364(21) — Authorization to apply for Request for Applications for the American Association of Diabetes Educators National Diabetes Prevention Program — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 365(21) — Authorization to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification for the Ocean County Insurance Fund Commission — and authorization to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement — Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 366(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, 2022 through June 30, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 367(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, 2022 through June 30, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 368(21) – Authorization to amend resolution 07(21) with Silver Hammer Associates – in an amount not to exceed $40,000 – for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 369(21) – Recognition of January 2022 as Cervical Health Awareness Month – Motion was made by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 370(21) – Recognition of January 2022 as National Births Defects Month – 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.

Leaving: Chairman Mallon stated that today would have been the last time Commissioner Little attends the Board of Health meeting as Commissioner and as the liaison. In addition, Chairman Mallon mentioned that today is the last Board of Health meeting for Board member Barbara Jo Crea. Chairman Mallon thanked Ms. Crea for her service and added that she may be back.

7. Other Matters:

Message: Mr. Daniel Regeny, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer relayed a message from Commissioner Deputy Director Little stating that he sends his regards as he is out of state visiting family.

Thank you: Mr. Regeny stated that it has been a challenging year, actually the last two years, and express his appreciation to the Board of Health for their on-going support over the course of that period. Mr. Regeny added that everything the Health Department has built-up over the course of time has certainly led up to being able to respond as needed for the last two years with the capacity and depth within the agency. Mr. Regeny thanked the Board of Health for all of that. Mr. Regeny wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

COVID-19: Mr. Regeny provided an update on COVID-19 noting that the biggest item is the variant. Mr. Regeny stated that the Health Department continues to monitor Omicron variant, adding that there are cases in the United States and a confirmed case in New Jersey. Mr. Regeny stated that he believes there are more Omicron cases than reported, just not confirmed at this point. Mr. Regeny added that what is known so far is Omicron appears to be less severe and highly transmissible; more data needs to be gathered.
Mr. Regeny stated that positive COVID cases continues to increase, hospitalizations are going up, including ICU. Mr. Regeny stated that for the most part, the unvaccinated, especially the severe illness, are related to the hospitalizations.

Mr. Regeny informed the Board that the Ocean County Health Department has 23 clinics scheduled for the month of December. Mr. Regeny stated that over 120,000 vaccinations for COVID and over 2,300 seasonal flu shots have been administered to date. Mr. Regeny also stated that over 31,000 COVID tests were performed at Ocean County College, which now Immediate Care is doing the COVID-19 tests at the college on behalf of the County so we can focus our efforts on vaccination.

Mr. Regeny concluded that the Ocean County Health Department is still very active, especially working with the schools with positive COVID cases increasing and continuing to stay in contact with each of the schools in Ocean County. Mr. Regeny asked if any member had questions.

Senator Robert Singer discussed several items relating to COVID-19. Senator Singer mentioned the FDA wants to take 55 years to process request for records on Pfizer licensing of COVID-19 vaccine. Senator Singer stated that people going to the Emergency Department are mostly heart issues and not COVID related. Senator Singer noted inconsistency relating to COVID regulations.

Dr. Maurice Hill discussed the nature of viruses and they mutate. Dr. Hill also talked about an oral antiviral COVID-19 pill and hopefully will be on the market soon. Mr. Regeny added that the Health Department is seeing that and hoping the data is leading towards that.

Dr. Hill stated if you got a polio vaccine, you did not get polio; if you got a smallpox vaccine, you did not get smallpox; and if you received a measles vaccine, you did not get measles. Dr. Hill continued, the COVID-19 vaccination is more like getting a flu shot noting if you do get the disease; the symptoms would be less severe.

Dr. Hill stated that it is important to be rational and not run around in fear like the one two years ago and we suffered economically and psychologically. In addition, Dr. Hill stated that the children lost over a year of school. Ms. Jennifer Bacchione wanted to add to Dr. Hill’s comment stating that she works with the public a lot and people are not doing well mentally adding that the media does not help.

Ms. Bacchione asked if there is testing for the Omicron variant. Mr. Regeny confirmed there is a test for Omicron.

Ms. Bacchione inquired if seasonal flu is circulating. Mr. Regeny answered yes; increased number of positive results are reported. Mr. Regeny stated that information on seasonal flu was included in the packet. Mr. Regeny noted that the State of New Jersey was at a moderate influenza activity level. Senator Singer stated that the predominant strain circulating is type A. Ms. Bacchione asked about testing results and wanted to know if there is a fine line between the flu and COVID. Mr. Regeny stated that a person could be co-infected which is a very bad situation but there is a specific test for COVID and a test for the seasonal influenza.

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 for a motion to open to the public. Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Mr. Henry Mancini.

No one wished to speak.
Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman asked for a motion to close to the public. Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro.

Holiday wishes: Chairman Mallon stated that he hoped everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and wished everyone a very nice holiday. The Board of Health members wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Farewell message: Ms. Bobbi Jo Crea stated that this would be her last Board of Health meeting. Ms. Crea stated that it is remarkable what is done at the Ocean County Board of Health. Mr. Crea added that as a member of the public, as a mayor of a town, she realizes the importance of what decisions are made at the Health Department. In addition, Ms. Crea stated that the things she has learned are incredible. Mr. Crea stated that she will miss everyone. Ms. Crea thanked all for their time, generosity, compassion and understanding. Ms. Crea added that with some good luck maybe we will be working together again.

Chairman Mallon stated that new Board of Health members are amazed of all that is done at the Health Department. Chairman Mallon added that when someone asks, it is difficult to describe all the services provided by the Ocean County Health Department because there are many. Chairman Mallon thanked Ms. Crea for her service as a member of the Ocean County Board of Health.

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. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Jennifer Bacchione, and the meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

[Signature] Secretary/Treasurer