

Ocean County Board of Health  
 175 Sunset Avenue  
 Toms River, New Jersey  
 March 2, 2022  
 9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on March 2, 2022 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. Moment of Silence: Carol Blake, Ocean County Board of Health Member:**

Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence to remember our Board of Health member, Ms. Carol Blake and Lacey Township Mayor, Mr. Nicholas Juliano, who both recently passed.

**4. Roll Call:**

Ms. Jennifer Bacchione  
 Dr. Maurice Hill  
 Dr. Theresa Kubiel  
 Ms. Veronica Laureigh  
 Mr. Henry Mancini  
 Senator Robert Singer  
 Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman

Daniel E. Regenye, Public Health Coordinator  
 Mathew Thompson, Board Counsel

**5. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:**

On motion made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, the open meeting minutes from the February 2, 2022 meeting were approved.

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

Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on resolutions 55(22) through 76(22) and to follow the abstention list. Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

## 6. Adoption of Resolutions:

**Resolution 55(22)** – Ratification of Finance Committee Report – February 16, 2022 - \$77,746.05 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 56(22)** – Finance Committee Report – March 2, 2022 - \$517,939.14 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Items #21-03279, #22-00197, #22-00259, and #22-00260; Dr. Theresa Kubiel abstaining on Items #22-00197, #22-00259, and #22-00260; Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Items #21-03279, #22-00093, and #22-00365; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #22-00197, #22-00259, and #22-00260; and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 57(22)** – Personnel Committee Report – March 2, 2022 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 58(22)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Institute for Prevention and Recovery – to conduct virtual Substance Use Prevention Training Series for local providers and municipal alliance members in Ocean County – in an amount not to exceed \$14,400.00 – for the period March 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Dr. Maurice Hill, Dr. Theresa Kubiel, and Senator Robert Singer abstaining, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 59(22)** – Authorization to donate or dispose of furniture, equipment and expired supplies in accordance with any and all State of New Jersey requirements – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 60(22)** – Authorization to amend resolution 15(21) with Isabel C. Guerrero, MD – in an amount not to exceed \$18,500.00 – for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 61(22)** – Authorization to amend resolution 15(22) to recognize the value of the donation of billboard sign space to promote adoption of shelter animals as \$30,000.00 – for the period February 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 62(22)** – Authorization to accept the County Comprehensive Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant – in the amount of \$1,389,540.00 – and matching funds in the amount of \$219,063.00 – for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 63(22)** – Authorization to apply for the CDC Foundation Implementation of the Public Health and Safety Team (PHAST) Toolkit Request for Interest – in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 – for the period of contract execution date through September 30, 2022 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 64(22)** – Authorization to apply for the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Program 2022 Activity C Grant – in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 – for the period April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

- Resolution 65(22)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with University of Delaware – to accept Public Health students for practical experience in various health field activities – at no cost to the agency – for the period March 2, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 66(22)** – Recognition of individuals/organizations for their contribution of hats and gloves – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 67(22)** – Recognition of March 30, 2022 as National Doctors Day – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 68(22)** – Recognition of April 2022 as National Alcohol Awareness Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 69(22)** – Recognition of April 2022 as Minority and Multicultural Health Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 70(22)** – Recognition of April 2022 as National Youth Sports Safety Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 71(22)** – Recognition of April 2022 as National Distracted Drivers Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 72(22)** – Recognition of April 2022 as Autism Acceptance Month – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 73(22)** – Recognition of April 4-10, 2022 as National Public Health Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 74(22)** – Recognition of April 17-23, 2022 as National Volunteer Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 75(22)** – Recognition of April 24-30, 2022 as Administrative Professional’s Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.
- Resolution 76(22)** – Recognition of April 25 – May 2, 2022 as National Infant Immunization Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**7. Comments: Commissioner Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Commissioners:**

**Comments from Commissioner Gary Quinn:** Commissioner Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Commissioners was absent from today’s meeting.

## 8. Other Matters:

**COVID-19:** Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer stated that the COVID update report is once again included in the Board of Health packets. Mr. Regenye stated that the COVID cases continue to decline, as well as the flu activity level, as indicated in the New Jersey Department of Health weekly summary. Mr. Regenye informed the Board that many of the restrictions are being lifted due to the decreased number of COVID cases. In addition, Mr. Regenye stated that in conversation with the hospitals during our weekly calls, we continue to see that decline and those that are hospitalized are mostly of an unvaccinated or incomplete vaccination status.

Mr. Regenye discussed the transition out of the pandemic phase of COVID. Mr. Regenye informed the Board that many residents have put off their medical screenings, indicating a decrease number of cancer and chronic disease cases diagnosed but when finally diagnosed, the disease is much further along in the progression of the illness resulting in fewer options for treatment. In addition, Mr. Regenye discussed mental health, substance abuse and overdoses as many are hurting or experiencing a lower level of health especially within our schools.

**Public Health Week:** Mr. Regenye stated that as the Ocean County Health Department is wrapping up this phase of the COVID response, we are looking to recognize the efforts, not only of the internal team within the agency but also our external partners. Mr. Regenye stated that April 4-10, 2022 is Public Health Week and we want to recognize the tremendous work with the COVID response along with all the other Public Health work that continued during this time. Mr. Regenye informed the Board that the Health Department is working with the County of Ocean, the Ocean County Board of Commissioners and the Ocean County Board of Health Special Events Committee to organize some events for the first week of April.

**Environmental Department:** Mr. Regenye stated that Mr. John Protonentis, Environmental Health Coordinator would speak about the Environmental Department during this COVID response period and helping businesses, especially restaurants over the last year to keep them in business and meet the needs and wants of the Ocean County residents.

Mr. Protonentis discussed the challenges the Environmental Department had during the last couple of years. Mr. Protonentis explained that the Environmental staff helped other departments during the COVID response, implemented executive directives, provided more education working with the restaurants and the restaurant inspections. Mr. Protonentis noted that many of the senior communities did not open their pools showing a decrease of the recreational bathing numbers. Mr. Protonentis added that in January 2022 more of the typical inspections are being done adding an educational component.

**COVID Response:** Mr. Regenye stated that with the COVID response, the Ocean County Health Department really pulled from the entire agency to help and noting some of the Environmental staff also assisted with the Long Term Care facilities outbreaks, PPE distribution and phone calls. Mr. Regenye named additional agency departments' involvement in the COVID response. Mr. Regenye stated that the Health Department has worked hard to identify different ways of meeting the overall Public Health needs of the residents now.

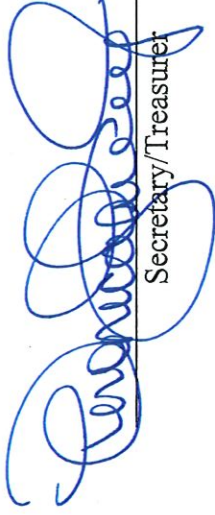
**Budget:** Mr. Regenye stated that Ocean County Board of Health Finance Committee would meet after the next Board of Health meeting to review the 2022 budget. Mr. Regenye stated that the 2022 budget would be introduced in April.

**Carol Blake:** Mr. Henry Mancini stated that he would like to document for the record the passing of Ms. Carol Blake. Mr. Mancini stated that Ms. Blake was a lovely person, great colleague and will certainly be missed. Chairman Mallon added that Ms. Blake was very dedicated. Mr. Mancini agreed.

**9. 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.

**10. Authorization to Enter Into Closed Session If Necessary:** Closed Session was not needed at this time.

**11. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Mr. Henry Mancini, and the meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.



Secretary/Treasurer

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