

Ocean County Board of Health
 175 Sunset Avenue
 Toms River, New Jersey
 May 11, 2022
 9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on May 11, 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 service members who protect our freedom every day.

3. Roll Call:

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

Daniel E. Regenye, Public Health Coordinator
 Mathew Thompson, Board Counsel
 Commissioner Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Commissioners

4. 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 April 27, 2022 meeting were approved.

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

**5. Operating Budget: Public Hearing and Public Comment:
 129(22) – Adoption of 2022 Operating Budget:**

Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer, stated that the budget was introduced last month, it does represent a flat tax rate and everything within the agency is in a very good position. Mr. Regenye thanked Ms. Mary McCarthy, Director of Finance; Mr. Brian Rumpf, Director of Administration and Program Development, all the department heads and staff that participated in the process.

Chairman Mallon asked for a motion to open the public hearing and public comment of the Ocean County Board of Health 2022 operating budget. Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Seeing no comments, motion to close the public hearing and public comment was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 129(22) – Adoption of 2022 Operating Budget – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent amended agenda on resolutions 130(22) through 144(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 130(22) – Finance Committee Report – May 11, 2022 - \$170,521.71 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Item #22-00742; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #22-00858, #22-00864, #22-00875 and #22-00876, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 131(22) – Personnel Committee Report – May 11, 2022 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 132(22) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Transact-EDI – insurance billing services for flu shot claims – in an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 – for the period June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 133(22) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Southern New Jersey Regional Early Intervention Collaborative – for use of over the phone interpreting – at no cost to the agency – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 134(22) – Authorization to enter into an agreement for laboratory testing for sexually transmitted diseases to be performed by the NJDOH Public Health and Environmental Laboratories – ARCH Project – in an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 – 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 135(22) – Authorization to approve the recommendations of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – to allocate funds for the New Jersey Department of Human Services/Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services Youth Leadership Grant – Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse/Municipal Alliance Program – total amount not to exceed \$83,897.00 – for the period July 1, 2022 through March 14, 2023 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Ms. Jennifer Bacchione abstaining on Berkeley; Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Toms River; Ms. Veronica Laureigh abstaining on Lacey; and Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Berkeley, Brick, Eagleswood, Jackson, Lacey, Little Egg Harbor, Ocean Twp., Seaside Park, Toms River and Tuckerton, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 136(22) – Authorization to adjust the fee schedule for the surrendering of pets portion of adopted resolution 39(16) at the Ocean County Health Department Animal Facilities – effective May 11, 2022 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 137(22) – Authorization to forward the FY 2023 Ocean County Solid Waste Control Plan to the Ocean County Solid Waste Advisory Council, Ocean County Board of Commissioners and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection – and to authorize the Public Health Coordinator to enter into related agreements concerning the enforcement aspects of the Ocean County Solid Waste Program – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Ms. Jennifer Bacchione abstaining from Berkeley; Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining from Toms River; Ms. Veronica Laureigh abstaining from Lacey; Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining from Barnegat, Berkeley, Brick, Eagleswood, Jackson, Lacey, Little Egg Harbor, Long Beach Twp., Seaside Heights, Seaside Park, Stafford, Toms River, Tuckerton and Ocean County Board of Commissioners, and Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman abstaining from Pine Beach, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 138(22) – Authorization to apply for the Right to Know Program grant – in the amount of \$12,259.00 – for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 139(22) – Authorization to apply for the County Environmental Health Act Grant – in an amount not less than \$195,420.00 and not to exceed \$479,990.00 – and match 40.71% of the total project amount – for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022– Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 140(22) – Authorization to forward one (1) vehicle for public auction – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 141(22) – Authorization to execute an agreement with Linda Dziedzic, DVM, LLC – to provide veterinarian services – at a rate of \$125.00 per hour – in an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 – for the period June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 142(22) – Recognition of June 5-11, 2022 as National Community Health Improvement Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 143(22) – Recognition of June 13-19, 2022 as National Men’s Health Week – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 144(22) – Recognition of June 27, 2022 as National HIV Testing Day – 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 stated that last week Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer and he had done a taping for Ocean County Focus at the Ocean County Library. Commissioner Quinn discussed the topics covered at this Ocean County Focus segment. Commissioner Quinn stated that Mr. Regenye did a great job informing the public on COVID and moving into a new direction with the COVID continued response. Commissioner Quinn thanked everyone for the great job they are doing.

Commissioner Quinn continued that also discussed was the Ocean County Animal Shelters. Commissioner Quinn recognized the staff at the animal shelters in Manahawkin and Jackson for the great work they are doing.

Commissioner Quinn also stated the importance of water quality at the Ocean County recreational bathing sites. Commissioner Quinn noted that it should not be taken for granted that the Ocean County recreational bathing sites are safe and beautiful for all to enjoy. Commissioner Quinn stated that a lot of work goes on behind the scenes including all the water testing. Commissioner Quinn stated that Ocean County would put out a PSA closer to Memorial Day weekend about keeping Ocean County waters safe and beautiful.

Commissioner Quinn stated that it was nice to see all the different things that the Ocean County Board of Health does. Commissioner Quinn would inform the newer Commissioners on the Ocean County Board of Commissioners about all the services/programs of the Ocean County Health Department and get them involved. Commissioner Quinn suggested doing a field trip to the Ocean County Animal Shelters. Commissioner Quinn noted that his last field trip was riding in the SHERP vehicle, an all-terrain vehicle, recently purchased by the Ocean County Sheriff.

8. Other Matters:

Animal Facilities: Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer concurred with Commissioner Quinn's statement that the animal facilities' staff do a great job. Mr. Regenye stated that we are fortunate to have two County sponsored facilities. Mr. Regenye stated that today the Board adopted resolution 136(22) authorizing to reduce the surrender fee for the residents which is a benefit to the residents with a lot of issues going on and the financial constraints. Mr. Regenye continued that the agency did not want people to let their pets loose or chained to the facilities' doors or flagpoles. Mr. Regenye stated that the Health Department offers, based on conversation with the animal facility supervisors and managers, if someone expresses financial hardship, the fee is waived, as stated in the resolution.

COVID-19: Mr. Regenye stated that the Ocean County Health Department continues with an aggressive schedule for both vaccination and testing. Mr. Regenye noted that the COVID activity report indicates the State of New Jersey is yellow (moderate activity); communication from the State of New Jersey has the state gearing and moving towards orange (high activity). Mr. Regenye adding that even with an increase in activity and a spike in some of the severity, we are not anywhere near what it was several months ago and back in the beginning. Mr. Regenye stated that the agency continues to monitor COVID activity. Mr. Regenye added that flu activity remains high and the Health Department continues to address and monitor flu activity.

Ms. Jennifer Bacchione asked if the State of New Jersey goes back to orange would the State of New Jersey enforce mask mandates at the schools again. Mr. Regenye responded that the Health Department continues to have conversations with the State Department of Health. Mr. Regenye also stated that the agency continues with the Back to School Task Force helping the schools navigate any new guidelines and recommendations.

Dr. Maurice Hill stated based on county figures, the 0-18 age group has had no deaths and personally feels masks are not indicated for that population. Dr. Hill stated that the population where deaths incur are 45 and up and the 65 and up age group is 85%. Dr. Hill added that if you are in the vulnerable age group, you probably want to look at taking care of yourself and being vaccinated. Dr. Hill stated that he does not think going back to wearing masks in schools would be warranted.

Senator Robert Singer added that not all people who had COVID when they died, actually died as a result of COVID. Dr. Hill stated that they died with COVID not from COVID.

Dr. Hill stated that masks are not effective unless you are wearing a surgical mask, N-95. Senator Singer added that the N-95 masks should be worn properly and need to be fit-tested.

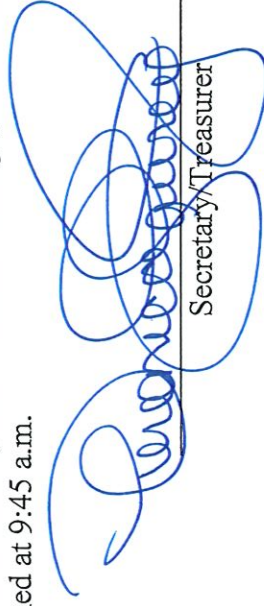
Flu: Mr. Henry Mancini asked if flu is starting to subside a little. Mr. Regenye responded that we are still seeing high activity with flu.

Auditors: Chairman Mallon thanked the auditors for attending today's Board of Health meeting in case there were questions.

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 9:45 a.m.


Secretary/Treasurer

67977
44679

**This Page
Intentionally Left
Blank**