

Ocean County Board of Health
175 Sunset Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey
March 1, 2023
9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on March 1, 2023 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. Oath of Office: Dr. Avinash Gupta

Oath of Office: Chairman Mallon welcomed the new Board of Health member, Dr. Avinash Gupta and asked Dr. Gupta to take the Oath of Office.

Board Counsel, Mr: Mathew Thompson administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Avinash Gupta. Dr. Gupta was sworn in and Mr. Thompson congratulated the new member of the Board on his appointment.

Chairman Mallon asked Dr. Gupta if he would like to talk about himself. Dr. Gupta did provide information about his background, noting that cardiology is his specialty but he is very much concerned about incidents of mental sickness, substance abuse, chronic disease such as diabetes and hypertension, and food insecurities in our community. Chairman Mallon stated that the Ocean County Board of Health is involved in serving the residents of Ocean County with respect to those issues as well as so much more. Chairman Mallon added that the Ocean County Board of Health is the second largest health department in the State of New Jersey behind New Jersey Department of Health.

4. Roll Call:

Ms. Jennifer Bacchione
Dr. Avinash Gupta
Dr. Maurice Hill
Dr. Theresa Kubiel
Ms. Veronica Laureigh
Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro
Senator Robert Singer
Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman

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

5. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

On motion made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, with Dr. Avinash Gupta and Dr. Theresa Kubiel abstaining, the open meeting minutes from the February 8, 2023 meeting were approved.

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

Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on resolutions 66(23) through and including add-on resolution 86(23) and to follow the abstention list. Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

6. Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 66(23) – Finance Committee Report – March 1, 2023 - \$512,544.14 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, with Dr. Avinash Gupta abstaining on Items #23-00040 and #23-00397; Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Item #23-00446; Dr. Theresa Kubiel abstaining on Items #23-00040 and #23-00397; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #23-00040 and #23-00397, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 67(23) – Personnel Committee Report – March 1, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 68(23) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Animal Birth Control, Inc. – for the provision of animal spay and neutering services for cats and dogs – in an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 – for the period March 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 69(23) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Alexandra Lopez – to facilitate a presentation on April 21, 2023 – in an amount not to exceed \$500.00 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 70(23) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Clarion Hotel – to hold the presentation entitled “Youth Leadership and Resiliency – Friday, April 21, 2023 – in an amount not to exceed \$3,653.90 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 71(23) – Award of bid for the furnishing of Animal Facility Supplies to Animal Care Equipment and Services; C Specialties, Inc.; Covetrus North America; and Midwest Veterinary Supply, Inc. – in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 – for the period March 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 72(23) – Award of bid for the furnishing of Veterinary Supplies to Covetrus North America; and Midwest Veterinary Supply, Inc. – in a total amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 – for the period March 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 73(23) – Authorization to accept the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO) Enhancing Local Public Health Infrastructure Grant – in an amount not to exceed \$4,508,994.00 – and authorization to execute the Letter of Agreement – for the period October 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 74(23) – Authorization to apply for the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Program Activity C Grant Year Two Extension – in an amount not to exceed \$583,380.00 – for the period April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 75(23) – Recognition of March 30, 2023 as National Doctors Day – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 76(23) – Recognition of April 2023 as National Alcohol Awareness Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 77(23) – Recognition of April 2023 as Minority and Multicultural Health Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 78(23) – Recognition of April 2023 as National Youth Sports Safety Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 79(23) – Recognition of April 2023 as National Distracted Drivers Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 80(23) – Recognition of April 2023 as Autism Acceptance Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 81(23) – Recognition of April 3-9, 2023 as National Public Health Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 82(23) – Recognition of April 16-22, 2023 as National Volunteer Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 83(23) – Recognition of April 23-29, 2023 as Administrative Professional’s Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 84(23) – Recognition of April 24-30, 2023 as National Infant Immunization Week – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 85(23) – Authorization for Patricia High and Samantha Foster-Tiso to attend the 2023 Qualtrics X4 Conference – in Salt Lake City, Utah – from March 6-9, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 86(23) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with MMCAP Infuse – effective March 1, 2023 – at no cost to the agency – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Senator Robert Singer, and unanimously approved.

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

Comments from Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn: Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Commissioners welcomed Dr. Gupta. Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn talked about getting to know Dr. Gupta very well through the COVID vaccination clinics where Dr. Gupta and fellow doctors volunteered their time. Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn added that Dr. Gupta is like an unsung hero, flying under the radar. The Commissioner stressed that it was important to him that someone with Dr.

Gupta's qualifications has joined as a member of the Ocean County Board of Health bringing all of Dr. Gupta's expertise.

Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn stated that he received notice of the members of the Ocean County Board of Health who are up for reappointments, Ms. Veronica Laureigh, Dr. Theresa Kubiel and Dr. Avinash Gupta.

8. Other Matters:

New Board of Health Member: Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer stated that he and Brian Rumpf, Director of Administration and Program Development, did meet with Dr. Gupta last Friday which was very productive. Mr. Regenye echoes the Commissioner's comments and added that Dr. Gupta is a great addition to the Ocean County Board of Health.

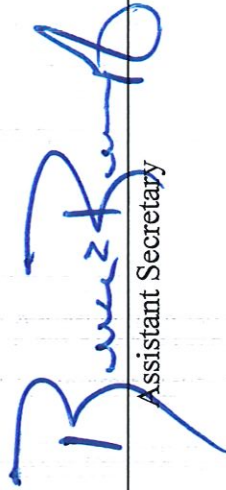
Seasonal Influenza: Mr. Regenye referred to the Board packet regarding the seasonal flu activity report. Mr. Regenye stated that this would be the last flu activity report for this flu season noting the level of flu activity is at a low level, even seeing low activity on the COVID side. Mr. Regenye discussed preparations for next flu season. Mr. Regenye stated the quantity of seasonal flu vaccine ordered for this flu season was a good amount and looking to order the same number of doses for the next flu season.

Public Health Week: Mr. Regenye informed the Board that the next Board of Health meeting would be the last before Public Health Week which is the first week of April. Mr. Regenye stated that some of the COVID vaccination efforts would be acknowledged and memorialized, and some items on display within the agency.

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. Ruthanne Scaturro, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and the meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.


Assistant Secretary