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

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on August 9, 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. Roll Call:

   Ms. Jennifer Bacchione
   Dr. Avinash Gupta
   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
   Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Health

4. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

   On motion made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, with Dr. Maurice Hill and Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro abstaining, the open meeting minutes from the July 12, 2023 meeting were approved.

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   Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked for a motion for the consent agenda on resolutions 209(23) through 232(23) and to follow the abstention list. Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

5. Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 209(23) – Ratification of Finance Committee Report – July 26, 2023 - $80,026.92 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 210(23) – Finance Committee Report – August 9, 2023 - $691,683.67 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, with Ms. Jennifer Bacchione abstaining on Item #23-01846; Dr. Avinash Gupta abstaining on Items #23-01775,
and #23-01794; Dr. Maurice Hill abstaining on Item #23-01324; Ms. Veronica Laureigh abstaining on Item #23-00861; Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining on Items #23-00861, #23-01324, #23-01624, #23-01810, #23-01846 and #23-02014; and Senator Robert Singer abstaining on Items #23-01775, and #23-01794, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 211(23) – Personnel Committee Report – August 9, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 212(23) – Authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Lakewood Resource and Referral Center, Inc. d/b/a CHEMED – sub-grant to provide vaccination education and outreach – in an amount not to exceed $25,000.00 – through December 31, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 213(23) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Chesed – to provide CPR training to residents of Ocean County – in an amount not to exceed $3,500.00 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 214(23) – Authorization to purchase two (2) vehicles (cargo van and pickup truck) from Winner Ford – in an amount not to exceed $207,103.00 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 215(23) – Authorization to accept the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program Grant – in an amount not to exceed $287,928.00 – for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 – and to forward the Letter of Agreement to the Ocean County Board of Commissioners – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 216(23) – Authorization to accept the DHST24HIV004-State HIV Services 2024 “Comprehensive Status-Neutral HIV Services for Focus Populations” in an amount not to exceed $300,000.00 – for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 217(23) – Authorization to accept the New Jersey Department of Health Overdose Fatality Review Teams Grant – in an amount not to exceed $75,000.00 – for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 218(23) – Authorization to accept additional funding for the New Jersey Department of Health’s Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) supplemental grant funding in an amount not to exceed $3,601.00 to be utilized by September 30, 2023 – for a new total amount not to exceed $3,102,697.00 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 219(23) – Authorization to apply for the County of Ocean Competitive Contract Proposal for Opioid Prevention Consulting – in an amount not to exceed $300,000.00 – for the period October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 220(23) – Authorization to apply for the Addiction Policy Forum Anti-Stigma Initiative pilot program – at no cost to the agency – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 221 (23) – Authorization to transfer ownership of unneeded telephone parts and equipment to the County of Ocean – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, with Mr. Henry Mancini abstaining, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 222(23) – Authorization to institute a standard policy that a vendor or claimant certification shall not be required for postal or similar delivery service and software as a service subscription – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.
Resolution 223(23) – Authorization for Kimberly Reilly to attend and present at the 2023 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program National Forum – in Arlington, VA – from August 28-31, 2023 – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 224(23) – Authorization for Daniel Regenye and Kimberly Reilly to attend the 2023 Police, Treatment and Community Collaborative (PTACC) Summit for the National Deflection and Pre Arrest Diversion Summit – in Denver, CO – from October 3-6, 2023 – supported through grant funds – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 225(23) – Authorization to accept insurance reimbursement from the health insurance of clients as payment in full for all vaccinations provided by and administered by the Ocean County Health Department – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 226(23) – Authorization to enter into an agreement with George Washington University School of Nursing – to accept nursing students – for the period August 10, 2023 through August 9, 2024 – at no cost to the agency – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 227(23) – Authorization to participate in Clear the Shelter – August 26, 2023 – and approve a reduced adoption fee of 50% for dogs and cats in conjunction with this event – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 228(23) – Recognition of September 2023 as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 229(23) – Recognition of September 2023 as National Preparedness Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 230(23) – Recognition of September 2023 as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 231(23) – Recognition of September 2023 as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

Resolution 232(23) – Recognition of September 2023 as Fruits and Veggies Month – Motion was made by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, seconded by Dr. Maurice Hill, and unanimously approved.

6. Comments: Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Health:

Comments from Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn: Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Health thanked Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer and Mr. Brian Rumpf, Director of Administration and Program Development for having the Ocean County Health Department participating at the Ocean County Fair. Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn explained that the Ocean County Fair is fun, enjoying the rides, enjoying the food and the fair provides the opportunity for the County of Ocean to showcase a lot of what goes on in the county. Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn stated that the fair this year was extremely successful.

Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn addressed a topic that was discussed at the previous Board of Health meeting. The Commissioner stated that Senator Robert Singer identified an issue within Ocean County regarding the problem of response of EMS (emergency
medical services). Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn informed the Board that the Ocean County Board of Commissioners are working on a plan currently because many requests were received from different mayors from certain parts of the county to give them some relief. Commissioner Deputy Director Quinn added that the county is working on a plan to purchase ambulances and put staff in place to provide back-up coverage. A long discussion followed. In addition to EMS some other topics included fire fighters, training and a Vocational School program.

7. Other Matters:

Ocean County Fair: Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer stated that the Ocean County Fair did go very well. Mr. Regenye added that the Ocean County Health Department not only was present in the Ocean County tent but also had a mobile unit at the fair. The Health Department provided education under the tent and service provision with some of our staff at the mobile unit.

Seasonal flu program: Mr. Regenye informed the Board that the Health Department was notified that we will be getting some of the flu vaccine order ahead of schedule. Mr. Regenye added that the Health Department is well on the way of crafting the schedule for the 2023/24 flu season.

Narcan outreach: Ms. Jenniffer Bacchione stated that she was approached by someone working at a hotel stating that people came to them talking about Narcan. The hotel worker responded they were not interested but took the brochure. The worker noticed that Ms. Bacchione’s name was on the brochure. Ms. Bacchione commented that she is a member of the Ocean County Board of Health. Ms. Bacchione thanked Ms. Kimberly Reilly, County Alcohol Coordinator and her team for being proactive, especially during the summer months with vacationers and partying. Ms. Bacchione stated that Ms. Reilly’s staff really go above and beyond to educate everyone.

COVID: Dr. Avanish Gupta advised the Board members of taking the COVID medication Paxlovid as soon as you begin the feel any of the symptoms. Dr. Gupta stated that you will feel better in 24 hours.

OCHD back drop: Chairman Mallon noticed the OCHD back drop. Mr. Regenye stated that the Health Department has purchased two to be used during virtual meetings and presentations.

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 Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Ruthanne Scaturro, and the meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.