



77 Main Street North, Suite 205
Southbury, CT 06488
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday 9/6/2023, 5:30 PM

Voting Members in Attendance

Fred D'Amico (Oxford) Board Chair
Michael Crespan (New Milford)
John Michaels (Southbury)
Dean Sarjeant (Washington)(Via Google meet)
Deb Fuller (Woodbury)
Dr. Jeremy Levin MD (New Milford) (Via Google Meet)

Non Voting Members in Attendance

Amy Bethge, MPH (Director of Health)

Staff in Attendance

Jen Luis (Operations Manager, Recording)
Joe Kmetz (Chief Sanitarian)

Voting Members Not in Attendance

Jack Kelly (Southbury)
Chris Cosgrove (New Milford)
Larry Ellis (Oxford) Vice Chair

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order- Board Chair Fred D'Amico 5:33 pm

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve 8/2/2023 BOD meeting minutes
Fred D'Amico made a motion to approve the minutes
Second: Deb Fuller
All in favor
Motion Carries

Chairman's Report

None

Directors Report

Ms. Bethge stated that the first meeting of the Finance Subcommittee was held on 9/5/23. Meeting minutes will be shared on 9/11/23. Following the meeting, the administrative team met with the company hired for bookkeeping and was assured that all committee requests would be met in a timely manner.

As discussed, and to ensure transparency, HVHD's data dashboard has been posted on the HVHD website, and shared with the board and town officials. A community health dashboard has also been created, which includes vaccination and community health program data. Mr. Michaels asked if the graphs could have a goal line. Ms. Bethge stated there is a goal line on the graphs on the website and HVHD is meeting those goals in all categories except for SSDS for New Milford and Woodbury during the month of August only. Mr. Michaels asked what are the specifics of the outliers. Ms. Bethge stated that typically outliers are a result of applicants submitting incorrect or incomplete information.

Grant funds are dispersed on a quarterly basis. This fiscal year we received three additional grants. Mr. Michaels asked that when the district knows it is going to get a grant can Ms. Bethge present a budget to the finance subcommittee. Ms. Bethge stated that would not be a problem.

The Annual report was sent out about a month ago and is on the HVHD website.

Community Health Update

The Community health team has been working hard to get everything ready and organized for the upcoming flu season including vaccine shipments, schedules, hiring per diem nurses and getting prepared for the nurse and volunteer orientations. There are 44 flu clinics scheduled for this season. With school starting and respiratory virus season around the corner, the community health nurse has been busy answering questions regarding Covid-19 in the post-pandemic era.

Lead cases continue to come into our district and Heidi has been working with local pediatricians and community members to provide educational materials and ensure that follow-up testing is completed. Heidi has also been working directly with community members to follow up on infectious disease monitoring, and to provide childhood immunizations, which was particularly labor intensive ahead of back to school.

Ms. Bethge was appointed to the Opioid Settlement Advisory committee by Governor Ned Lamont. This committee is charged with allocating opioid litigation settlement funds to be spent on substance use disorder abatement infrastructure, programs, services, supports, and resources for prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction with public involvement, transparency, and accountability. Dr. Levin asked if we have stats on how it is affecting the region. Ms. Bethge has issued a dashboard to present data back dating to 2015 with overdose cases and can share with the board and breakdown by the district.

Environmental Health Update

The district welcomes a new staff member for the Public Health Office Administrator position. The team has been working with the State of CT regarding several wells throughout the District that have tested positive for E Coli.

Ms. Bethge stated that DPH has issued a press release regarding Powassan virus. Powassan virus is transmitted through tick bites. Dr. Levin asked if we had stats on tick bites for our region and would like to link Danbury hospital with the stats. Ms. Bethge said she can reach out to Danbury Hospital to see about partnering and getting those stats to them. Dr. Levin wanted to comment that hopefully next year there will be a vaccine for lyme and would like to see if there would be something in the budget for the district to administer. Mr. Michaels said we should be sensitive to our budget for paying for the vaccine to administer.

Old Business

None

Executive Session

Lustig vs. Health District

Executive session started 6:02pm

Executive session ended 6:14pm

Annual Review

Executive session started at 6:16pm

Executive session ended at 6:40pm

No motions were made

New Business

Fred D'Amico stated there was a recommendation to move the board meetings quarterly as everything seems to be going fine. Ms. Fuller and Mr. Crespan would like to keep the meetings monthly for now. Mr. D'Amico said we will keep the meetings monthly for now and will revisit in the next couple of months.

Meeting Adjournment - 6:42pm

Motion to adjourn: Deb Fuller

Second: John Michaels

All in Favor

Motion Carries

Minutes recorded by:



Jennifer Luis