

EAST SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
688 East Main Street, Branford, CT 06405

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Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 5:30 pm
In-Person/Virtual Meeting

Wai Estepin
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

Present: Susan Addiss, Michael Pascucilla, Elaine Anderson, Dennis Natri, Virginia Fallon, Susan Deko, Darlene Zimmermann, Amy Scholz, Wendy Bellmore, Michael Turcio

Absent: Dr. Young

Meeting called to order by Dennis Natri at 5:37 p.m.

1. Welcome/Public Comments General Discussion
2. Approval of the September 10, 2024, ESDHD Board Minutes – Sue Addiss, commented on three minor edits to be corrected. Susan Deko made a motion to approve, Virginia Fallon 2nd. All approved.
3. Correspondences – one – Report given to ESDHD regarding PFAS at Tweed New Haven Airport. The Director has been in touch with New Haven and East Haven. Meeting with DEEP tomorrow morning (they are the lead).
4. Old Business
 - a. ESDHD Vacancy – Director discussed recruitment and retention, and receipt of grant funding. Presented job posting instead of traditional job posting, “Why should someone work here”, it’s an invitation to join the health department, “a calling, benefits, and quality of life.” Shared invitation in PPT which was posted on web page. Posting for Business Manager hopes to be filled by the beginning of December. Part time, an Administrative Assistant was hired about two months ago. Seasonal position just hired for assistance with vaccine clinics.
5. New Business
 - a. ESDHD Epidemiological Report - Epidemiology report – Madison Wierzel presented a report on:
 - Madison and Teresa passed Infection Control Certification
 - Respiratory Infection Update
 - West Nile Virus – EEE update
 - COVID-19 update
 - Reviewed statistics for RSV, Covid 19, flu, West Nile and EEE.
 - Saline IV bag shortage related to recent Hurricanes
 - b. Summer Intern Presentations:
 - Sarah Esenther - Water Quality Study – worked with ESDHD when she was a MPH student at Yale, now she is a PhD student at Brown University. She will be continuing her research. Recently presented at the Directors of Health Association, National Environmental Health Association, National Environmental Monitoring Conference, accepted at CPH, APHA and European Public Health Association Conference. The Study was presented by Sarah Esenther, Kathryn Amatruda, Sophie Lui, and Taite Popkin.

- c. ESDHD Fee Schedule – Amy Scholz presented on the fee schedule changes and rationale.
- d. Current/Pending Grants – Michael Pascucilla reported a more thorough report will be shared at the Retreat.
 - The state is behind distributing the per capita funds, \$180,00.00
 - Suicide grant – about a year behind, moved passed OPM, \$50,00.00, part-time staff will be made full-time from grant.
 - Discussion on opioid grant – Grant funded through the CDC passed through New Haven County, who partnered with ESDHD. They are funding ESDHD with \$100,000 for a full time Harm Reduction Specialist – He is out in the community, working with partners, and working with individuals in the community with substance abuse. Director will ask him to present at the next meeting.
- e. Staff Retreat – will take place tomorrow (October 11th).
- f. Board Retreat – Thursday, November 7th, all day, beginning at 9 am.
- g. Annual meeting reflection – Positive feedback.

6. ESDHD Committee Board Members Report

- Executive Committee - Dennis Nastro – no report
- Personnel Committee - Sue Deko – no report
- Planning/Evaluation Committee - Elaine Anderson – no report
- Audit Committee – Michael Turcio – no report
- Budget Committee – Virginia Fallon – no report
- Ad Hoc Committee - By-Laws – Susan Addiss – no report
- Ad Hoc Committee – Health District Building – Darlene Zimmermann – Tabled

7. Director's Report

- PHAB Accreditation Application Status – Documents to be sent by 10/31/24
- ESDHD PH Activity Reports (Environmental, Emerg. Preparedness, Education & Nursing) – emailed for review. Working on an enhanced environmental health database.
- Motion made by Susan Addiss to change the November Board meeting from 11/12 to 11/7 after board retreat. Michael Turcio seconded. All in favor.

8. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Susan Addiss and seconded by Michael Turcio. All in favor. Adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Carrano

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary