

**EAST SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
688 East Main Street, Branford CT
Executive Board Meeting - Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 5:30 pm
Virtual - Zoom Meeting**

Present: Dennis Nastri, Susan Addiss, Michael Pascucilla, Susan Deko, Virginia Fallon, Marissa DeChillo-Bateman, Darleen Zimmermann, Elaine Anderson, Dr. Margaret Ikeda

Meeting called to order by Dennis Nastri at 5:33 pm.

1. Welcome – Elias Najjar appointment expired and new board member for East Haven Marissa DeChillo-Bateman was appointed.
2. Public Comments – no public comment
3. Correspondences – Another correspondence from Mr. Cooke. Reflected upon by Director of Public Health 3 weeks ago.
4. Approval of the 2021 February Meeting Minutes - Sue Addiss made a motion to accept. Darlene Zimmermann 2nd. All in favor.
5. Old Business
 1. Staff Vacancies – Status MTCH supervisor candidate – grant pending at this time– position postponed.
 2. Mobile Public Health Clinic – Status – mobile vaccines next step, need to create grass roots in the community. Small grant application to be submitted. Reviewing next week currently do not have all the details.
 3. Yale Summer Climate Change Internship Project & NEHA Summer Internship Grant Proposal. Two projects fully funded with one intern each. Projects Description - Problem with Climate Change on the coast. Potential candidates will conduct surveys, collect samples and conduct other small projects alongside ESDHD staff. All expenses are paid by associations for the students. Hope to deliver results to the community after project complete.
6. Chris Thompson - ESDHD Financial Advisor – Invited by Director of ESDHD. Chris is long term planning for health department. Including \$100,000.00 of funds invested a few years ago. A goal was set to potentially have our own building in the future. Currently in Security Benefits/Person Funds. Kept money in holding pattern while in volatile period of Covid and the market. Reminder it is government taxpayer's money and will be in-between high risk and low risk. Keep in mind we are investing in companies with health in mind, i.e., we would not invest in tobacco company.

Declaring objective for money allocations, understanding risk, understanding guideline Chris reviewed options – CD very low, bonds down, rising interest rate. Stock prices predicted to go up.

1. Reviewed Year Bond Corporate Ladder, the total portfolio of 0–10. Prudent, conservative, and earning something. Yields are not great, responsibility as government is good. Yielding only 1.32%
2. Reviewed Short Term Investment Fund. Ultra-defensive and conservative, another fixed income investment. Another 3rd party asset manager. Also considered defense and bond associate.
3. Depending on the risk the board wants to take, will impact on the risk and reward. Chris stated “If board agrees, what I would do is create adding on equity US stock allocation to give you something to consider with risk profile. In addition of sending you the conservative portfolio”.
4. Director reflected on the Board’s previous decision on where we wanted to be as a Board as far as risk. Previously voted on somewhere at a 6 for investments (0-10). Discussed previous goal of having a building in the future with the money. When we could add money too. With pandemic not an option now. Last time we invested for 5 years. We would need to at least invest again at minimum of 5 year to be worth it. We would like to be at \$250,000 to purchase building.
5. Director presented 6/10 risk and 5 years. Need to explore penalties if we take out before 5 years. Chris stated no penalties or no restriction to access. 100% liquid.
6. Motion for Chris to conduct more research and present investment information to board in the future and make a proposal on investment of \$100,00 reserve fund. Motion to approve by Sue Deko, Darlene Zimmermann 2nd. All in favor.
7. An overview was presented to new board members regarding the risk of investments.

7. New Business

1. Coronavirus Update – Local & State Update Presentation – As of 4/7/2021 5% positive cases, currently see fluctuation of 3 – 5 % daily. Madison and Guilford 4.8 to 6.5% received extra funding to track. COVID Cases – Bfd 66 EH 36, Guilford 39, Madison 46, NB 12. Hospitalizations are up in Connecticut and New Haven county. Fatalities continue to occur daily. Better this week, trending in the right direction. Discussed peak occurred in December, numbers continue to decline. Weekly fluctuations continue. Highest in two months, seeing decline in April due to community vaccinating. However, seeing an increase in children in the School systems increase Bfd 27%, East Haven 22% and North Branford 30% of cases. More individuals testing now causing increase in numbers of cases. Vaccine estimated statistics – Branford 95% over 75 y/o, East Haven 64% over 75y/o, and North Branford 95% over 75 y/o.
2. Vaccines- Going to people homes (homebound) . Also, administering curbside vaccinations for individuals with mobility difficulties. Vaccine supply is compromised due to a Johnson & Johnson (J&J) factory accident resulting in the loss of 15 million doses. Prefer J & J because one dose. More effective

with herd immunity. As of April 1st, everyone ages 16 and older are eligible for the Covid vaccine.

3. Nurturing Family Network (A.K.A. Maternal Child Health Program) Grant program for the past seven years. 5 staff, 45 families, Purpose of grant is to target high risk families and to help the children and families. Grant allows us to buy diapers, formula, car seats, etc and allows us to assist with family education, domestic violence or substance abuse issues. Fully funded by grant. \$335,000.00. Funding ends in July. Proposal for continuing grant is \$440,000.00. Looking at for another 5 years. Should know by Monday if we will be funded again.

8. Director's Report

- PHAB Accreditation Application Status –Have been working on accreditation for over five years. We would be one of five in US to Nationally Accredited. Future vision is that we would need this accreditation to be qualified for grants. PHAB accreditation review in July. The Zoom site visit scheduled for the fall. Everything submitted & awaiting review and schedule of dates. Paid \$14,000.00 fee application fee last year. Annual \$5,600.00 fee.
- ESDHD PH Activity Reports (Environmental, Emerg. Preparedness, Education & Nursing). Sent to Board via email for review. Director asked if there were any questions.
- ESDHD Budget 2020-2021- State/Local Status – Waiting for a decision from the state regarding per capita funding. Requested a per capital increase from local towns to assist ESDHD with Covid response.

9. Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm by Elaine Anderson and 2nd by Virginia Fallon. Next meeting is May 13th to continue via Zoom until summer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Carrano

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary