

**EAST SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
688 East Main Street, Branford CT
Executive Board Meeting - Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 5:30 pm
Virtual - Zoom Meeting**

Present: Susan Addiss, Michael Pascucilla,
Virginia Fallon, Darlene Zimmermann,
Elaine Anderson, Susan Deko

Absent: Dennis Nastri, Marissa DeChillo-Bateman

Meeting called to order by Susan Addiss at 05:37 pm.

1. Welcome
2. Public Comment
3. Minutes from June meeting - Marissa made a motion to approve the minutes. Darlene 2nd motion. Motion approved. Minutes for May minutes - Elaine moves to approve the May minutes. Susan Addiss 2nd motion. May minutes are approved.
4. Correspondence – normal correspondence
5. Old Business
 - ESDHD Financial Advisor – Updated Fund Recommendations – Director reviewed the plan proposal from the Finance Advisor; interests have increased since last review from financial advisor. Advisor recommended an additional option of an annuity to also be considered, and suggested a decision be made soon now that the market has shifted in a positive way. The Director proposed to the board a review of the documents and vote at the next meeting.
 - Climate Change Photojournalism Project/Interns – Status National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Summer Internship Grant Proposal – Status –Two currently working with ESDHD Yale and UCONN. MPH student from UCONN committed to stay on the project for another year and continue for an independent study and possibly a publication. APHA accepted abstract and project will be presented in Boston in November.
6. New Business
 - Coronavirus Update / Vaccination Statistics/Clinics – Local & State Update Presentation - Coronavirus Update / Vaccination Statistics – Local & State Update Presentation from the Director. He reviewed national statistics, and the statistical trending/chart of Connecticut. Director reviewed all three towns in the

district including, positivity rates, age distribution, fatalities, vaccination rates, trends. Discussion on the effectiveness of Covid booster. A review of vaccines, and hospitalization status for the district. Discussed fluctuation in relationship to the lagging in data from the state. ESDHD continues to educate the community and administer the vaccines to targeted populations in the community.

- Student Internship Presentations –
 - Amy from ESDHD worked with Antoinette to complete her internship for Southern Connecticut University and degree in Environmental Health this past summer for her degree in public health. Antoinette presented her work and projects in the area of environmental health this past summer.
 - Julie completed her internship for Southern Connecticut University in Environmental Health as a minor course. She worked on projects in Health Education with Barbara. Julie presented her work and projects in the area of environmental health from this past summer.
 - Annie from Albertus College studying General Health Science with a focus on public health. She worked on projects in the office setting at ESDHD with Barbara as her summer internship. Annie presented her work and projects in the area of public health.
 - Gabby from Providence College who worked with Barbara and Elizabeth in a summer internship with focus on Emergency Management and needs assessment presented her work and projects. Gabby's presentation was prerecorded and played for the board.

- Director discussed a CDC/National Environmental Health Association internship. Robert was accepted for an internship at ESDHD and will join us next month from California.

- Epic Clinical Data Base – Director reports that we have hit a glitch, Yale informed ESDH that they are no longer supporting any outside vendors. The Director has spoken to upper-level management about continuing the project. Currently the project is on hold.

- Health Department file digitation project –Staff met with Chesprocott Health District to understand the process. There will be an annual cost of \$6,000. Initially, it will cost ~\$14,000. The goal is more business-friendly and most business will be able to be conducted online. Director assured the security of the system is safe, all FCC guidelines are followed, will be password protected and the system is backed up. Currently, applications are online and web security is already in place with our IT vendor. The digital process is expected to take at least two years.

- States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA) Presidents Award – Director was contacted this summer by the U.S. National Wildlife that ESDHD was going to be nominated for a national award for the solar pump out boat to SOBA. We

received the President's award. He traveled to Ohio to present on the solar pump out boat and made a video for the award.

- Elaine made a motion for HR issue to go into executive session, Virginia 2nd motion. Return from executive session.

7. Director's Report

- Slightly behind on environmental visits due to staffing vacancy, one environmental staff member and new staff members (2) were not certified, one of which just received their certification. Currently a shortage of Environmental Health workers. Two weeks ago, a Public Health nurse and a community health worker were hired to fill vacancies.
- ESDHD PH Activity Reports (Environmental, Emerg. Preparedness, Education & Nursing).
- PHAB Accreditation Application Status – no update, waiting to hear from the Board, hopefully within 30 days, then a site visit hopefully by the end of the year.
- ESDHD Union Negotiations – Collective Bargaining Contract Expiration 6/2022 – Continue to work under the clause due to expiration to file contract due to negotiation still continuing. Working with our labor attorney, submitted and awaiting the union's response. The process continues to anticipate over the next few months as negotiations go back and forth.
- ESDHD 2022-2023 Adopted Budget Report – Adoption of the audit will take place in September. Will meet with the budget committee in the next two months to set the per capita rate, still waiting for state grants to move forward.

8. Motion to adjourn by Darlene and 2nd by Virginia. All in favor. Adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Carrano

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary