

**EAST SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
688 East Main Street, Branford CT  
Executive Board Meeting - Thursday, April 14, 2022, at 5:30 pm  
Virtual - Zoom Meeting**

Present: Susan Addiss, Michael Pascucilla,  
Virginia Fallon, Darlene Zimmermann,  
Elaine Anderson, Nick Palladino, Dennis Natri, Marissa DeChillo-Bateman,

Absent: Susan Deko

Meeting called to order by Dennis Natri at 05:30 pm.

1. Welcome
2. Public Comment – Margaret Ikeda, MD reviewed history of ESDHD (East Shore District Health Department) since the 80’s.
3. Approval of the 2022 February Meeting Minutes – Virginia Fallon. made a motion to approve minutes, Darlene Zimmermann 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. Minutes approved. Correction made in agenda attendance.
4. Correspondence – normal correspondence
5. Old Business
  - ESDHD Financial Advisor - Fund Recommendations – Financial advisor Chris and Director had a meeting regarding financial investment status. Identified a sustainable fund that fits the ESDHD vision. Black Water is a moral and ethical, green funds, moderate risk investment for a local health department to invest for three to five years which can be liquified at any time. Chris advised that the market is very viable right now and he advised us to hold off for the next two months with current war. Elaine Anderson expressed concern about length of time this has been ongoing. Suggested we place on agenda on the fall for vote.
  - Climate Change Photojournalism Project/Interns –National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Summer Internship Grant Proposal – Status –started last year with Yale University and NEHA. Now have students. Received renewed funding for a Yale student, interviewed and accepted a student, she will be starting in summer. Also have a UCONN MPH student that will be leading the project. Works for Yale and completing his MPH degree. Also submitted another grant proposal NEHA for another students, which is pending approval. Goal is to start getting community members to understand the climate change through human interviews and photo journals, as many individuals are not believing in the data alone.

- MCH (Maternal Child Health) program presentation by Deirdre (De) Popkin, supervisor of MCH – The MCH grant from the State of Connecticut started on July 1<sup>st</sup>, they require a presentation to the board once a year which is a result of the parent satisfaction survey, programmatic data and improvement goals with strategies. Review of the parent survey data, response was low only 16/40. Reviewed questions on survey, positive feedback noted. Reviewed program benchmarks, compared Connecticut with ESDHD data, noted positive outcome as ESDHD is higher than Connecticut statistics. Reviewed Goals for improvement, since last grant we enrolled 30 families, and 13 were from priority populations, suggested this is an area we need to approve. Discussion on strategies on how to increase survey responses through incentivizing. De will explore grant guidelines.

## 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, statistical chart of Connecticut. Director reviewed all three towns in the district including positivity rates, age distribution, fatalities, vaccination rates, trends, vaccination clinics throughout the towns and schools. Discussed the difficulty with contact tracing, many performing home tests, especially in multifamily illness, which are not being reported. Reviewed Omicron virus and the other different variants.
- COVID CT DPH Grant ELC 2 – Funding still in the process of being granted from the state. ESDHD should hear any day from the state on final approval. This grant will take up through 2024. Some of the deliverables will be changing, previously heavily on contract tracing.
- MRC Regional Grant Award – received \$75,000 grant and working with New Haven County on how to spend money. We were one of a very few in the United States that were awarded.
- Pump-Out Vessel Updates – finalizing the contract, went with three-year contract, hold up on AG office, still moving forward. Grant money will be used for updating the vessels.

7. Executive Session – Motion to go into Executive Session by Sue Addiss and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elaine Anderson, return from Executive Session 7:06 pm Sue Addiss Motion and Virginia Fallon 2<sup>nd</sup>.

8. Dr. Young new ESDHD Medical Advisor introduced himself. All board members introduced themselves.

## 9. Director's Report

- ESDHD PH Activity Reports (Environmental, Emerg. Preparedness, Education & Nursing). Sent via email.
- PHAB Accreditation Application Status – We passed the next step, all additional reports submitted, deadlines and deliverables met. Currently under review. Should hear within 60 days regarding further steps.

- Union Negotiations – pending meeting dates with union negotiation team to begin deliberation of the contract.
- Proposed budget - Draft completed, Michael had some deliberating with town, looks goods, awaiting final approval from the towns.
- Motion made from Elaine Anderson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue Addiss that up to \$10,000 be allotted to the Director ESDHD for tuition/professional development expenses. Vote – Six in favor and one opposed. Motion approved.
- Next meeting May 12, 2022.

10. Motion to adjourn by Virginia Fallon and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nick Paladino. All in favor. Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Angela Carrano*

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary