

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

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 11, 2024, 5:30 pm
In-Person/Virtual Meeting

Present: Susan Addiss, Michael Pascucilla, Elaine Anderson, Dr. Young, Dennis Natri, Virginia Fallon, Darlene Zimmermann, Michael Turcio, Susan Deko, Wendy Bellmore

Absent: none

Meeting called to order by Dennis Natri at 5:30 p.m.

1. Welcome
2. Public Comment – none
3. Correspondence – No specific correspondence to report out.
4. Old Business
 - City of New Haven Opioid grant for \$386,000.00~ over four years received this past week. The opioid grant to fund a FT Harm Reduction Specialist.
 - ESDHD Vacancies – Status – Starting salary \$60,000.00 for Harm Reduction Specialist. Have been interviewing. We have narrowed it down to a couple of candidates.
 - Travel Clinic Program – Dr. Young reports a steady rate of individuals attending the clinic.
 - Yale – CT DPH Fellowship Partnership/Summer Internships – through workforce development grant (HHS, CDC), \$3,500.00 per semester per project Fellowship. ESDHD has 1 UCONN, 1 Yale, 1 Marist College, 1 Bridgeport University and 1 SCSU. One additional student we may fund. Potentially 6 students (one paid by ESDHD) for summer to work on several projects for the ESDHD. Director reviewed some of the upcoming projects for the summer.
5. New Business
 - Epidemiology report – Madison Wierzel recorded the report, played, and reviewed data, including hospitalizations and vaccination statistics.
 - Respiratory Reporting Diseases – reviewed data and hospitalization rates. The season is winding down. This is the last month for reportable data.
 - Vaccination rates by town
 - Vector-borne disease recap.
 - Historical radon data
 - Current/Pending Grants – New Grant Funded Position Status
 - By-Laws & Personnel Policy Updates
 - Pending grants
 - New Haven Green Fund – \$8,000 for the possible opening of a shellfish bed in East Haven. Meeting pending with Aquaculture. Plans to test waters up the Farm River. Students will be helping with the Yale students.
 - The first payment from the State Immunization grant was over a year ago. Slightly over \$200,000.00~.

- Funded for the pump out boat for repairs needed, CT DEEP will be funding, additional \$20,000.00~.
 - MCH Grant will be increased to about \$485,000.00~ per year. This program is 100% funded.
 - Workforce Development – will be spending about \$60,000 this year (was 4-year grant).
 - Academic Detailing grant – outreach to reduce prescription opioids. Meeting with prescribing physicians. Dr. Young explained the education program.
- Opioid discussion:
 - Higher than average prescribing in our district. We are reviewing this matter and it may be associated with a high senior population, hospice, etc.
 - By-Laws—Michael Pascucilla proposed to form a committee (the Bylaws are from 1974). Michael Director is currently working with legal counsel and reviewed potential updates.

6. Director's Report

- PHAB Accreditation Application Status – met with them yesterday, documents submitted. They reported they are backlogged and they may not be able to review documents until November 2024.
- Budget Update – Draft submitted to all three towns, met with North Branford and East Haven. Continues to move forward and most have supported. Increases proposed was 4% to yield \$13.41 per capita.
- ESDHD PH Activity Reports (Environmental, Emerg. Preparedness, Education & Nursing).
- ESDHD Personnel Discussion – Executive Session – Darlene Zimmerman made a motion to go into executive session, Susan Addiss' 2nd motion. Elaine Anderson made a motion to returned from executive session at 7:30 pm. Darlene Zimmerman 2nd motion. All in favor.

7. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Virginia Fallon and seconded by Sue Deko. All in favor. Adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Carrano

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary