

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

Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 5:30 pm.  
*In-Person/Virtual Meeting*

Present: Michael Pascucilla, Virginia Fallon, Elaine Anderson, Dr. Richard Young, Wendy Bellmore, Susan Addiss, Susan Deko, Michael Solakian

Absent: Dennis Nastri, Darlene Zimmermann, Michael Turcio

Elaine Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

1. Welcome/Public Comments – No public comments
2. Approval of January 8, 2026, ESHD Board Minutes – Motion to approve by Susan Addiss; seconded by Susan Deko. All in favor. *Approved.*
3. Correspondence – none
4. Old Business
  - a. ESHD Epidemiological Report – Presented by Madison Wierzel, covering:
    - Local Respiratory Virus Summary
    - Overdose Update
    - Suicide data update
    - Updates at a glance: H5N1, measles
  - b. Audit Committee Presentation – Melissa Trofatter’s detailed audit report will be issued once a year, followed by brief quarterly updates. Michael Solakian reflected on the presentation in a positive manor.
    - Function and roles and responsibility
    - Reviewed checks and balance
    - Final Snapshot
  - c. Michael Solakian – Reflected on his review of the audit reports, stated, no significant deficiencies or material weakness in your system of control. In addition, he reflected on upcoming budget for the next fiscal year.
  - d. Travel Clinic Update – Dr. Young – Briefly reported continued success of the travel clinic.
  - e. ESHD Fellowships/Internships
    - Two fellows awarded for this spring semester; They both started and they will each receive a stipend of \$3,500.00.
      - Sarah – leading the water quality project. Split between environmental health and public health education.
      - Discussed creating a public service announcement to raise awareness.
      - Presentation to the town of Branford on water quality project to be scheduled.
    - Applications have been submitted for two additional fellows through the Yale Climate Change and Health program for this summer; decisions are pending. These positions are fully funded as well.

e. ESHD Databases

- Overall progress is going well; adjustments will continue as needed. Environmental scanning will continue as planned, with an anticipated completion date of July 1. Awaiting the final medical database decision, which is expected in early March after review completed.

f. ESHD Research Abstract Proposals (NEHA, CPHA, NACCHO, & New England Annual Nonpoint Source Conference).

- Presentation scheduled for April at the NEHA Conference in Plymouth, MA.
- Presentation scheduled for CPHA's annual conference in April at the University of Saint Joseph in Hartford, CT.
- NACCHO abstract accepted; presentation scheduled for June in Kansas City, MO.
- Awaiting application openings for the following:
  - EPHA – Finalizing manuscript prior to submission for publication.
  - APHA – Will submit if not accepted by EPHA.

5. New Business

a. Acting Director for West Haven

- Michael was asked to serve as Acting Director for West Haven when the Director is traveling or out of state. The advisory role would be limited to a maximum of two weeks at a time. The Director reviewed the responsibilities associated with this role. West Haven is currently in partnership with ESHD on multiple programs. The Council reviewed and edited the agreement prior to acceptance
- Director is currently working as Acting Director for the Quinnipiac Valley Health Department.

b. Discussion regarding the replacement of our electric vehicle (2016) due to ongoing performance and reliability issues

c. Upcoming CT Commissioner of Public Health will visit –Thursday, March 12, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Planning a presentation from ESHD staff.

6. Committee Reports

- Executive Committee – Elaine Anderson – No report.
- Personnel Committee –Elaine Anderson – No report
- Planning/Evaluation Committee – Elaine Anderson – Discussion on potentially Retreat for late spring.
- Audit Committee – Michael Pascucilla reported out as Michael Turcio was absent – Report earlier
- Budget Committee – Virginia Fallon – Meeting coming soon, postponed as we are awaiting town responses.
- Committee – By-Laws – Sue Addiss - No report.
- Ad Hoc Committee – Health District Building – Elaine Anderson reported out as Darlene was absent–Postponed at this time. Potential refurbishing current space.

7. Director's Report

- Budget update – no update

8. Activity Reports

- Distributed via email for review. No comments.

9. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn Susan Deko; seconded by Virginia Fallon. All in favor. *Adjourned at 6:45 PM.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Angela Carrano*

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary