

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

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 5:30 pm.
In-Person/Virtual Meeting

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

Absent: Susan Deko

Dennis Nastri called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

1. Welcome/Public Comments – No public comments
2. Approval of November 13, 2025, ESHD Board Minutes – Motion to approve by Darlene Zimmerman; seconded by Elaine Anderson. All in favor. *Approved.*
3. Correspondence – Branford Community Foundation (supported by ESDHD, and they are a part of our CHIP board) – received a thank you for our support.
4. Old Business
 - a. Travel Clinic Update – Dr. Young – Briefly reported continued success of the travel clinic. Discussed yellow fever and meningitis.
 - b. ESHD Epidemiological Report – Presented by Madison Wierzel, covering:
 - National Respiratory Season Update
 - Local Respiratory Virus Summary
 - Overdose Update
 - Suicide data update
 - Updates at a glance: H5N1, measles
 - c. Intern Presentation
 - Isabella Esposito SCSU, candidate for BSPH – “ESHD Internship.”
 - Elizabeth Barnes, Johnson and Wales, RI, candidate for BSPH – “Local Public Health Experience Overview”
 - d. ESHD Fellowships/Internships
 - Two fellows awarded, running from mid-January through the summer.
 - Each fellow receives a stipend of \$3,500.00.
 - 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.
 - e. ESHD Databases
 - Environmental Specialists using tablets in the field.
 - Database up and running: Online applications and payments are going well.
 - Scanning continues – goal to complete by July.
 - Medical database – continuing to research and will have an update at the next meeting.

f. Current/Pending Grants

- Grant Updates
- Secured just under \$18,000.00 for the water shed project from Branford.

5. New Business

- a. Upcoming CT Commissioner of Public Health Visit – A separate meeting has been proposed, potentially on Thursday, March 12, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Thursday, March 26, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m or Thursday, April 9, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Save the date.
- b. ESHD Research Abstract Proposals (NEHA, CPHA, NACCHO, & New England Annual Nonpoint Source Conference). –
 - Farm River Short Beach Water Quality/East Haven Shellfish Bed Project – Submitted abstracts - Waiting for response after submission of abstract. Currently writing the manuscript.
 - Submitted an abstract to NACCHO
 - Plan to submit an abstract to the European Public Health Journal first and then to the American Public Health Association when the registration opens.
- c. ESHD Accreditation Event – Friday, December 12, 2025 – Discussion, positive comments noted.

6. Committee Reports

- Executive Committee – Dennis Natri – No report.
- Personnel Committee – Susan Deko – no report
- Planning/Evaluation Committee – Elaine Anderson – Michael will explore a free venue for retreat.
- Audit Committee – Michael Pascucilla – Michael Solakian will attend the Board meeting next month.
- Budget Committee – Virginia Fallon – No report.
- Ad Hoc Committee – By-Laws – Sue Addiss - No report.
- Ad Hoc Committee – Health District Building – Darlene Zimmermann – No report.

9. Director's Report

- Budget update – no update

10. Activity Reports

- Distributed via email for review. No comments.

11. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Darlene Zimmermann; seconded by Elaine Anderson. All in favor.
Adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Carrano

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary