

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

Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 3:30 pm
In-Person Meeting

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

Absent: Michael Turcio, Marissa DeChillo-Bateman

Meeting called to order at 3:35 p.m.

1. Welcome
2. Susan Deko made a motion to accept September minutes. Darlene Zimmermann 2nd motion. All in favor. Minutes accepted.
3. Elaine Anderson at 3:40 pm., made a motion to go into executive session. Susan Addiss 2nd.
4. Susan Addiss made a motion to change monthly Board Meeting to 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m. starting January 2024. Darlene 2nd motion. All in favor. Meeting date and time have changed.
5. The director reported that currently, ESDHD has a life and disability insurance policy for employees with Lincoln Financial and would like to change to The Hartford. This change will save \$300 a month and provide better benefits for the employees. The life insurance policy will increase from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Life insurance for spouses and children will also be available at the employee's cost if they opt-in. The benefit for short-term disability will go from 6 month waiting period to 3 month waiting period.
6. Correspondence – no correspondence
7. Old Business
 - ESDHD Vacancies – The new part-time Public Health Nurse started today and worked at the clinic.
 - We applied for a grant to reduce overdoses in the district. We were notified we received the grant in a letter. This grant will include funding for a community navigator. ESDHD will be funded from the CDC (paid to the City of New Haven and redirected to our district to be managed by ESDHD). This funding will provide Community Health Worker care to go out into the community to find and target hot spots, work with partners, work on reduction, and provide Narcan training. The areas that the community worker will cover are ESDHD, Guilford, and Madison. No budget details at this time only a letter stating ESDHD will receive grant for the region.

- Travel Clinic Program – Update – Dr. Young reported continues to be busy.

8. New Business

- Student intern presentation – Fiona Palmieri – Table presentation again to next month.
- Workforce Development Grant, Immunization Grant, LEC2 Grant and Suicide Grant – Received all award letters, waiting for details on grant from the state. In addition, the Overdose Grant as mentioned earlier will be shared with the region.
- Personnel Policies – The Director will be working on new policies over the next year. After legal reviews them, he will then bring them to the Board. He was able to review Branford’s policies with HR to assist in the process of updating ours.
- Farm River Quality Water Project – (Farm River and Short Beach) 1st round of genetic testing received. Discovered high levels of canine (dog) fecal matter showing on initial results of the data. Continue to wait for additional testing results. Community members continue to volunteer to gather evidence and observe community practices. It has been observed that it is canine (dog and not coyote) fecal matter.
- Epidemiology report – Madison Wierzel reported on respiratory illnesses. Reviewed data, reporting no sharp increases or peaks noted. Reported on hospitalizations, vaccination statistics, and reviewed best practices.
- Vaccination clinic update – as of yesterday we have given 841 flu vaccines, many COVID vaccinations given, ESDHD needed to order COVID vaccines three times already. Appear to be one of the only clinics still giving the COVID vaccines.
- Submitted data from Short Beach Project to two different conference venues for potential publications.
- Currently investigating rodents in East Haven in partnership with the Mayor’s Office and his staff. Noted in several different contained areas. ESDHD is currently working with community members issuing orders (if necessary), and a discounted exterminator has been offered. In addition, currently working with the mayor’s office on a long-term plan especially with waste disposal.

9. Director’s Report

- PHAB Accreditation Application Status – Meeting took place with PHAB surveyors. They reported on opportunities, challenges, and things well done. Some of the reports reflected as a challenge related to policy and procedures also reflected in preliminary report. Verbal report given to ESDHD, currently awaiting response from PHAB board. Expected respond and receive report by next month.

- ESDHD PH Activity Reports (Environmental, Emerg. Preparedness, Education & Nursing). Activity reports in a new format, now more detail.

10. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Elaine Anderson and seconded by Darlene Zimmerman. All in favor. Adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Carrano

Angela Carrano, DNP, MSN, RN, Secretary