

MONMOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION NO. 1

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Paul Roman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He then led the Regional Board of Health in the salute to the flag. President Roman next read the “Open Public Meeting Act Statement”.

Welcome to Valerie Trillhouse who is substituting this evening for Brian Charnick as the Eatontown representative.

ROLL CALL:

Birdsall & Laughlin – Barbara Birdsall, Esq.
Eatontown – Valerie Trillhouse, Keansburg – Jim Cocuzza Keyport – Jon Barone (arrived 7:37 pm), Little Silver – Les Mathis (arrived 8:08 pm) , Monmouth Beach – Joseph Nardone, Red Bank – Gale Soler, Rumson - Alix Ann Arlinghaus & Trish Sullivan, Pete Lang – Sea Bright, Mary Elliot – Sea Girt, Shrewsbury Borough – Paul Roman, Spring Lake – Liz Finnerty, Spring Lake Heights – Pam Heine. Tinton Falls – Bryan Dempsey

Upon completion of the roll call, the Secretary reported that a quorum was present.

ABSENT:

Boro of Brielle, Boro of Fair Haven, Boro of Highlands, Township of Ocean, Township of Shrewsbury, Boro of West Long Branch

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sandra Van Sant – Secretary/Health Officer, Heather Frketich – Senior Administrative Assistant

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Jim Cocuzza motioned to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2009. The motion was seconded by Pam Heine.

VOTE: Unanimous

COMMUNICATIONS:

The Health Officer announced receipt of the Public Health Priority Funding (PHPF) funds for the second half of 2009 in the amount of \$24,675.00.

Also, MCRHC will receive phase 2 and a federal H1N1 Flu grant (\$172,727.00 each) for implementation, planning, surveillance, activities of disease as well as vaccination, staffing and supplies.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT:

The September 2009 Health Officer's Report and the August 2009 Conferences & Meetings were previously e-mailed/mailed. The August 2009 CDRSS report from the Epidemiologist is in tonight's package.

A Novel Influenza A (H1N1) fact sheet provided in tonight's folders indicates that adults may be protected with a single dose of the H1N1 influenza vaccine to receive full immunity within 8-10 days. Trials are not yet conclusive for children and pregnant women.

The Health Officer continues meeting with school superintendents, school nurses and the County Department of Education in regard to H1N1 prevention and vaccination planning. Local health departments are waiting for the go-ahead to run community clinics to vaccinate target groups and school populations probably in late October and November.

Referring to a letter to health care providers dated 8/27/09 from Susan Walsh, State Deputy Commissioner of Public Health Services, President Roman asked that everyone remain aware of the fact that H1N1 facts continue to change on a daily basis.

He also noted that a general national survey of health dept employees indicates that a great number would not report to work in the event of a pandemic due to family concerns, illness, etc. It is also quite remarkable to know how many N-95 masks would be needed to supply the US - in the ballpark of 5.3 million.

Pete Lang motioned to accept the Health Officer's report, seconded by Bryan Dempsey.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's report was given by Pete Lang who reviewed the financial report/account balances for period ending August 31, 2009

Accepted as presented.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

FINANCIAL CONSULTANT SEARCH: Quotes have been gathered for a Financial Consultant position ad to run in the Asbury Park Press and Star Ledger, both including a 30-day on

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (continued):

line ad posting. Bryan Dempsey suggested a posting with the Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) monthly newsletter/website to hit a targeted group and to avoid the need to advertise in two papers. President Roman had also suggested a posting with the New Jersey League of Municipalities (NJLM). Heather Frketich will follow through with these requests.

EMPLOYEE SICK LEAVE: An addendum that addresses influenza like illness (ILI) previously reviewed and approved by Personnel Chair, Les Mathis and Attorney Barbara Birdsall, was presented to the Commission. Employees experiencing this type of illness will not be expected to come to work or present a doctor's note for durations less than five consecutive days. Fever must be absent for 24 hours without medication prior to an employee's return. The obvious goal of this addendum is to minimize the spread of disease in the midst of the H1N1 outbreak.

Pete Lang motioned to adopt the H1N1 addendum to the MCRHC sick leave policy, seconded by Bryan Dempsey.

VOTE:

Eatontown	Yes	Sea Bright	Yes
Keansburg	Yes	Sea Girt	Yes
Keyport	Yes	Shrewsbury Boro	Yes
Monmouth Beach	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Red Bank	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Rumson	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes

12 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain. Motion carries.

CLEANING SERVICE PROPOSAL UPDATE: An offer had been made from employee Nancy Ippolito to perform the weekly cleaning service of the MCRHC office replacing the company currently employed by the MCRHC, Master Maintenance. A vote held at the August meeting approved this change pending legal/financial review. After research of insurance liability (MCRHC disability insurance), and costs for Nancy to become a contractor/corporation, the idea was withdrawn by the Personnel Committee and Mrs. Ippolito.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Gale Soler moved to pay the September 2009 bills in the amount of \$52,368.01, seconded by Bryan Dempsey.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: (continued)

VOTE:

Eatontown	Yes	Sea Bright	Yes
Keansburg	- -*	Sea Girt	Yes
Keyport	Yes	Shrewsbury Boro	Yes
Monmouth Beach	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Red Bank	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Rumson	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes

11 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain. Motion carries.

* - (out of meeting room)

OLD BUSINESS:

ASHES:

Attorney Birdsall reported further on the process of MCRHC's recouping of attorney fees awarded in the latest court judgment by Judge Lawson in the Ashes case. Attorney Birdsall began a judgment search on Ashes and its associated entities (HLV Corp & Dr. Lekakis) to better understand our chances for recovery. She was able to find information that HLV's suspended corporation status is pending reinstatement.

Once the judgment search is returned, her current recommendation is for the MCRHC to place this debt with a collection attorney. The collection attorney works on contingency, but usually charges a 33% commission. Attorney Birdsall can provide MCRHC with several names of collection agencies to choose from, as long as there is no conflict/association with Ashes or its partners. Attorney Birdsall advised that a deposition of the debtor, if required, would be a future cost to the MCRHC. If MCRHC chooses not to take any action, it could simply wait this process out, until the time a transfer of assets occurs, but it could take years.

Jon Barone motioned for MCRHC to authorize the hiring of a collection attorney to pursue legal fee recovery awarded in the Ashes case. The agency will be chosen by President Roman and the Health Officer working along with Attorney Birdsall. The group will make every effort to negotiate a lower commission rate. The motion was seconded by Bryan Dempsey.

VOTE:

Eatontown	Yes	Sea Bright	Yes
Keansburg	- -*	Sea Girt	Yes
Keyport	Yes	Shrewsbury Boro	Yes
Monmouth Beach	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Red Bank	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Rumson	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes

* - (out of meeting room)

11 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain. Motion carries.

OLD BUSINESS (continued):

WALL TOWNSHIP UPDATE: A September 15, 2009 meeting was held with Joe Verruni, Wall Township Administrator, Kate Kohri, Wall Township Assistant Administrator, Attorney Barbara Birdsall, President Roman and the Health Officer. Following the meeting, which discussed provision of service, President Roman announced that Wall will officially join the MCRHC effective February 1, 2010. Mr. Verruni will clarify details of the transition with Mike Meddis, HO of the Monmouth County Health Department. A draft agreement between the MCRHC and Wall as well as the result of the Wall/MCHD discussion as to transition period service will be discussed at the October 21, 2009 meeting. A better determination as to the extent of MCRHC's January 2010 participation in public health service to Wall Township can be made once the outcome of Mr. Verruni's discussion with MCHD is known.

Kate Kohri will be appointed MCRHC Representative for Wall with Lorraine Kubacz as Alternate.

At this point, President Roman asked Pete Lang, Facilities Committee Chair, to resume discussion/planning of the Build Out as we look toward hiring additional staff to accommodate our growth.

Attorney Birdsall has taken time to review the majority of our town contracts and states that she has found everything to be in order.

NURSING SERVICES: Nursing service committee members Jon Barone, Bryan Dempsey, and the Health Officer met to begin discussion of a pilot program being proposed for a number of MCRHC towns. A job description for the Public Health nurse(s) is being developed as well as ideas on how to proceed. As the concept is further discussed it appears to all that this move would serve as a great improvement in the delivery of an essential service to our members in conjunction with continued VNA supplemental/specialized services. A second meeting of the nursing service committee will be planned as soon as possible and a report made to the Commission at the October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

TINTON FALLS AUCTION: In accordance with the Procedure for Public Sale of Capital Property, a resolution authorizing MCRHC's participation in the November 2009 online auction sponsored by the Borough of Tinton Falls was reviewed.

Bryan Dempsey motioned to approve the Tinton Falls Auction Resolution, seconded by Jim Cocuzza.

NEW BUSINESS (continued):

VOTE:

Eatontown	Yes	Sea Bright	Yes
Keansburg	Yes	Sea Girt	Yes
Keyport	Yes	Shrewsbury Boro	Yes
Little Silver	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Monmouth Beach	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Red Bank	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes
Rumson	Yes		

13 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain. Motion carries.

ORDINANCE NO.1: Proposed increases to several fees listed in this MCRHC code regulating retail food establishment fees were introduced by the Health Officer at tonight's meeting. Also a paragraph allowing for a re-inspection fee for the same violation for subsequent inspections is proposed.

Attorney Birdsall corrected the title wording to read "An Ordinance Amending an Ordinance Entitled "....."

Liz Finnerty motioned to introduce an amendatory ordinance (numbered 09-1) with discussed wording changes and proposed fee changes to MCRHC's current Ordinance No.1, seconded by Pete Lang.

VOTE:

Eatontown	Yes	Sea Bright	Yes
Keansburg	Yes	Sea Girt	Yes
Keyport	Yes	Shrewsbury Boro	Yes
Little Silver	Yes	Spring Lake	Yes
Monmouth Beach	Yes	Spring Lake Heights	Yes
Red Bank	Yes	Tinton Falls	Yes
Rumson	Yes		

13 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain. Motion carries.

A public hearing to be held at the October meeting will be publicized in the Asbury Park Press.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Roman provided a handout from NACCHO: 2008 National Profile of Local Health Departments. He invited all Commissioners to review what he feels are many interesting and

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (continued):

very revealing statistics. Another report focusing on Boards of Health is expected. Commissioners are asked to review Paul's notes and all relevance to the emerging US Healthcare Reform Debate issues.

President Roman extends invitations to two upcoming conferences :

October 8, 2009 – NJDHSS Annual Conference of State & Local Health Officials at Mercer Community College
"Assessing NJ's Health System"

November 14, 2009 – NJLBHA Emergency Preparedness: A Training Summit at Middlesex County Fire Academy "Your Role in Protecting Your Community from H1N1 and Emerging Health Threats"

Please call Paul or the Health Officer if you are interested in attending.

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Les Mathis provided several copies of the FDA Consumer Book Centennial Edition.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm on a motion by Pete Lang, seconded by Brian Charnick.

VOTE: Unanimous

Next Meeting of the MCRHC #1 Commission will be held on Wednesday, OCTOBER 21, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. at the Regional's headquarters located at American Red Cross building 1540 West Park Avenue – Suite # 1, Tinton Falls, New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Van Sant
SECRETARY