



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

PLAINVILLE-SOUTHINGTON REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT

Serving the communities of Middlefield, Plainville and Southington

Main Office

Satellite Office

Satellite Office

196 NORTH MAIN ST.

ONE CENTRAL SQUARE

405 MAIN ST., STE.1

SOUTHINGTON CT 06489

PLAINVILLE CT 06062

MIDDLEFIELD CT 06455

860-276-6275 ● FAX 860-276-6277 ● pshd.org

SHANE LOCKWOOD, M.P.H., R.S., DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

VIRUTAL WEBEX MEETING

APRIL 22, 2021

Vice Chairman Politis called the public hearing to order 5:09 pm.

Public Hearing:

Discussion regarding the proposed 2021-22 budget. Decrease in budget from last year. No new vehicles, capital projects or part time inspector. No increase in IT as our computers are still new. One-time allocation from reserve to make up for loss revenue due to the Boards approval of the reductions in renewal fees for 2020/21 at the December 17, 2020 meeting.

There being no comments on the budget, positive or negative, Mr. Sciota moved to close the public hearing at 5:15PM. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Regular Meeting:

Call to order at 5:15

Present: Board Members -Edward Bailey, John Barry, Elliott Colasanto, Anne Maire Conaty, Robert Lee, Joseph Marino, Charlotte Politis, Mark Sciota; Staff – Shane Lockwood

Approval of minutes – Motion made to approve minutes from December 17, 2020 meeting. Motion carried
Agreed to table meeting minutes from June 2020 meeting until June 2021.

Comments by the Vice Chair.

Ms. Politis thanked Mr. Lockwood, difficult year.

Report by the Director of Health.

Financial Update: Mr. Lockwood – Non-COVID expenses are down this year. Mr. Barry asked how the District looks at COVID money, if there is no money anticipated then Mr. Lockwood would need to be authorized to use money.

COVID Update: Mr. Lockwood, we are in the third wave, we are expecting 200 to 250 cases in comparison to December 2020 the highest impact of cases was 800. Variants are currently 45% of new cases – the vaccines are working well on the variants and serious infection and hospitalizations. Mr. Marino asked if there has been talk about the variants. Mr. Lockwood stated that Moderna and Pfizer protect against the variants, may need a booster later this year or early next.

Supply of the vaccine is now outweighing the demand – vaccine hesitancy may be occurring due to Johnson & Johnson. Public would be more trusting if their doctors provided the vaccines. Currently there are 14 doses per vial for Moderna and 10 for Pfizer with a six-hour window to use them before discarding. Single dose shots would reduce vaccine waste. Option to offer incentives for people to get the vaccines i.e.: gift cards. Commissioner of Department of Health likes the idea of incentives, potential to be a model for the State.

Mr. Lockwood is working with the Superintendents to have a clinic offsite or in the schools for the 16-18-year-old population. Mr. Lee asked which vaccines are approved for those under 18, Mr. Lockwood stated Pfizer is age 16-18, Moderna and Pfizer are trying to be approved for 12 years old and up.

Mr. Lockwood stated that on May 1, 2021 Restaurant guidelines will be eased and on May 19, 2021 business restrictions end, expectation that masks will still need to be worn indoors – the ease of these restrictions will help the economy.

Ms. Politis asked about summer camps, the YMCA and pool guidelines– Mr. Lockwood stated that there will be recommendations/best practices not requirements. Last year there were specific numbers for outdoor events, this year there will be recommendations.

Ms. Conaty asked about the masks on May 19th – the Governors power for Executive Orders in place until May 19th, there has been talk about extending the mask mandate until end of June.

Mr. Bailey asked if Mr. Lockwood sees the cases going up, Mr. Lockwood stated that we would not see the numbers go back like there were last year.

Currently 60% are vaccinated, would like to see that number rise to 80%.

Program Update: Currently staff are not conducting restaurant inspections. Inspections will open back up around May. Sanitarians have spoken to all restaurants regarding COVID and services. Restaurants have been doing a great job and the State reports that there have been no foodborne illnesses in the last 12 months.

Old Business, Election of Officers: Mr. Sciota made the motion and Mr. Lee seconded the motion, for Mr. Bailey as the Chairman with Ms. Politis to remain as the Vice Chairman. Motion agreed upon by all.

New Business: Mr. Bailey motioned to accept the budget, Motion to accept, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 for Executive Session:

6:12 PM executive session, motion made by Mr. Sciota to award the Director of Health a one-time bonus of \$15,000.00 for work associated with COVID response recovery and extra hours worked over the past year. Mr. Lee seconded the motion.

Mr. Sciota, Mr. Lee and Mr. Bailey commented on the efforts by the Director of Health of the individual towns and thanked him for his efforts.

Mr. Lockwood thanked the Board in appreciation of the recognition.

Motion made to close the meeting by Mr. Lee at 6:18PM Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Next Meeting scheduled for June 10, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Bennett