

**WEST HARTFORD-BLOOMFIELD HEALTH DISTRICT
APPROVED BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2020**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.

Members Present: Matthew Hart, Phyllis Hyman, Karen Harrington, Gloria Jones, Scott Aronson and Robert Smith

WHBHD Staff Present: Aimee Krauss, Christopher Hansen, Suzette Brown and Eileen Kehl

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 2, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Chairman Hart moved and Member Hyman seconded a motion to approve the minutes of July 2, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairman Hart thanked the WHBHD staff for supporting West Hartford and Bloomfield in reference to contact tracing for Covid-19 cases.

He congratulated the WHBHD staff for their successful attempts in earning several grants.

Chairman Hart expressed his appreciation for the State Department of Public Health and the strong stance they took under pressure concerning COVID-19 related matters.

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Krauss reported that the State Department of Public Health is coming out with a max-vaccination document. When the vaccine is available, it will be offered to first responders, critical workforce, and later on to long-term care facilities and then to the general public.

The Health District is offering two drive-through flu clinics. One will take place on September 26th in Bloomfield and the second one will be on October 3rd in West Hartford. These clinics will provide valuable experience in preparation for Covid-19 drive thru clinics when the vaccine becomes available.

There are also flu clinics scheduled at town hall, police, fire, public schools and additional public flu clinics will be available.

Director Krauss met with the Town of West Hartford concerning a Community Bloc Grant for \$200,000 for Covid-related activities.

Director Krauss informed the Board of the challenges that the staff experienced during the last power outage.

There has been two positive mosquito reports in the Town of West Hartford for West Nile Virus.

V. APPROVAL OF THE REVISED WHBHD FY 2020-2021 BUDGET

Chairman Hart moved and Member Aronson seconded a motion to table the budget discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

Chairman Hart moved and Member Aronson seconded a motion to table the discussion on the financial report. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. NOMINATION FOR THE POSITIONS OF BOARD CHAIR PERSON AND VICE-CHAIR PERSON

These positions are for a two-year term. Chairman Hart stated that he would be willing to serve another two-year term. Director Krauss will check on the status of these two positions.

VIII. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE BOARD FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM

Chairman Hart moved and Member Jones seconded a motion to table items VII and VIII until the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. AUTHORIZATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO ACCEPT NACCHO COVID-19 FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000 FOR BUILDING LOCAL OPERATIONAL CAPACITY FOR COVID-19 (BLOC COVID-19) STRENGTHENING LOCAL INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL CAPACITY

Chairman Hart moved and Member Harrington seconded a motion to allow Director Krauss to proceed with the BLOC COVID-19 grant. The motion passed unanimously.

X. AUTHORIZATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO ACCEPT FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,000 FOR THE EFFICACY OF CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL FOOD MANAGER TRAINING IN REDUCING RISK FACTORS IN LOCALLY OWNED ESTABLISHMENTS

Chairman Hart moved and Member Harrington seconded a motion to allow Director Krauss to proceed with the FDA grant. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO ACCEPT FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LABORATORY CAPACITY ENHANCING DETECTION COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$406,145 FOR THE ENHANCED DETECTION, RESPONSE, SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION OF COVID-19 (3 year grant)

Chairman Hart moved and Member Hyman seconded a motion to allow Director Krauss to accept funding for this grant. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. AUTHORIZATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO ACCEPT FUNDING FROM THE CITY OF HARTFORD FOR UTILIZING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000.

Chairman Hart moved and Member Harrington seconded a motion to allow Director Krauss to accept this funding. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC RACISM AND EQUITY

The legislative bodies of the towns of West Hartford and Bloomfield have passed resolutions to declare systemic racism an issue/public health crisis. Both towns will be addressing policies that cover all departments.

The end goal is a Community Health Assessment that will look at the needs of residents based on race.

Chairman Hart suggested that we continue this discussion as an “Old Business” item on the next several agenda.

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS - None

Suggestions for next meeting:

- Storm procedures
- COVID procedures
- Media coverage – push to Health Director
- Training on ICS – updating of emergency plans
- Maintenance of polling places

XV. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.