



# Farmington Valley Health District

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## Minutes Board of Health Meeting April 2, 2019

**Present:** Kathy Eagen-Blonski, Brandon Robertson, Diane Hensdorf, Jadwiga Gocłowski, Jeff Shea, Melissa Appleby, Sue Beardsley, Beatrice Isabelle, Debra Brydon, Maura Shea via phone, Mary Jane Parlow, Warren Humphrey, Dan Jerram, Jennifer Kertanis

**Absent:** Dave Kilbon, Tom McKeon, Pat Chieski,

**Guest:** Roger Hensdorf

### **Regular Meeting:**

- I. Public Comments:** Kathy Blonski opened the regular meeting at 12:04 p.m. and asked if there were any public comments. There were none.
- II. Minutes of the February 5th meeting:** Kathy Eagen asked if there were any comments or corrections to the meeting minutes from February 5, 2019. There were none. She asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Brandon Robertson 1<sup>st</sup>. Beatrice Isabelle 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mary Jane Parlow, Sue Beardsley, Warren Humphry and Dan Jerram abstained. Motion carried, minutes were accepted as written.
- III. Business:**
  - 1) **Financial Business:** Jennifer Kertanis reviewed the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter financial report. Projected revenue is at 78%, expenditures are 73%. We had to purchase 2 new computers for staff which was unexpected. Everything is tracking fine. Dan Jerram comment on line item Audit/Legal and asked who does our audit, Jennifer answered George Sinnamon who has been our auditor for many years. Warren Humphrey asked Jennifer about the policy if line items are tracking higher than expected. Jennifer indicated that our general policy has been that Jennifer has latitude within 10% as long as the bottom line is not affected.
  - 2) **Review Legal Representation Policy:** Jennifer Kertanis passed to the Board a copy of our legal representation policy. She does not believe anything needs to \ change and requested that the Board review for action at next meeting.
  - 3) **Other Business:** Brandon Robertson asked Jennifer if there are any vacancies or are we fully staffed. Jennifer said, we are fully staffed but we do not have our new people field standardized as of yet.
- IV. Accreditation Update:** Jennifer passed to the Board a progress report on how Accreditation is coming along which contained 2 pie charts. She said that 47% of our domains are complete but Domains work will vary significantly, and the prerequisites are not represented in the update. Domain 11 is done, 6 is underway and 3 is advancing. We will begin the

workforce development group in May. Brandon also asked if going forward we could see the Accreditation work presented in a different way rather than a pie chart. Jennifer said we will continue to work on the progress report indicating that it is a work in progress. Brandon indicated that he would be willing to review different ideas.

**V. Legislative Update:** Jennifer said there are many bills in the legislature that are related to health districts. Health Districts submitted testimony regarding the Tobacco 21 bill. The Governor proposed a 20% cut to local health in his budget. Per capita has been stagnant for 20 years. There is legislation that would allow for the expansion of tobacco bars. There are many bills regarding the legalization of cannabis. A bill proposing a ban on artificial turf may impact projects in some of our towns. There is a bill that would recognize school nurses as an entity that can sign off on vaccine objection paperwork. There is still talk about the adoption of the International Building Codes and implications for local health departments in enforcement. We, as a health district, are not qualified to handle some aspects of the code. There is a proposal to postpone the adoption of the FDA Food Code until 2020. This is very challenging for us! It has an implication for ViewPermit as well as staff training. ViewPermit cannot put in the new food inspection forms for maybe a year.

**VI. Report from the Director:**

- **Food Protection:** Staff training is going well although delays and uncertainty regarding the FDA food code and state field standardization remain an issue. FITO training for Jason Brown will begin in early May. The DPH has indicated that the 25 food inspections that the new people need to have under their belts will not count until after Jason is trained and they go out with him. Jadwiga Gocłowski asked Jennifer if we can go to legislators? Jennifer said she will talk to David Kilbon about this, but she doesn't think it's a legislative issue.
- **RGH 501c3:** RGH funding will likely end in 18 months. Steering committee/funders are looking for sustainability. There is a proposal to establish RGH as a 501c3. It will be separate from FVHD. FVHD may be a subcontractor for some of the work, trainings. We will retain QPR trainings and school-based initiatives.
- **Mumps:** There was a case of mumps at one of the private schools. Mumps is a vaccine preventable disease. FVHD worked with CT DPH and the school to review immunization records, coordinate lab testing, assess exposure and risk communication messages. Fortunately, as of April 1<sup>st</sup> there were no other mumps cases reported which was the last day we would expect any new cases.
- **No Wrong Doors:** Jennifer passed a hand-out to the Board with information about this specialized training. The training will be held at Tunxis on April 26<sup>th</sup>. It is a full day event. Jennifer invited any Board member to stop by and see it in action. It will highlight some of the work that is done with our veterans.
- **Opioid Mini Grant:** FVHD received a \$10K mini grant from the State to work on opioid related activities. One component is working with first responder community to improve surveillance. We have been chatting with the police and are working with town social service directors. Also will support plans to develop educational messages for towns/social services etc. to use.
- **Permitting Season:** Salon applications are coming in and pool applications have just gone out. We will be mailing Food applications in May.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** There will be a full-scale emergency preparedness event on election day. We will be working with the Avon schools and emergency management. The vaccine has been ordered, WHBHD will provide nurses. Dr. Gerard, our health director is involved. This is a large-scale event!

**VII. OTHER:** Kathy Blonski asked if the Board had any other questions or any further business. There were none.

**VIII. Adjourn:** Kathy asked for a motion to close the meeting. Jadwiga Gocłowski 1<sup>st</sup>, Diane HERNSDORF 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting was closed at 12:47 p.m.