



Westport Weston
Health District

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WWHD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 9, 2020

Subject to change until approved by the Board of Directors

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairman Otis Crawford at 7:03 pm. He noted that with the resurgence of COVID-19 and the Governor's directive to reduce social interactions, the meeting was being conducted via Zoom. **The following voting Board Members were present:** Chairman Otis Crawford, Vice Chairman Revzon, Director Ilisa Nussbaum, Director Paul Shaum, and Director Linda Lewis Bruce.

Also present were: Mark A.R. Cooper, Director of Health. First Selectman James Marpe joined the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Crawford asked if there were any questions or comments on the September 14, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes.

On a motion made by Director Nussbaum, and seconded by Director Shaum, the Board voted to approve the September 14, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes. Chairman Crawford voted yes; Director Bruce voted yes, Director Nussbaum voted yes, and Director Shaum voted yes.

Motion was approved 5 to 0.

Communications

Mr. Cooper noted that the Westport First Selectman's office received an email from a resident who wanted to thank the Health District for running a very safe and professional seasonal influenza clinic. Mr. Cooper felt the compliment was worth sharing with the Board. Mr. shared two press releases that had been issued on October 9th, the first reporting that the risk of contracting Vibrio from the waters of Long Island Sound has decreased with the declining water temperature and the second announcing the availability of seasonal influenza vaccine with clinic dates and times. The final item under correspondence was the receipt of a letter to Director Bruce from First Selectman Marpe reappointing her to another term on the Board, term to expire November 30, 2023.

COVID19 Update

Mr. Cooper provided a summary of COVID19 activities and data since the last meeting. He showed a brief Power Point presentation with several “slides” (attached) that was being prepared for a meeting with the regions Social Services Coordinating Committee on November 13, who were interested in having a discussion on COVID-19.

There was general discussion on the slides and how the WWHD is responding to the pandemic. Mr. Cooper indicated that WWHD staff has been working with the Ct-DPH vaccine program personnel to integrate the WWHD’s existing health records system with CT-Wiz, the state’s electronic health records system. This was successfully done, the WWHD being the first public health jurisdiction in the state to do so. By doing so, the WWHD is not being required to use the CDC developed Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS), saving staff many hours of training.

Westport’s First Selectman, Mr. Marpe joined the meeting via Zoom and joined the discussion.

Director of Health Report

Consolidated Income Statement and Operational & Permit Activity Reports

Mr. Cooper stated that the Board package contains Consolidated Income Statements and Operational and Permit Activity Reports for September and October, as well as the Plan Submittals for the same months. He noted that revenue is below previous levels, particularly Community Health fees and travel clinic vaccinations, while permit activity remains at a high level.

Chairman Crawford asked if there were any questions about the Income statements or permit activity reports. There were none.

Easton Update

Mr. Cooper noted that he has had several conversations with the First Selectman who has indicated he is very pleased with the services being provided and feels the sanitarian assigned to the town is a good fit. Easton’s workload is much higher than planned for, just as there seems to be an increase in home improvement permit applications in Westport and Weston. The First Selectman has indicated the town will try to schedule a town meeting to discuss and put the question as to whether Easton will formally join the WWHD prior to the end of 2020.

Adjournment

Chairman Crawford again asked if there was any other business to come before the Board.

Being none, on a motion made by Director Shaum and seconded by Director Nussbaum, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm. Chairman Crawford voted yes, Director Bruce voted yes, Director Nussbaum voted yes, and Director Shaum voted yes.

Motion was approved 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark A.R. Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "C" at the end.

Mark A.R. Cooper Director of Health
Westport Weston Health District