



Westport Weston
Health District

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
WWHD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 6, 2021

Subject to change until approved by the Board of Directors.

The Special Meeting was called to order by Chairman Otis Crawford at 4:19 pm.

The following voting Board Members were present: Chairman Otis Crawford, Vice Chairman Catherine Revzon, Director Linda Bruce, and Director Paul Shaum were present in the room.

Also, present was Mark A.R. Cooper, Director of Health.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Crawford asked if there were any questions or comments on the July 6, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes.

On a motion made by Director Bruce, and seconded by Director Shaum, the Board voted to approve the August 6, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes. Chairman Crawford voted yes; Vice Chairman Revzon voted yes, Director Bruce voted yes, and Director Shaum voted yes.

Motion was approved 4 to 0.

Communications

Mr. Cooper noted that the Directory of Board Members has been revised to reflect Director Bruce's new end of term date. However, in doing so realized Director Nussbaum's term just expired. He has placed a call to Weston Town Hall to determine if Director Nussbaum has been appointed to another term. Director Bruce noted that her mailing address has also changed and requested it be updated.

Mr. Cooper noted that the Equity Distribution check outlined in the letter dated July 5, 2021, from CIRMA, has been received.

Community Health

Mr. Cooper summarized the State of Connecticut's licensing requirements for Outpatient Clinics under Connecticut State Statutes Sec. 19-13-D45 to 19-13-D53.

As discussed at the last meeting there are two appointments that are needed for the clinic: a Medical Director and an Administrator. The Administrator was appointed at the July 6th meeting

and with the start of the new APRN on August 2nd, Mr. Cooper recommended she be appointed as the Medical Director.

On a motion made by Director Shaum, and seconded by Director Bruce, the Board voted to appoint Vanessa Hurta as the Medical Director of the Westport Weston Health District's Outpatient Clinic effective August 6, 2021. Chairman Crawford voted yes; Vice Chairman Revzon voted yes, Director Bruce voted yes, and Director Shaum voted yes.

Motion was approved 4 to 0.

Acting Director of Health

Mr. Cooper summarized the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health's requirements for Director of Health coverage should a Director of Health become unable to serve their community and/or during planned absences. The WWHD has had a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Darien for years to provide reciprocal Director of Health coverage should it be needed. However, the COVID experience has shown that when there is a wide-spread problem affecting multiple health jurisdictions and all Directors of Health are fully engaged with their own communities, covering another jurisdiction becomes problematic. Therefore, having an inhouse Acting Director of Health has become their preferred method of coverage.

There was general discussion on the DPH's coverage requirements and the advantages and disadvantages of having an MOU and/or an Acting Director of Health and who could serve in that capacity. There were questions on the wording of the MOU and whether there could potentially be a conflict between the two should both be approved. There was a consensus to review the MOU wording with Darien's Director of Health prior to Board approving the MOU at this time.

On a motion made by Director Bruce, and seconded by Vice Chairman Revzon, the Board voted to appoint Eren Ceylan as the Health District's Acting Director of Health effective August 6, 2021. Chairman Crawford voted yes; Vice Chairman Revzon voted yes, Director Bruce voted yes, and Director Shaum voted yes.

Motion was approved 4 to 0.

Personnel Matters

On a motion made by Director Shaum, and seconded by Director Bruce, the Board voted to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Chairman Crawford voted yes; Vice Chairman Revzon voted yes, Director Bruce voted yes, and Director Shaum voted yes.

Motion was approved 4 to 0.

Chairman Crawford declared the Executive Session over at 4:59pm.

Vice Chairman Revzon asked if mandatory masking was going to be required soon. Mr. Cooper responded that the recent discussion on the Tuesday morning DPH/State Education Commission meeting has been focusing on student testing. DPH is offering testing free of charge to schools that parents would have to give permission to test their children.

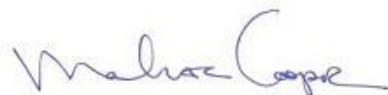
Mr. Cooper indicated the governor has recently stated that the decision to require masks is a local one, but that he thought masking in schools was still a requirement and will check. There was a general discussion regarding the increasing number of COVID cases and COVID virus spread locally. Although Westport, Weston, and Easton's transmission rates have been relatively low compared to other parts of the state, Mr. Cooper expressed concern at the rapid increase in COVID cases. From June when there were no new cases to last week when the number of cases has essentially been doubling each week. The next couple of weeks will show if this increase in cases is a temporary "blip" or the start of a fourth COVID wave.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Director Shaum, and seconded by Vice Chairman Revzon, the Board voted to adjourn at 5:12 PM. Chairman Crawford voted yes; Vice Chairman Revzon voted yes, Director Bruce voted yes, and Director Shaum voted yes.

Motion was approved 4 to 0.

Respectfully submitted



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