

# Connecticut River Area Health District

*Serving the Towns of Clinton, Deep River, Old Saybrook and Haddam*

Peter Neff, Chairman, Clinton

Michael Dunne, M.D., Vice Chairman, Old Saybrook

William Fritz, Clinton

Jeffrey Goldblatt, M.D., Old Saybrook

Angus McDonald, Deep River

Lizz Milardo, Haddam

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## Minutes

Monday, March 27, 2017

Regular Meeting of the CRAHD Board of Directors

455 Boston Post Road, Suite 7

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

12:00 PM

### A. Call to Order

Michael Dunne, Acting Chairman of the CRAHD board, called the regular meeting of the CRAHD board of directors to order at 12:05 PM.

### B. Roll Call

Chairman Dunne recognized the following board directors: Angus McDonald, Jeffrey Goldblatt, Willie Fritz, Lizz Milardo, and Director of Health Jim Monopoli.

### C. Approval of Minutes from the January 30, 2017 Regular meeting

After review of the minutes, a motion to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2017 Regular Meeting was made by McDonald, 2<sup>nd</sup> Milardo.

Approved 4-0, Fritz abstained

### D. Old Business

- **CT DPH Legislative proposal, local health consolidation**

Monopoli presented a copy of a letter to Commissioner Pino from Michael Pascucilla, CADH President, expressing concern about the proposed legislation and the challenges it would present to local health department. Monopoli reported that he has heard very little on this proposal since the public hearing took place back on March 7<sup>th</sup>. All present agreed that they would report on any news related to this proposal so the board and Monopoli could react accordingly.

- **Request for Assistance: town Tax Collectors**

Monopoli worked on a draft protocol with Chairman Neff for CRAHD to assist town tax collectors under CGS 12-146a, regarding withholding health permits because of delinquent local taxes owed by an establishment. Monopoli reported to the board that he received positive feedback from the Old Saybrook and Clinton tax collector, and board directors McDonald and Milardo received positive feedback from their respective tax collectors. After a brief discussion, a motion to adopt the protocol was made by Fritz, 2<sup>nd</sup> McDonald.

Approved 5-0

## **E. New Business**

- **FY 2017-2018 operating budget**

Monopoli reminded the board that it had given preliminary approval to the 2017-2018 draft budget, capital spending plan, and the revised fee schedule at its January meeting. Also, at that meeting, the local per capita rates were determined. Monopoli explained that the budget is subject to some changes, but should remain effectively very similar to the form it is in now. He will schedule and advertise the public hearing on the budget, fee schedule and capital expenditure plan for the May 22<sup>nd</sup> board meeting.

- **Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy, Middlesex Hospital**

Monopoli presented the Middlesex Hospital Implementation strategy coming out of the final community health needs assessment recently completed by them. The hospital will focus on three main priorities: mental health, substance abuse, aging population and asthma. Monopoli said he hoped that CRAHD will come up with its own implementation strategy once the needs assessment is given adequate review.

## **F. Director's Report**

Monopoli reported that public information meeting has been scheduled in Haddam on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6PM, to inform residents of the health district's preparedness planning. A 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup> in Deep River. The meeting will cover: general preparedness, mass dispensing, dispense assist tool, closed points of dispensing, and recruitment of public health volunteers.

CRAHD participated in a Regional functional exercise involving an emerging pathogen outbreak on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The focal point for an outbreak took place in Meriden and Milford. CRAHD staff participated in the exercise by getting familiar with the scenario, using WEBEOC, and providing personnel and supplies to both health departments as they dealt with the mock outbreak.

Monopoli pointed out that there are other legislative proposals being considered which has direct impact on local health. The first is HB 5711, which would adopt the International Property Maintenance Code into the CT Building Code. The property maintenance code is very complex and detailed. The second and third are bills 6243 and 6332, which attempt to provide funding and create standards for small advanced treatment sewage disposal systems for residential properties in CT., and the last bill looks to adopt the FDA Food Code to replace 19-13-B42 of the CT Public Health Code. Adoption of the food code would require many hours of training for food inspectors and be a huge adjustment for the regulators and the industry. Inspectors would be faced with many more hours of training to gain certification in enforcing the new food code.

Monopoli reported that both Daisy Hernandez and Sherry Carlson, health educator and public health nurse respectively, have become certified in chronic disease management teaching. The certification program is referred to as LIVE WELL. Both Daisy and Sherry could now assist people who suffer from chronic diseases to get counseling on managing the disease.

## **G. Adjournment**

Fritz moved to adjourn meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> McDonald. CRAHD board of directors meeting adjourned at 12:50 P.M.

Approved 5-0

Respectfully Submitted, *Jim Monopoli*  
Secretary and DOH