

**WESTFIELD BOARD OF HEALTH  
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07090**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2023.**

Pursuant to the rules of the Board of Health of the Town of Westfield, NJ, a meeting was called to order at 5:51PM on Monday, April 3, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Westfield Town Hall, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey. The statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read.

**ROLL CALL:**

Dr. Lawrence Budnick  
Dr. Steven Gorelick  
Mr. Mitchell Shusteris  
Ms. Tara Donnelly—Alternate #1

**Also Present:**

Megan Avallone—Health Officer  
Amy Lewis—Health Educator  
Helen Mendez—Principal REHS/Assistant to the Health Officer  
Ellen Shelley—Infectious Disease Program Coordinator  
Denise Rizzolo—Vulnerable Populations Coordinator

**ABSENT:**

Dr. Elizabeth Talmont  
Dr. Andrea Marcus  
Dr. Daniel Halevy  
Mr. Brendan Bertsch  
Mr. Steven Pentangelo—Alternate #2

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

On a motion by Mr. Shusteris, seconded by Ms. Donnelly, Minutes of the March 6, 2023 meeting were approved as amended and ordered filed.

**CONSENT AGENDA REPORTS:**

**Administration/Consumer Health (Restaurant/Environmental Inspections):**

The Health Department, Vital Statistics, and Nursing Reports were all accepted as presented and ordered filed on a motion by Mr. Shusteris, seconded by Ms. Donnelly.

Dr. Budnick presented the Financial Report and the March bills, totaling \$8,412.74 for approval. A motion was made by Dr. Gorelick, seconded by Mr. Shusteris, and the following Roll Call vote was taken:

Dr. Budnick—Aye, Dr. Gorelick—Aye, Mr. Shusteris—Aye, Ms. Donnelly—Aye

The record shall reflect the approval of bills by all members present.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Shusteris provided an overview of the Electronic Smoking Device (ESD) Subcommittee meeting. Discussion took place about changing the definitions in the local ordinance to mirror the definitions provided in the state statute. The subcommittee will meet again and provide an updated ordinance for consideration at the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Justine Plummer, health educator with Prevention Links, provided a presentation on youth trends on vaping and nicotine products. A brief question and answer period followed.

Dr. Budnick presented Resolution 6-2023, a Resolution in support of legislation reinstating Public Health Priority Funding. The Resolution supports Senate bill No. 2413 and Assembly bill No. 4115 which seek to require a minimum annual State appropriation of \$10 million for Public Health Priority Funding. Dr. Gorelick motioned to approve Resolution 6-2023, which was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and unanimously approved by all members present.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Ms. Avallone provided an infectious disease update which highlighted the increase in invasive Group A Streptococcus and Yersiniosis infections the department was seeing.

Ms. Avallone informed the Board that two staff members, Helen Mendez, Principal REHS/Assistant to the Health Officer and Giselle Alfaro, REHS, had received scholarships to attend a Gayle Carnegie Leadership Course.

Ms. Donnelly inquired about fluoridation of the public water supply and Dr. Budnick reviewed the history of how the health department had advocated for water fluoridation several years ago but were unsuccessful. Ms. Avallone stated she would gather some data for review at the next meeting regarding the topic.

**PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Dr. Gorelick, seconded by Mr. Shusteris, to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Avallone  
Board Secretary