

**BOROUGH OF MADISON BOARD OF HEALTH  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
June 5, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

A Meeting of the Board of Health of the Borough of Madison was held on the 5th day of June 2023. Board President, Dr. Joseph Balwierzak, called the meeting to order at 7:36pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STATEMENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:**

Dr. Balwierzak read the statement pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

**ROLL CALL:**

Attendance was recorded in person:

Board Member:	Present	Absent
Dr. Joseph Balwierzak	x	
Mr. Thomas Haralampoudis	x	
Mr. Mitchell Horn	x	
Mr. Kevin McCarthy	x	
Ms. Marianne McConnell	x	
Ms. Cassandra Sledge	x	
Ms. Kathy McGrath (Alternate #1)		x

Also Present:

Mr. Peter King, Board Attorney  
Ms. Patrice Paolella, guest Madison resident observer  
Ms. Monica Gomez, guest  
Ms. Maya Lordo, Madison Health Officer, attending via Zoom

**PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

On a motion by Mr. Kevin McCarthy and seconded by Mr. Thomas Haralampoudis, the meeting minutes for April 3rd, 2023 were unanimously approved.

**HEALTH OFFICER REPORT:**

Ms. Lordo reviewed the health officer's report that was distributed before the meeting. Ms. Lordo informed the BOH about strep throat and conjunctivitis outbreaks in the some of the district schools. One LTC facility within the jurisdiction continues to undergo monitoring for an active COVID outbreak. She reminded the board that the Madison Health Dept. has COVID test kits that are available for the public. Also there will be no federal funding in the future for COVID vaccines.

**GRANT FUNDING (ELPHI)**

Ms. Lordo listed possible uses for funds that Madison is to receive in the 2023-2024 fiscal year as part of the federal Enhanced Local Public Health (ELPHI) grant that the Bloomfield Health Dept will be receiving. Ms. Lordo stated that a main objective of the funding should be to enhance operations of the Madison Health Dept in order to achieve greater reach into the community. A recommendation she made

was that the ELPHI funds be used to conduct a health assessment for Madison residents in order to determine the specific health needs in the borough. The board was in agreement with this recommendation and there was a constructive discussion between the board and the health officer about the ways to achieve this objective. There was a consensus that enlisting partners such as Project Community Pride that operates at the Madison YMCA, the local hospital (Morristown Memorial) and the Madison school district would be helpful partners in performing the health assessment.

Other possible uses of the ELPHI funds would be to purchase equipment such as digital loggers for refrigerators and new vaccine refrigerators. The health officer is waiting to hear about the deadline for the grant application.

#### **INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The public comment period was opened at 7:54 pm. Seeing no members of the public wishing to be heard, Dr. Balwierczak closed the public comment period at 7:55pm.

#### **SCHOOL SMOKING/VAPING ORDINANCE**

The board attorney, Peter King, reviewed the updated NJSA statute that gives the BOH authority to enforce the prohibition of smoking in schools. Peter stated that the schools need to take the initiative to inform the board about any violations of smoking in the schools. School policy states that a supervisor of student safety would engage with students violating the non-smoking policy and either issue a summons or have the school resource officer (SRO) issue the summons. The health officer did not recommend that the health dept. issue the summons.

The board agreed that an education program regarding the dangers of smoking and cannabis use would be a good way to start addressing smoking/vaping in schools. Ms. Lordo stated that going forward she will work the health education officer, Sarah Jacob, to: find out the education programs on smoking that are being used by other school districts, examine the Madison school policies on smoking and partner with the school district administration and SROs on this issue. A goal would be to have a presentation to students at the start of the fall school term that would provide information on school policy regarding smoking in schools and the consequences for violators.

#### **INTERNS:**

Interns Casey Lens and Mikayla Udrija will be conducting an animal census (dogs and cats) in the borough for 10 weeks. The board president will reach out to Melanie Bergstrom, who is supervising the interns, to confirm that any liability issues related with the intern's work are addressed by the borough administration.

Mr. Thomas Haralampoudis said that he will email Ms. Lordo to discuss his reporting at borough council meetings regarding health dept. updates.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The Board, on a motion by Ms. Marianne McConnell and seconded by Mr. Kevin McCarthy, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Horn