

**BOROUGH OF MADISON BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 7, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

A Meeting of the Board of Health of the Borough of Madison was held on the 7th day of August 2023. Board President, Dr. Joseph Balwierzak, called the meeting to order at 7:44pm.

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	x	
Ms. Patrice Paoella	x	

Also Present:

Ms. Maya Lordo, Madison Health Officer
Ms. Terry Webb, attorney substituting for Peter King
Ms. Monica Gomez, guest

OATH OF OFFICE

Attorney Webb administered the oath of office to Patrice Paoella as Alternate #2 on the Madison Board of Health.

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

On a motion by Mr. Kevin McCarthy and seconded by Ms. Cassandra Sledge, the meeting minutes for June 5, 2023 were unanimously approved.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT:

NJ has been tracking an increase in COVID hospitalizations, but this was not unexpected due to the increases in post-pandemic travel. A new COVID vaccine will be available this fall. The Bloomfield health department participates in programs that make eligible for federal vaccination coverage children and adults who are uninsured and underinsured. Madison nurses will procure COVID vaccines for the homebound.

SCHOOL SMOKING/VAPING ORDINANCE

The board discussed the draft ordinance BH 2023-1 that describes the board's policy regarding the prohibition of smoking/vaping in schools. The health officer stated that since a member of the health dept. would not be able to witness a student smoking then the health dept. could not legally issue a summons. The health officer stated that the health department would support whatever enforcement actions that the

Board of Education decides to take regarding their anti-smoking/vaping policy. Board council member Tom Haralampoudis met with the school district assistant superintendent who was unclear about how the schools will enforce their no smoking policy. The board decided that further discussions with the school administration would be needed before deciding on revisions to the ordinance. In addition, the health department's education director is planning meetings with school officials to set up education programs in the schools about the health risks of smoking as well as teen mental health programs at the schools.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

The public comment period was opened at 8:37 pm. Monica Gomez made a comment regarding the importance of parents discussing the risks of smoking/vaping with their children. With no other members of the public wishing to be heard, Dr. Balwierczak closed the public comment period at 8:40pm.

GRANT FUNDING (ELPHI)

The Bloomfield Health Dept. received notice on August 4th that it received approval of its application for a federal Enhanced Local Public Health (ELPHI) grant. Madison will be receiving about \$76,000.00 from this grant. This money will need to be spent by June 30, 2024. Money left over from the 2022-2023 portion of the ELPHI grant must also be spent by the June 2024 deadline. Some of the grant money will be used to fund a community health assessment. On the agenda for the next board meeting will be a discussion of which vendor the health dept. will hire to conduct this assessment as well as the type of data that the assessment will collect.

The Madison Volunteer Ambulance Corps received the ordered CPR/AED Instructor kit that was funded through the 2022-2023 portion of the ELPHI grant. The Bloomfield health department also received the same instructor kit that was also funded by the ELPHI grant.

INTERNS:

Interns Casey Lens and Mikayla Udrija who conducted a pet survey in the borough over the summer were unable to attend the meeting by ZOOM due to technical difficulties. Because they were unable to address the board at the meeting, Casey and Mikayla produced a video and slide presentation about how they conducted their survey and some of the survey results. The slides and recording was distributed to all Board of Health members a few days after the board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board, on a motion by Ms. Marianne McConnell and seconded by Mr. Kevin McCarthy, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McGrath