

**HARDING TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021
IN-PERSON
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Cervone, Chair called the In-Person meeting of the Harding Township Board of Health to order on August 12, 2021 at 7:31 p.m. and announced the meeting was called in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. Dr. Cervone asked the Secretary to call the roll.

ROLL CALL:

Secretary Sharp called the following Board of Health members in attendance.

BOH Attendance: Mr. Boyan, Dr. Kao, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, and Dr. Cervone

Absent: Mrs. DiTosto and Mrs. McKittrick

Health Department Attendance: Mrs. Lisa Sharp and Mr. George Byrnes

County of Morris Attendance: Miss Jessica Feer, REHS

BOH Counsel: Mr. Joseph Sordillo, Esq.

Public: None

MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2021:

Dr. Cervone asked if there were any questions with regard to the June 9, 2021 minutes. Upon a motion made by Mr. Platt, seconded by Mr. Boyan, and with votes of all ayes, none opposed, the minutes for the June 9, 2021 meeting were accepted.

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE/JULY 2021:

Dr. Cervone asked if there were any questions regarding the monthly Health Department reports for June and July 2021.

Mr. Boyan commented why the Monk application was highlighted. Mr. Byrnes explained the Health Department is waiting on the final grade. The applicant is building a home and is not in a hurry.

Mr. Byrnes reported on the following:

- The Health Department has been busy working on septic repairs and septic alterations.

With no further comments, Dr. Cervone asked for a motion to accept the June and July 2021 monthly Health Department reports. Upon a motion made by Mr. Platt, seconded by Dr. Lacz, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the monthly Health Department reports for June and July 2021 were accepted.

**COUNTY OF MORRIS MONTHLY REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF
HARDING – JUNE/JULY 2021:**

Dr. Cervone asked if there were any comments or questions with regard to the Morris County Monthly Reports for June and July 2021.

Mrs. Sharp reported that Miss Brady has left Morris County and moved to Arizona. This evening we have Miss Jessica Freer who is filling in for Morris County.

Mrs. Sharp reported that the Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Cynthia Bella, reported that Dr. Gluckmann of FastER in Morris Plains will again conduct the Influenza clinic this year. It is a one day clinic scheduled for October 5, 2021 from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Mrs. Sharp will send this information to the Thumbnail.

With no further comments a motion was made to accept the June and July 2021 Monthly County of Morris report by Mr. Platt and seconded by Dr. Lacz, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed the monthly Morris County reports for June and July 2021 was accepted.

OTHER MATTERS AND HEARING PERSONS PRESENT:

Health Department 2022 Expense Budget: Mrs. Sharp provided each Board member with a copy of the draft Health Department 2022 Expense Budget. Mrs. Sharp explained the expenses have mostly been kept the same and where the expenses could be lowered, they were. Upon a brief discussion, Dr. Cervone asked for a motion to approve the 2022 Health Department Expense Budget. Upon a motion made by Dr. Lacz, seconded by Dr. Kao and with a roll call vote of all ayes, none opposed, the 2022 Health Department Budget was approved.

COVID-19 Update – Dr. Lacz commented that she has been in touch with Mr. Spelker, Superintendent of Harding Township School regarding the Governor’s Executive Order for children in K-12 to wear masks. The School will follow the executive order but there are some grey areas. A discussion ensued regarding the requirement of masks in the school and the grey areas.

Dr. Cervone commented that data is being looked at for the original COVID-19 virus which is not the same virus as the Delta Variant. Dr. Cervone explained that the Delta Variant is much more infective and creates a great deal of viral load. The Delta Variant can be transferred by vapor instead of talking. Dr. Cervone reported that there needs to be a mode of caution going forward.

TC Fox & Coyote Ordinance – Mr. Platt provided an update on the Fox & Coyote Ordinance that will expire at the end of 2021. Mr. Platt commented that New Jersey has the highest rate of Lyme disease. A discussion ensued regarding the white footed mouse and the four predators that go after the white footed mouse such as the coyote, red tail fox, and the owl.

Mr. Platt commented that he asked Dr. Lacz’s for her assistance in working on information for this ordinance. Mr. Platt will update his presentation shown three years ago and will ask Amiel Davita of the NJ Fish & Wildlife to speak. Mr. Platt reported trapping is a terrible thing, this is not a human rights issue it is a public health concern. Keeping the fox population healthy and vibrant helps all of us. Mr. Boyan asked if the ordinance that you are seeking is it permanent or another three years. Mr. Platt commented if passed, it would become a permanent ordinance. Mr. Boyan commented if there

was access to data regarding the incidents in Harding if they are down as a result of the three year ordinance. Mr. Platt explained that there are really no statistics but we are aware that Lyme disease is a serious threat to Morris County.

Mr. Sordillo, Board of Health Attorney commented for the Board of Health are you looking for vote of recommendation. Mr. Platt commented yes, the Board conducts the study because it is a public health issue. A further discussion ensued.

Dr. Cervone made a motion to support the endeavor to continue the mandate for the ordinance that prohibits trapping of foxes and coyotes which expires at the end of 2021 and the Board of Health hopes that the ordinance would be enacted permanently, seconded by Dr. Lacz, and with a roll call vote of all ayes, none opposed the motion made by Dr. Cervone was accepted.

Seeing no further business, a motion to adjourn was duly made by Dr. Lacz, seconded by Mr. Platt, and with a vote of all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Sharp
Secretary, Board of Health