

**RAMSEY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD JANUARY 13, 2022**

1. President's Announcement:

Jeffery Nemeth called the meeting of the Ramsey Board of Health to order at 8:07 PM
In accordance with requirement of N.J.S. 10:4-6, Mr. Nemeth made the following announcement:

THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW WAS ENACTED TO ENSURE THE RIGHT OF ALL CITIZENS TO HAVE ADVANCE PUBLIC NOTICE OF AND TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODIES AT WHICH BUSINESS AFFECTING THE PUBLIC IS DISCUSSED OR ACTED UPON. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, NOTICE OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LEGAL AD SECTIONS OF THE BERGEN RECORD ON JANUARY 5TH, 2022 AND RIDGEWOOD NEWS ON JANUARY 7TH, 2022. NOTICE OF THIS MEETING BEING HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL WAS GIVEN TO THE BERGEN RECORD, RIDGEWOOD NEWS, POSTED ON THE BROUGH WEBSITE, AND POSTED ON THE DOORS OF THE BOROUGH HALL.

Adequate notice of meeting has been provided.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 13 of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 of the laws of the State of New Jersey, the regular meetings of the Ramsey Board of Health of the Borough of Ramsey for the year 2022 are held on the second Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M. and until further notice shall be held virtually as follows:

January 14	July 8
February 11	August 12
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 13	November 11
June 10	December 9

2. Oath of Office for re-appointed members:

Mayor Deirdre Dillon administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed member, Jessica Coronato. Mayor Dillon welcomed Jessica to the Board of Health. Her specialty is in food safety and knowledge will round out the Board of Health's expertise. Mayor Dillon wished the board a happy and healthy new year. She thanked the Board of Health for their service and to the Borough of Ramsey, and said it is truly appreciated. She looks forward to when meetings can return to in person.

3. Call to order, attendance, minutes:

MEMBERS	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mrs. Tami Azouri	X	
Mrs. Joan Waring	X	
Mr. Jeffery Nemeth	X	
Dr. Albert Tartini	X	
Mr. William Lara		X
Ms. Heidi Martin	X	
Dr. Angela D'Alessandro	X	

Dr. Carla Souza		X
Mrs. Jessica Coronato	X	

IN ATTENDANCE	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Peter Kilman, Council Liaison	X	
Mr. James Fedorko, Health Officer	X	
Mrs. Martha Sobanko, R.E.H.S.	X	
Ms. Danielle Monaghan, Board Secretary		X
Peter Scandariato, Board Attorney	X	
Mayor Dierdre Dillon		
Jillian Beilan		

The roll call was called by Martha Sobanko. Motion to approve the minutes from the December Board of Health meeting was made by Jeff Nemeth as corrected. Motion was approved by Joan Waring, seconded by Tami Azouri, and carried by all.

4. Election of Officers:

Mr. Scandariato opened nominations for the Office of President. Jeff Nemeth volunteered for the Office of President. No other nominations forthcoming, motion to close nominations was made by Jeffery Nemeth, seconded Albert Tartini, and carried by all. Motion to approve Jeffery Nemeth as the Board of Health president was made by Joan Waring, seconded by Tami Azouri, and carried by all.

Jeff opened nominations for the Office of Vice President were opened. Joan Waring made a motion to nominate Albert Tartini. Motion seconded by Tami Azouri No other motions forthcoming, a motion to close nominations was made, seconded, and carried unanimously.

5. Resolutions: R1-R6 2022 be considered as a consent agenda and passed with one vote.

- a) **R1-2022** – BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BYLAWS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, NEW JERSEY DATED MAY 15, 2015 AND SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED BE AND HEREBY ADOPTED AS THE BYLAWS FOR THE YEAR 2022.
- b) **R2-2022** – BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, THAT THE FOLLOWING NEWSPAPERS ARE HEREBY DESIGNATED AS OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR PUBLICATION: THE RIDGEWOOD NEWS AND THE BERGEN RECORD.
- c) **R3-2022** – BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY be and he is hereby authorized to execute an agreement for Public Health Services between Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission and the Board of Health for the Borough of Ramsey for the year 2022 in the amount of \$20,440. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agreement shall be in the form as attached hereto.
- d) **R4-2022** - BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY be and he is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with

Health Awareness Regional Program (HARP) and the Board of Health for the Borough of Ramsey for the year 2022 in the amount of \$23,746.00 per annum.

- e) **R5-2022** - BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY that the following are hereby appointed.

Danielle Monaghan, Registrar of Vital Statistics
Angela Mattiace, Deputy Registrar
Martha Sobanko, Alternate Deputy Registrar

- f) **R6-2022** - BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY that the 2022 Interlocal Agreement for Well Child Clinics contract be accepted with agreed upon fee as set forth in the contract attached hereto.

RESOLUTION BY: Albert Tartini
SECONDED BY: Heidi Martin

AYES: Mrs. Waring, Mr. Tartini, Mr. Nemeth, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Azouri, Mrs. Coronato,
Dr. D'Alessandro, Mrs. Souza
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Bill Lara

4. **Special Matters:**

- a) **Committee Appointments** –Jeffery Nemeth stated that the committee appointments will be as follows for the year 2022.

Executive committee – Tami Azouri
Codes, Ordinances, & Legislation – Joan Waring, Albert Tartini and Martha Sobanko
Public Health – James Fedorko, Martha Sobanko, Tami Azouri, and Jessica Coronato
Building Application & Site Plans – Martha Sobanko
Finance & Budget – Jeff Nemeth and Danielle Monaghan
Special Matters– Martha Sobanko, Joan Waring, and Jessica Coronato
Health Education and Outreach – Tami Azouri, Joan Waring, and Danielle Monaghan
Inspections – Martha Sobanko and James Fedorko
Abatements – Martha Sobanko
Vital Statistics – Danielle Monaghan
Ambulance – Bill Lara with ambulance representatives Gillian Beilen
Ramsey Municipal Alliance – Tami Azouri with RMA representative Shauna Lauricell
Conferences & Training – Danielle Monaghan and Martha Sobanko
Council – Peter Kilman
Correspondence – Martha Sobanko and Danielle Monaghan

- b) **Staff Appointments** –

1. Health Officer	James Fedorko
2. Registered Environmental Health Specialist	Martha Sobanko
3. Secretary to Board & Meetings Clerk	Danielle Monaghan
4. Office Secretary	Danielle Monaghan
5. Board Attorney	Peter Scandariato, Esq.

5. Announcements:

Martha said on Saturday 1/15 from 9:30-4 drive thru covid testing will be held in the train station parking lot. The Annual Free Rabies Clinic will also be a drive-thru event held on 1/15 from 1-3 PM in the Municipal Pool parking lot. The Board of Health Lecture Series will be postponed until further notice. Currently, Joan feels the lectures cannot be held in the community center anyway due to the acoustics. Peter Kilman said this is going to be addressed but does not know the timeline. They will find a solution to improve the lighting situation and install sound absorbing materials to mitigate the echo. Peter Scandariato recommended the board check with the Borough Administrator for a timeframe. Jeff told Martha to ask Bruce for an idea when that will be completed, and if not reach out to Matthew at the library for availability to schedule lectures.

6. Codes, Ordinances & Legislation:

Joan said there is nothing to report since the demise of the vaccination exemption bill.

7. Site Plans:

None

9. Abatement Orders:

Mrs. Sobanko's read her report to the Board.

10. Inspection Reports:

Mrs. Sobanko's read her report to the Board.

11. Public Water Supply:

None.

12. Public Health:

Jim referred to his December reports, Danielle's COVID report, and analyzed the data. The number of new cases jumped from 44 to 417 in the month of December. The good news is those numbers are already going down. Jim doesn't feel that vaccination is preventing the disease, because NJ has one of the highest vaccination rates but also the highest case rates. Before Omicron there were more cases of vaccinated individuals than unvaccinated. The vaccine may decrease your risk of hospitalization and illness severity, but it is a hard metric to measure.

Dr. Tartini asked to make a comment. He feels wearing a mask is the key. Those who do not wear masks, vaccinated or unvaccinated, are at risk of contracting COVID-19. Governor Murphy has not issued a statewide mask mandate, but instead left it to the town's discretion. Some towns have issued indoor mask mandates. Al believes as the Board of Health we should ask the mayor to issue a town wide indoor mask mandate. Jeff and Joan agree. Al has been contacting Gov. Murphy with statistics asking for a statewide mask mandate but has not heard back. Jim has a different view. He is against the mandate for a few reasons. Firstly, how are you going to enforce it? What are you going to do have Danielle or Martha going around to be the enforcers? Secondly, the word mandate is divisive. Lastly, most people do not know how to properly wear a mask or remove one and if you look at the case fatality rate it is so low. Albert said he doesn't understand Jim's logic. Jim said he is just thinking in a practical sense and enforcement of a mandate is very difficult to enforce. Al said he appreciates Jim's point of view but does not agree. Jeff asked if any other of Jim's towns have mask mandate. Jim said no, to his knowledge, other Mid-Bergen towns strongly recommend and educate residents to wear masks but have not issued a mandate. Al also stated Ridgewood, Morristown, Hoboken, Newark, South Orange, Maplewood, Montclair, and Paterson have some form of a mask mandate or executive orders in certain

venues. Tami asked if we should take a vote of the board to see if we should submit a Board of Health Position Statement on masks. No vote was taken. Jeff will send an email to Mayor and Council informing them the topic was discussed and that the Board of Health recommend a town wide mask mandate. The community center, senior center, and library have signage posted that require masks to enter. Al said yes people may not die but they are finding out more and more about secondary symptoms and long-term effects. Peter Kilman stated he has been fortunate enough to have not gotten covid and is fully vaccinated. New York has a strict mandate that requires masks and in some locations proof of vaccinations. Peter suggested asking for a strongly recommended mask requirement be placed on business and government doors.

13. Vital Statistics:

Martha read Danielle's vital statistics report to the board.

14. Financial Report:

Martha referred to the revenue and budget statements but deferred them to the next meeting.

15. Correspondence/Communications/Health Education:

Joan said there was a full-page ad about vaping and the slogan said, "it's not just smoke".

Joan also reported that for the first time in two decades, cigarette sales have increased. Joan said the American Lung Association has not found if the data is younger smokers, more people smoking a little, or the same people smoking a lot. Al reported that for the first time in 100 years, the life expectancy for males has gone down to 77 years of age.

16. Ambulance; Ramsey Municipal Alliance; other organizations:

Jillian said the December Statistics were 125 ambulance calls in total, 8 COVID positive calls, and 11 Mutual Aid. The yearly statistics for 2021 were a total of 1,208. Of those calls, 50 were COVID and 87 Mutual Aid. Jillian said most of the COVID calls are Mutual Aid calls, so the positive cases are in other towns and not Ramsey residents.

Tami said The Ramsey Municipal Alliance February 15th is hosting a virtual movie screening for "LIKE". The RMA website has more information and registration available.

17. Council Report:

Peter Kilman introduced himself to the board and said he is very excited to be back with this group.

18. Conferences and Training:

None

19. New Business:

None.

20. Review of Assignments:

Tami will contact Dr. Silver regarding postponing the Board of Health Lecture Series for now.

21. Public Comment:

None.

22. Adjournment:

Al Tartini made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:26, seconded by Tami Azouri, and carried by all.

MID-BERGEN REGIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION

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<http://midbergen-regionalhealth.org>

President
Paul Viola

Health Officer
James Fedorko



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Bergenfield~ Garfield~ Cliffside Park

Health Officer's Report January/February 2022

March 10, 2022

Dear Ramsey Board of Health Members,

The weekly number of new COVID-19 cases in Ramsey decreased from its January 4, 2022 peak of 178 new cases. From February 23rd to March 1st, there were no (zero) new COVID-19 confirmed cases in the municipality. See attached graph. The COVID-19 Activity Level Report for our area is GREEN.

Included in the Board packet is the Ramsey COVID-19 Related Deaths from March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2022. There were 20 COVID-19 related deaths in the borough.

- The average age of death is 86 years old, and the case fatality rate is 0.76%
- One record indicates a COVID-19 related death, but no positive test was found.

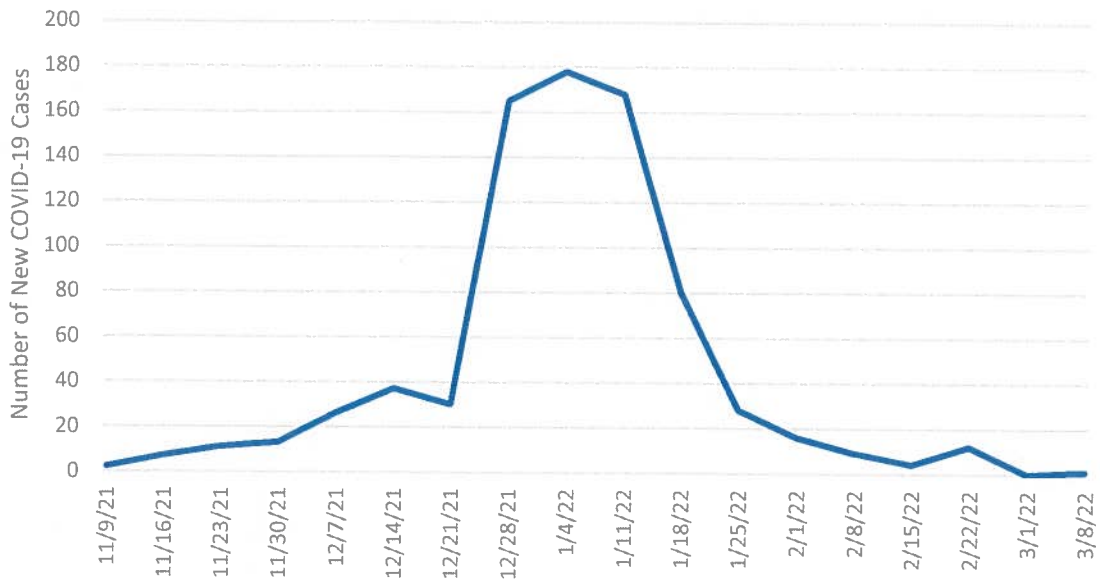
COVID-19 related deaths in January 2022 increased to same level as seen in January 2021. The percent of inpatient beds occupied in NJ remained constant. See attached graph.

The mask mandate for NJ schools ended on March 7th and none of the 16 Mid Bergen Regional Health Commission's contracting municipalities require students to wear masks.

Respectfully submitted,

James Fedorko

Number of New COVID-19 Cases in Ramsey from November 3, 2021 to March 8, 2022



Borough of Ramsey
Registered Environmental Health Specialist Report
January 2022

Food Establishment Inspections/Prepackaged Stores:

Satisfactory

Bolla Market
Bolla Market (King C-Store)
Burger King
Chick-Fil-A
McDonald's
Ramsey Exxon
Sushi Maru Express
Smyrna
Dunkin Donuts (North)
Chocolates with Love
Dunkin Donuts (South)
Dunkin Donuts/Baskin Robbins
Walgreen's (N. Spruce Street)
Jersey Mike's Subs

Conditionally Satisfactory

Anthony Franco's Pizza
La Pasadita

Hair & Nail Salon Inspections

Satisfactory

Sal's Barbershop
G Studio
The Fountain
Bergen Thai Massage

Dog & Cat Bites

None for the month of January

Complaints

Kyle Swenson was found guilty on all 3 summonses paying \$1,007 & \$33 in court fees per summons.

Other

On January 15, 2022 the Ramsey Board of Health held the Rabies Clinic and dogs and cats were vaccinated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Sobanko
Martha Sobanko, R.E.H.S.

Borough of Ramsey
Registered Environmental Health Specialist Report
February 2022

Food Establishment Inspections/Prepackaged Stores:

Satisfactory

Village Stationer's
Krauszer's (Farmer's Grocery)
Vitamin Shop
Starbuck's
Ramsey Liquors
Walgreens
Subway
Domino's Pizza
Blended Bowls
Carvel Ice Cream
Wendy's
Staples
Holiday Inn Express
CVS
Starbuck's

Hair & Nail Salon Inspections

Satisfactory

New Cozy Spa

Dog & Cat Bites

None for the month of February.

Complaints

No complaints for the month of February.

Other

Danielle and I have been working with GovPilot (licensing program) for a few months developing a new website for restaurants and other licensed establishments to renew their license online, hopefully do electronic inspections, complaints etc. in the near future.

Court

Summonses were issued to the following establishments for having their doors open:

- 1.) Starbuck's
- 2.) Lettuce Inn
- 3.) Anthony Franco's
- 4.) Krauszer's
- 5.) Village Stationers
- 6.) Five Below

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Sobanko
Martha Sobanko, R.E.H.S.