

**RAMSEY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**1. President’s Announcement**

Tami Azouri called the meeting of the Ramsey Board of Health to order at 8:05 P.M. In accordance with requirement of N.J.S. 10:4-6, Tami Azouri 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 AND RIDGEWOOD NEWS ON DECEMBER 27, 2019. NOTICE OF THIS MEETING BEING HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL WAS GIVEN TO THE BERGEN RECORD, POSTED ON THE BROUGH WEBSITE, AND POSTED ON THE DOORS OF THE BOROUGH HALL.

**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 2020 are held on the second Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M. and shall be held in the upstairs Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 33 North Central Avenue, Ramsey, NJ as follows:

**3. Call to order, attendance, minutes:**

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
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	
Ms. Sara Poppe	X	
Dr. Carla Souza Iudica	X	

<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Mr. Jane Woods, Council Liaison	X	
Mr. Sam Yanovich, Health Officer	X	
Mrs. Martha Sobanko, R.E.H.S.		X
Ms. Danielle Monaghan, Board Secretary	X	
Pete Scandanario, Borough Attorney		X
Chris Hurley, Ambulance Corps		X

The roll was called by Danielle Monaghan. Motion was made by Joan Waring to approve the minutes from the June meeting and seconded by Bill Lara after a typographical correction was made.

**4. Announcements:**

Joan made a statement that she thought Ramsey did a great job hosting the July 1<sup>st</sup> COVID-19 testing site and that it was very well organized and logically set up. Ramsey testing location had a great turn out and there were 721 people tested that day. Sam discussed that it was a saliva test. The saliva test is considered accurate, but the nasal pharyngeal test is considered the gold standard. Last week, 412 test results came in with 7 positive cases being reported. Joan said she believe Ramsey has been steady in our numbers. Tami announced that the pool opened on June 29<sup>th</sup> and looks to have a good turnout.

**5. Codes, Ordinances & Legislation:**

Joan said the bill for mandatory vaccinations is still in committee. There is a related bill for a public outreach campaign in committee to educate on the importance of vaccinations. Tami stated she saw that HEP A was going to become a mandatory vaccination. Sam said he believes it could be for this school year. The Executive Order 163 was released this week mandating that masks are worn outside when you are unable to social distance. Tami is hopeful for a higher percentage of compliance now that it is mandatory such as on the bike path and sidewalks.

**6. Special Matters:**

**COVID-19:**

Tami wrote up a statement to give to the Mayor and Council recommending it be mandatory that health care offices have plexiglass and PPE rules in place. Jane will pass that recommendation along on behalf of the Board of Health. Sam discussed the Health Officers involvement in the reopening of schools. Local Health Departments will be involved in guidelines, contact tracing, and case reporting. Most of the guidelines will come down from the state. Sam has a meeting tomorrow to review them and the superintendents need to have the guidelines by Monday. Sam reported that contact tracing has started and it took a long time to roll out. Originally it was going to be state employees but Local Health Departments wanted to be more involved. Contact tracers will be paid by the county and funds will come from the state. Sam said right now there is not a strong need for contact tracers until there is a spike. Tami discussed how there might be an increase in the number of contacts now that places are reopening and we are out and about. Sara questioned how far back contact tracing goes. Tami answered that contact tracing goes back to people you have been in close contact with 48 hours from the onset of symptoms or 48 hours before the positive test result for asymptomatic people. Tami reminded everyone that you should not be afraid to list all contacts and that Ramsey has the help line to assist people in need if they are quarantined or cannot get out to the store.

**7. Site Plans:**

None.

**8. Public Water Supply:**

None.

**9. Public Health:**

Sam said there has been some activity of West Nile and Eastern Equine in South Jersey. Sam said the deer tick population throughout the county is low and could be because cases are not being reported since people may not be going to the doctors.

**10. Health Education; Communication; Outreach:**

Tami also suggested that each month the Board of Health should host an online topic. Sara suggested that topics could relate to the current health awareness month and be called Ramsey Health Awareness. Some ideas were benefits of using sunscreen, correct usage of masks, heart health, ticks, diabetes, and other health topics. The blood drive that was held in June was a huge success. Every seat and appointment were taken. Dr. Murphy said he would volunteer to host again. Joan said there is still interest in CPR classes being held. Tami said she would look into it but everything is on hold right now.

**11. Inspection Reports:**

Martha's report was read by the Board. Martha inspected every personal care facility including hair salons, nail salons, and spas.

**12. Abatement Orders:**

Martha's report was read by the Board.

**13. Vital Statistics:**

Danielle read her Vital Statistics report.

**14. Financial Report:**

Mr. Nemeth read off what income came through Board of Health Licenses and Vital Statistics.

**15. Ambulance; Ramsey Municipal Alliance; other organizations:**

Sara is posting a lot of information on the Ramsey Alliance Facebook page. People are still dealing with drug and alcohol abuse while people are still at home and Sara is providing great resource material for mental health awareness.

**16. Conferences and Training:**

Danielle took a Registrar COVID webinar that gave information on date extensions and a change in the process to allow for flexibility during the pandemic. Tami reminded everyone of the Mental Health Webinar coming up.

**17. Council Report:**

Jane gave her report from the Mayor and Council. Strict rules are being enforced at the Ramsey Pool and everyone is following guidelines. The Mayor and Council relaxed zoning restrictions to allow for a drive-in movie theater at Smith school with a maximum of 50 cars. The work continues on the well projects. Ramsey Streetscape project is near completion. The tax rate increase was kept under 2%. Water restrictions are in effect and details can be found on the Ramsey website. The July 4<sup>th</sup> fire department parade was a huge success.

**18. Correspondence**

None.

**19. New Business:**

Sara would like to repurpose the Lighten Up Ramsey Facebook page and use it as a tool to promote health and wellness for the Ramsey Board of Health.

**20. Review of Assignments:**

Tami will send information on proper usage of masks.

**21. Public Comment:**

Elizabeth said she thought it was great that we will create a Ramsey Board of Health Facebook page and also thinks it is important people be reminded to wash their hands as often as they can instead of just using sanitizer.

**22. Adjournment:**

The Board moved to adjourn at approximately 9:00 PM. Motion was made by Bill Lara, seconded by Jeff Nemeth, and carried by all.