

**RAMSEY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD JANUARY 12, 2023**

1. President’s Announcement:

Danielle Monaghan 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, Ms. Monaghan 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. 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. in council chambers at 33 N. Central Ave. Ramsey, NJ 07446 and via teleconference. Dial in number: 701-802-5425 Access Code: 425415#

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

2. Oath of Office for re-appointed members:

Mayor Deirdre Dillon administered the Oath of Office to the reappointed and newly appointed members, Heidi Martin, Tami Azouri, Carla Souza, Judi Kennedy, and Christoph Hass. Dr. Goujani could not attend tonight. Mayor Dillon welcomed everyone and thanked them for their service on the Board of Health. Mayor Dillon congratulated everyone and thanked everyone for their service and wished everyone a wonderful, joyful, and prosperous 2023.

3. Call to order, attendance, minutes:

| MEMBERS | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|---------|--------|
| Tami Azouri | X | |
| Dr. Angela D’Alessandro | X | |
| Dr. Banafsheh Goujani | | X |
| Heidi Martin | X | |
| Dr. Carla Souza-Iudica | X | |
| Dr. Albert Tartini | X | |
| Joan Waring | X | |

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Christoph Haas, Alt. 1 | X | |
| Judi Kennedy, Alt. 2 | 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 | X | |
| Jillian Beilan | X | |

The roll call was called by Ms. Monaghan. Motion to approve the minutes from the December Board of Health meeting was made by Heidi Martin, seconded by Joan Waring, and carried by all.

4. Election of Officers:

Ms. Monaghan opened nominations for the Office of President. Joan was planning to nominate Al Tartini. Al declines, but said he would run for vice president. Al said it is difficult to commit to the presidency with his other obligations at Valley Hospital. Joan nominated Heidi as the next most senior member of the Board. Heidi said she does not have the time to commit to the position. Al asked if Joan would be willing to be president again. Joan said she has served her time. Christoph Hass asked what the presidency entails. Danielle said the description is in the bylaws. Joan said the duties are running the meetings and staying current in the world of public health. Joan added it is also what you make of it. If you want to be an active president you will create programs and assign teams to work on them. Joan asked Carla if she would be interested. Carla said she is not sure she has the time to commit to it and do it right. Tami asked if Ann would be interested. Ann said it is very difficult while working full time. Ann asked if there have ever been co-presidents to share the responsibility. Al said he would split the responsibility as the vice president. Al said it was easier before COVID when meetings were in person. Ann asked if we should consider returning to in person meetings. Joan said she was going to raise that as well. Peter Kilman stated as of April 2023, all boards and committees should return to in person meetings. The mayor and council feel the time has come to return to in person sessions. Al nominated Tami Azouri as president. Tami said she would be happy to take the role again. Joan seconded the nomination. Joan said it is also great to have her in that role since we work so much with HARP. A vote was taken and the nomination was carried by all. Joan Waring nominated Al Tartini for the Office of Vice President, seconded Tami Azouri, and carried by all.

5. Announcements: No announcements were made by the members. Danielle congratulated and welcomed all the newly appointed and reappointed members.

6. Codes, Ordinances & Legislation:
None.

7. Approval of Resolutions R1-R6 2023:

a) **R1-2023** – 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 2023.

- b) **R2-2023** – 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) **R3-2023** – BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY is hereby authorized to execute a uniform shared services agreement for Local Public Health Services between Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission and the Board of Health for the Borough of Ramsey for the year 2023 in the amount of \$21,168.00 per annum equal to \$5,292.00 quarterly payments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission shall supply the terms described from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The agreement shall be in the form as attached hereto.

- d) **R4-2023** – 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 2023 in the amount of \$18,960.00 per annum equal to \$4,740.00 quarterly payments. HARP shall supply the terms described from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

For the Contract period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 the professional fees are:

Health Promotion/Exercise - \$51.00 x 100 hrs. = \$5,100.00

Public Health Nurse Director/Supervision = (Provided by Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission Contract)

Public Health Nurse – \$52.50 X 264 hrs. = \$13,860.00

Total Contract Payment = \$18,960.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agreement shall be in the form as attached hereto shall supply the terms described from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The agreement shall be in the form as attached hereto.

- e) **R5-2023** – BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY that the 2023 Interlocal Agreement for Well Child Clinics contract be accepted with agreed upon fee as set forth in the contract attached hereto. A 1-time administrative fee of \$125, payable upon execution of the contract, a \$35 per child fee for examinations and a \$20 per child fee for immunizations only, to be billed directly by the medical provider
- f) **R6-2023** – BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY that the following are hereby appointed and effective as of January 12, 2023.

Danielle Monaghan, Board of Health Meetings Secretary
Danielle Monaghan, Health Department Administrative Assistant
Danielle Monaghan, Registrar of Vital Statistics
Angela Mattiace, Deputy Registrar
Martha Sobanko, Alternate Deputy Registrar

R1-2023 – Approved by all

Joan said to remove the only virtual comment. Chris Hass approved with the same comment as the previous speaker. The statement was not found in the bylaws, but the public meeting notice stated “until further notice shall be held virtually”. A new notice was posted.

R2-2023 – Approved by all

R3-2023 – Approved by all

R4-2023 – Approved by all

R5-2023 – Approved by all

R6-2023 – Approved by all

4. Special Matters:

a) **Committee Appointments** – Tami Azouri, Board of Health President, the committee appointments will be as follows for the year 2023.

Executive Committee – Tami Azouri, Albert Tartini, and Heidi Martin

Codes, Ordinances, & Legislation – Joan Waring and Carla Souza

Public Health – Tami Azouri and Albert Tartini

Building Application & Site Plans – Angela D’Alessandro and Judi Kennedy

Finance & Budget – Albert Tartini and Angela D’Alessandro

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 Administrative Assistant | Danielle Monaghan |
| 5. Board Attorney | Peter Scandariato, Esq. |
| 6. Local Registrar of Vital Statistics | Danielle Monaghan |
| 7. Deputy Registrar | Angela Mattiace |
| 8. Alternate Deputy Registrar | Martha Sobanko |

7. Site Plans:

None.

9. Abatement Orders:

Mrs. Sobanko read her monthly abatement report to the board.

10. Inspection Reports:

Mrs. Sobanko read her monthly inspections report to the board.

11. Public Water Supply:

Danielle read the monthly water report provided by Mike Skorupa. Joan asked if there was mention of the bathroom pipes breaking in the Community Center’s men’s room when it was very cold. There is

hardly any installation in the roof and it is still under repair with a sign that says do not use. Danielle said the water report is from December 19th, so it could have occurred after that.

12. Public Health:

Jim welcomed and thanked the new members and is excited to meet everyone. Jim began with the influenza report, stating we still have many flu cases, but the trend and the trajectory is going downward. Pediatric flu hospitalizations and emergency room visits are also trending downward. RSV has definitely peaked and is coming down nicely. As for the COVID report, our area is listed as high, but in the Ramsey specific graph the cases have not considerably gone up or down. We especially did not see a spike in cases like we did last year at this time. Jim announced that Mid Bergen will be applying for a grant and is hoping to use some of it to improve the Ramsey local health department.

Tami read the annual activity report from HARP which listed the monthly clinics, number of school consultations, health promotion activities, healthy bones classes, dietitian/nutrition heart healthy talks, osteoporosis bone health, hands only CPR, and annual immunization audit. Joan said we have many new members in healthy bones and they need more books that show the exercises and they need more participation manuals. Tami will let Michaela know. Joan said about 10 of each would be good. Tami said she is happy to hear that the program is thriving. Joan said yes it has been really growing. Joan said they also held a very nice holiday party. Shoprite was very generous and provided the food. Afterwards, Joan received about 6 or 7 calls about COVID and is not sure if it was from that event or not but several people became ill. Joan said she is not sure if it was reported and it is apart of a count. Tami said anytime you identify situations like that, HARP should be made aware or let Danielle know so she notify HARP.

13. Vital Statistics:

Danielle read her monthly vital statistics report to the board.

14. Financial Report:

Danielle read the income and year to date data for the health department.

15. Correspondence/Communications/Health Education:

Kelley Grippo is going to have a health education table at the rabies clinic with informational brochures and have discussions with residents about the effects and prevention of rabies. Tami said it would be a great idea to distribute the extra COVID tests there as well. The Rabies Clinic will be held Saturday January 14th from 1-3 PM at the Ramsey Rescue Building. There will be pet license registration this year at the clinic, but it can be done online or at the borough hall clerk's office. Tami asked how the testing went at the train station. Danielle said we had a good turnout at both testing clinics since last meeting. In December, 71 people attended and there were 9 positive flu A, 1 positive flu B, and 0 positives for RSV or COVID. On January 5th, 58 people attended and there were 3 flu A positives and 10 COVID positives. Danielle also mentioned the train station clinic was featured on channel 4 news and Heidi posted it on the Facebook page.

16. Ambulance; Ramsey Municipal Alliance; other organizations:

RMA has an upcoming comedy show about mental health called "What's so Funny?" at the county club on February 3rd at 7 PM and tickets are currently on sale now. Christoph corrected that it is now being held at the Knights of Columbus in Ramsey. HARP will continue with monthly adult health clinics at the community center and woodlands. They also continue running programs at woodlands. The project healthy bones classes are a success and if there are any other programs that the residents are interested in HARP will be flexible to accommodate resident's needs. Joan wanted to compliment Heidi for posting

on the Board of Health Facebook page. There is consistent information from the CDC or health topics and they are doing a great job. Jillian said the December Statistics were 131 ambulance calls in total, 6 COVID positive calls, and 17 Mutual Aid. The yearly statistics for 2022 were a total of 1,467. Of those calls, 44 were COVID and 200 were Mutual Aid in other towns such as Allendale and Mahwah.

17. Council Report:

Peter Kilman said back in December, Danielle and I discussed a Narcan training session in response to some parents asking about it. Chief Lineman said it could possibly do that in conjunction with the AED training. They also discussed fentanyl strips which can be purchased on amazon. There are college kids who have them that use recreational drugs and use those strips to see if it is laced with fentanyl. Peter said we are in between worlds of not condoning drug use but also want to prevent accidental overdoses as well. Danielle emailed RMA as well. Tami was going to suggest that. Tami didn't even know about the test strips. Chief Lineman is aware of this and celebrity instances that bring these topics to light. The AED machine is also great to learn about because even though the unit is self-guided and talks to you, in the moment, it may be helpful to have familiarity with the unit. Tami said if there are any CPR training needs, HARP is available to do that. There has been a lot of interest since the incident with the professional football player. Al asked if there is an AED at the senior center, finch park, or the library. Danielle said yes there are AEDs around town in public buildings and Office of Emergency is responsible for them. Joan asked if the police think there is a bad fentanyl problem in Ramsey. Peter said there as been no statement like that, but because of the notable people media it is a topic that we have to deal with it. Danielle said it's not a problem but more a combination of curiosity and cautiousness and parents are interested in learning about it. Peter also added that Ramsey has an excellent response time with the police and emergency services and these trainings would be for an immediate response while waiting for emergency services to arrive. Jim said there was 1 fentanyl death, 32 years of age, in 2022. There were 3 suicides and 3 deaths due to alcoholism in Ramsey in 2022. Jim will compile that data.

18. Conferences and Training:

Danielle said she is taking the Lead Inspector Risk Assessor Course this week at the Rutgers School of Public Health in Sommerset from 8 AM-5 PM each day.

19. New Business:

Tami would like to make a motion to return to in person meetings in February in the council chambers at Borough Hall. Joan seconded the motion and it was carried by all.

20. Review of Assignments:

None.

21. Public Comment:

None.

22. Adjournment:

Al Tartini made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:26, seconded by Joan Waring. Tami thanked everyone for the honor and privilege to be the Board of Health president. The members thanked her and Al for their service.

Borough of Ramsey
Registered Environmental Health Specialist Report
January 2023

Food Establishment Inspections/Prepackaged Stores:

Satisfactory

Bolla Market
Bolla Market/Burger King
Bottle King
Buono Bagels
Burger King (N. Franklin Turnpike)
Cars Delivery
Dunkin Donuts (North)
La Gondola
La Pasadita
Lettuce Inn
McDonald's
Mindful Café
Old Navy
Panera Bread
Quick Chek
Ramsey Exxon
Steve's Market

Conditionally Satisfactory

Tawara

Hair & Nail Salon Inspections

Satisfactory

OHM Skincare & PMU

Dog & Cat Bites

None for the month of January

Complaints

Rabies

98 N. Island Avenue

1 – bat captured and sent down to state for rabies testing. No evidence of rabies virus was found based on direct fluorescent antibody microscopy.

Sewage

450 Island Road

The complainant stated that there is a sewage smell in their apartment. They stated that a plumber confirmed that there were several cracks in the pipe. I spoke with management company and they assured me that the issue has been taken care of. They sent over the bill from the plumber. Abated until further notice.

Site Plan Waivers

875 Route 17

Grammy's Pantry & Butcher Shop

Mold

246 N. Franklin Turnpike

The complainant stated that there is a strong smell of mold in the unit she is renting for her business. I gave her OSHA's information but went out to investigate and at the time there was no visible mold in the entire unit. Abated until further notice.

Court

170 Williams Drive

The owner of the above property was issued a summons for the condition of the garbage. The property manager was notified about the garbage in the parking lot and the issue continues to exist. Court is scheduled for March 28, 2023. I will report back with outcome.

Other

On January 14, 2023 the Ramsey Board of Health held the Rabies Clinic and 114 dogs and 9 cats were vaccinated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Sobanko

Martha Sobanko, R.E.H.S.