

Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission  
Meeting  
April 1, 2019

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission was held on the above date at Green Brook Town Hall and called to order by President Mr. Greg Riley by reading the Sunshine Law Statement at 7:00pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Green Brook: Dr. Jon Fourre

South Bound Brook: Ms. Kathleen Bolmer

Warren: Mr. Greg Riley, Mr. Malcom Plager

Watchung: Mr. Ron Jubin, Ms. Julie Gunther

Others in attendance: Mr. Kevin Sumner, Health Officer

Ms. Karen Wick, Recording Secretary

**3. Recognition**

Mr. Greg Riley presented former President, Dr. Jon Fourre with a plaque from the Commission for his years of service as President of the Commission from 2011-2018. Dr. Jon Fourre thanked the Commission Members for this honor.

**4. Election of the Treasurer of the Commission for year 2019**

Mr. Greg Riley opened the floor for nominations of the Election of Treasurer for 2019. K. Sumner stated that Ms. Jean Mazet would accept the Treasurer's position. Dr. Jon Fourre nominated Ms. Jean Mazet as Treasurer for 2019, seconded by Mr. Malcom Plager. Mr. Greg Riley closed the nominations. Vote: All in favor.

Ms. Jean Mazet was elected Treasurer of the Commission for 2019.

**5. Public Portion**

Meeting opened to the public - no response - meeting closed to the public.

**6. Minutes**

Dr. Jon Fourre made a motion to adopt the February 4, 2019 meeting minutes with changes to page 3 as discussed, seconded by Ms. Kathy Bolmer. Vote: All in favor.

## **7. Treasurer's Report- February and March**

Dr. Jon Fourre made a motion to approve the February Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Malcom Plager. Vote: All in favor.

Discussion of Verizon and AT & T, Natalia Shindin and format.

Mr. Malcom Plager made a motion to approve the March Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Ron Jubin. Vote: All in favor.

Discussion of VNA contact and cell phone charge

## **8. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Culture of Health Grant Update**

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that the Ambassadors have been hired, the next step is strategic planning. The ambassadors will take the leadership role and transition it to the community. K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that one ambassador was hired in South Bound Brook and two ambassadors were hired in Bound Brook. The ambassadors will raise awareness of the project within the community.

### **B. NACCHO Update**

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members of the meeting in Washington DC in which representatives from NACCHO, ASTHO (Association State and Territorial Health Officials), and NALBOH (National Association of Local Boards of Health) came together to advocate for public health on Capital Hill. He stated that during the event there were 200 legislative visits. NACCHO discussed topics such as HIV eradication plan, opioids and vaccinations. K. Sumner distributed the blog that he had written for NACCHO. He had written about the relevant use of profile data obtained through surveys. These surveys show how NJ compared with the rest of the country with funding. The NACCHO team showed that NJ was underfunded as compared to rest of the country and this data was able to help obtain 2.5 million dollars for communicable disease services in the upcoming state budget.

### **C. Annual Meeting April 1, 2019**

#### **A. Gun Violence Discussion**

Mr. Greg Riley informed the Commission Members that Mr. Plager, Dr. Fourre, and himself attended the Gun Violence discussion held at Rutgers. Commission Members commented on the speakers and reflected on how this cutting edge discussion compared to smoking discussions 30 years ago. Dr. Jon Fourre stated that changing culture is possible within decades. The Commission Members were informed that Rutgers Center for Gun Violence is brand new and that there is a website [www.gunviolence.com](http://www.gunviolence.com) that keeps track of daily gun violence and 2019 is lower compared to last year.

#### D. VNA Contract

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that Bound Brook is no longer a member of MBRHC for Health Services therefore the VNA contract had to be renegotiated. Bound Brook used 75 %-80% of the services. K. Sumner stated that the monthly child health conferences will be planned for early fall. K. Sumner stated that the VNA has been flexible and the contract for this year will be \$3726 which is approximately \$10,000 less than last year since Bound Brook is not in the Commission. Ms. Kathy Bolmer made a motion to approve the VNA contract, seconded by Mr. Ron Jubin. Vote: All in favor.

#### E. Zufall Health Center Contract

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that since Bound Brook is no longer in the Commission this contract was renegotiated. K. Sumner informed the Commission that the amount was reduced from \$2,500 to \$600 but the contract had not been received yet.

#### F. Bound Brook Transition

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that Bound Brook owes the Commission approximately \$50,000 and the Commission received a letter regarding Bound Brook's records. Commission Members discussed the situation. K. Sumner will arrange for the records to be sent to the County and a separate letter will be sent to Bound Brook regarding their outstanding balance. Commission Members discussed shared services and noted the Commission was one of the first to share services between towns.

### 9. New Business

#### A. Vaccination Resolution and Statement

Commission Members discussed the proposed changes for religious exemptions for vaccinations in NJ. K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that Mississippi and West Virginia do not allow religious exemptions. Commission Member discussed the NY measles outbreak. Mr. Ron Jubin made a motion to approve the Resolution 2019-02 (Resolution in Support of Legislation Clarifying Exemptions from Mandatory Immunizations for Students), seconded by Ms. Julie Gunther. Vote: All in favor. The Resolution will be sent to the sponsors of the Bill, Senate and Legislators, Commissioner of the State Health Department. A copy of the Resolution was sent to the local board of health. The Commission Members discussed the Commission Position Statement regarding Immunizations that is posted on the website. Commission Members discussed the changes. Mr. Ron Jubin made a motion to adopt the position statement with corrections, seconded by Dr. Jon Fourre. Vote: All in favor.

#### B. 2018 Annual Report

K. Sumner included the 2018 Annual Report in the agenda packet. This report is mandated by the NJ Stated Health Dept. K. Sumner is working on the Annual Report for the Commission.

C. National Survey Results for Middle-Brook

K. Sumner included National Longitudinal Survey of Public Health Systems written by Dr. Glen Mays of the University of Kentucky. This report compares the Commission with Health departments that are similar in size and structure. The Commission either was the same or better when compared with similar Health Departments.

10. Addendum to Agenda

A. Financial Disclosure Statements

K. Sumner reminded the Commission Members to file their Financial Disclosure Statements

Mr. Grey Riley thanked Dr. Jon Fourre again for his dedication to the Commission. Dr. Jon Fourre thanked the Commission Members and stated how much he enjoys being part of the Commission.

There being no further business Dr. Jon Fourre made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm, seconded by Mr. Malcom Plager. Vote: All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Wick, Recording Secretary