



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
BOARD OF HEALTH
Joint Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

**7:30 PM
December 13th 2023
Meeting Location – Meeting Chambers**

“It is the intention of the Board to conclude this meeting by 9:30pm. Any Agenda item not considered by 9:30pm will be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting”

I. OPENING STATEMENT – Adequate notice of the meeting as required by sections 3(d) and 4(a) of the Open Public Meeting Act has been provided to the public and filed with the Township Clerk.

II. BOARD MEMBERS – Dr. McGeary (X), Dr. Grayson (A) Dr. Newman (X), Dr. Saraiya (A), Dr. Faisal (A), Dr. Sharma (A), Dr. Wolfson (A)

Alternate 1: Dr. O’Mara (A)

Alternate 2: Dr. Mohan (X)

HEALTH OFFICER – Devangi Patel - X

STAFF SECRETARY – Jennifer Foster - X

DEPUTY MAYOR/ TWP. COMMITTEE LIAISON: — Neena Singh - X

ADVISOR – Dr. Mandelbaum - A

ROCKY HILL BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS-

Mary Germain - President (X), Robert Olson (x), Susan Fisher (A), Paul Lecava (X), Joseph Portale (A),

Catherine Plunkett – Council Liaison ()

Robert Uhrick – Mayor (X)

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

The Board of Health welcomes and encourages input from the public.

Members of the public are allotted one opportunity to bring any new business to the Board for a maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. All comments or questions are to be directed to the board before you make your comment, please state your name, address and subject matter. Being mindful of privacy rights regarding department of health employees and to avoid any potential liability on the part of the speaker, the board discourages references to specific individuals. While directing your comments or questions to the board, please understand that the public comment portions of the meeting are not structured as question and answer sessions but rather are offered as opportunities for you to share your thoughts with the board. The board president may need to refer an issue to the health officer representing the department of health if the particular issue has not been handled through the appropriate chain of command with the department of health before coming to the board for a response.

Responses may be provided at the end of this session. There are times when comments and questions will require additional information gathering before a response is provided.

We thank you for your understanding and respect the rules of order. We open the agenda to and welcome public comment at this time.

No Public Comment at the December Meeting.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed hereunder are considered routine in nature and will be approved in one motion. Any member request that an item(s) be removed for separate consideration:

A. MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Health Department Monthly Report – December 2023
2. Communicable Disease Report – December 2023
3. Animal Control Report – December 2023

- B. **MINUTES APPROVED:** The minutes of the regular meetings of the Board of Health held on November 8th, 2023

Motion to Approve: Dr. Newman **Seconded:** Dr. Mohan

V. Rocky Hill Board Discussion –

President Mary Germain spoke on the Emergency Needs Community Survey for Rocky Hill. With new changes, a new survey was needed to be completed and updated. The Rocky Hill Fire Department and the EMS participated in adding input to the new survey. Mobility of some of the residents was a concern for fire and rescue.

Copies of the survey was provided to the board members to review. The survey was approved by the Township Attorney and is due to go out in January.

VI. Health Officer Comments -

Health Officer Patel has supplied the board with a copy of the Strategic Plan. The plan shows goals and objectives the Health Department does and is required to complete. It is broken down into different categories and divisions. The Health Officer proceeded in walking the members through the plans outline, goals and objectives. The Health Department is currently using the NACCHO Strategic Plan Template as a guide during its development. The plan is required to be updated every 5 years.

Grant Expenditures - There are 3 large grants that help offset salaries.

Public Health Infrastructure Grant \$250k

Strengthening Grant – July thru June fiscal year, amount \$274,735.00.

Over \$150k has been used for salaries and wages and close to \$60k on fringe, over \$62k on supplies and equipment for daily operations.

The 2024 Strengthening Grant totals \$495k – so far, over \$71k has been used for salaries and wages, over \$40k on fringe which has helped offset funds from the township budget.

Anticipated budget for 2025 – the State Health Department has stated there will be significant funding cuts next fiscal year. Strengthening Grant total will decrease from 495k to about \$100k starting July 1st. Currently there are 3 staff members that are grant funded. We must develop a strategy for managing workforce capacity in the future beyond June 30.

Dr. Newman had touched on the lack of space the Health Department has in this new building and staffing issues. With the number of programs and incentives being asked of the Health Department they will have difficulty fulfilling them without interns and appropriate number of staff in the department.

VII. New Business

No new business was discussed.

Adjournment- Having no further business to discuss the meeting will now adjourn at 8:11pm
Motion to adjourn was moved by Dr. Newman seconded by Dr. Faisal