

Minutes

Board of Health Minutes

September 19, 2022 via ZOOM

Present: Joel Muhlbaum, Esq., Chair; Dr. Danielle Goodwin, DDS; Dr. Sarah Gamble; Sarah Madden, APRN, FNP-BC; Maryann Ramos, MPH, PA-C Emeritus

Staff: Caroline Baisley, Director of Health; Debora Edwards, Operations Administrator; Deborah Travers, Director of Family Health; Mary Racho, Director of Lab

Presenters: Tom Miserendino, Greenwich Emergency Medical Services (GEMS) Director of Finance; Tracy Schietinger, GEMS Executive Director; Mary Racho, Lab Director

The ZOOM Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Joel Muhlbaum, Esq. at 6:33pm

Minutes

The minutes of the June 28, 2022 meeting were presented. No edits were requested. Motion to accept the minutes as submitted were approved and accepted. **(Motion: Ramos / Second: Goodwin / Vote: 5 in favor – 0 opposed -2 absentee)**

GEMS Quarterly Report:

Operations: GEMS Executive Director, Tracy Schietinger:

- GEMS 1st Quarter is starting out to pre-COVID days.
- GEMS response calls as of July 22, were over budget by 350.
- GEMS billable transport calls as of July 2022 were over budget by 118.
- Request for standbys for all athletic games has increased.
- Station 4 update: Hopefully it will be done by the end of October or early November 2022.

GEMS Director of Finance, Tom Miserendino:

- The fiscal year which began May 1, 2022 is off to good start.
- As of July 31, 2022, GEMS YTD change in total net assets is a positive \$231,000.
- Total operating revenue was \$190,000 ahead of budget primarily driven by patient Services, \$131,000 ahead of budget. Revenue from training was \$15,000 ahead of budget; stand-by revenue was \$22,000 ahead of budget.

- Total operating expenses were under budget by \$25,000, driven primarily by lower personnel expenses (down 2 Medics May and June).
- YTD cash collections on patient receivables were \$68,000 higher than prior year YTD, a YOY 13% increase.

Emergency Management Director- Joseph Laucella

- Shelter Evaluations, Pre-planned, agreements drafted, reviewed and prepped for approval for the MOU.
 - Western Civic Center
 - Greenwich High School
 - Greenwich Central School
 - Greenwich Eastern School
- Cup of Joe with Joe- community presentations at the Senior Center.
- Shelter Training scheduled in November. Date TBD
- Nov 29 & 30th 6p- 10pm- Flooding Hazards- Science and Preparedness- Presented by LSU- virtual.
- Webbook- Greenwich Profile Updated, Users enrolled and demo
- Emergency Alert System review
- Cooling Centers/warming center/EOC activation protocols established. Opened cooling centers multiple times this past summer.
- MRC, CERT Coordination and training: CPR classes in September, Shelter Training November
- EverSource HUB. enrolled Team, training and using new communication tool, established good working relationship with Eversource reps.

Mary Racho- Director of Lab:

- Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the US
- Greenwich is located in an area of moderate to high radon potential
- Only 9% of housing units have been test over the 22 years since the Greenwich radon in air testing program began
- On average, over 1/3 of homes tested had radon levels over the EPA action level for radon (4 pCi/L), with some areas reaching as high as 1/2 of homes testing over the EPA action level.
- Encourage residents to get their homes tested
- Emphasize health issues and potential warning signs
- Encourage installing a mitigation system if there is high radon in the home

COVID-19 Update: Caroline Baisley, Director of Health:

- From September 8 2022 to Sept 15, 2022 there were 326 hospitalization during that time in Connecticut.
- Total number of cases to date is 886,348 in Connecticut, with 11,329 total number of deaths
- In Greenwich as of September 9, 2022 total number of cases 15,839 with 89 active cases the staff is working on.
- Currently there are about 16 cases a day of COVID-19 in Greenwich.

- Percentage of Connecticut full vaccinated that had a valid county residence was 98.3%. All age groups from 5 years and older indicate an over 80% vaccination rate.
- New COVID booster vaccine is on the market. The Department has ordered the new booster vaccine and will be holding booster clinics when the vaccine is received.

Business: Reported by Caroline C. Baisley, Director of Health:

- At this time Pneumonia vaccine PCV -13 is no longer recommended.
- Pneumonia vaccine PCV-15 will replace PCV-13, which is a superior Pneumonia vaccine.
- Insurance will cover the cost PCV-15.
- Would like to charge fee of \$235, which includes vaccine and administration fee), but needs to be approved by the Board.

Chair moved to approve the PCV-15 vaccine be offered at the fee of \$235 as presented.

(Motion: Ramos / Second: Madden / Vote: 5 in favor – 0 opposed -2 absentee)

Motion to adjourn requested at 7:36 pm by Joel Muhlbaum, Esq. (Motion: Ramos / Second: Goodwin)

Minutes prepared by, Debora Edwards. Operations Administrator 9/22/22

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Goodwin, Secretary 9/27/22