



Farmington Valley Health District  
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Avon • Barkhamsted • Canton • Colebrook • East Granby • Farmington • Granby • Hartland • New Hartford • Simsbury

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**Minutes**  
**Board of Health Meeting**  
**Members attended via a Zoom online meeting due to COVID19**  
**June 2, 2020**

**Present:** Brandon Robertson, Kathy Blonski, Debra Brydon, Jeff Shea, Sue Beardsley, Dan Jerram, Mary Jane Parlow, Jadwiga Gocłowski, Beatrice Isabelle, Joe Doering, John Ward, Dennis Brown, Tom McKeon, Warren Humphrey, Maura Shea, Diane Hensdorf, Jennifer Kertanis

**Absent:** Melissa Appleby, Jean Donihee-Perron

**Regular Meeting**

- I. Public Comments:** Brandon Robertson opened the regular meeting at 12:03 p.m. He asked if there were any public comments, there were none.
- II. Minutes of May 5, 2020:** Brandon Roberson asked if there were any changes or questions on the May 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Minutes. There were no comments, he asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Bea Isabelle 1<sup>st</sup>, Maura Shea 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.
- III. Business:**
  - **Quarterly Financial Report:**
    - **FEE REVENUE and PROJECTIONS:** Jennifer Kertanis reported that at our last meeting we discussed our fee revenue and concerns given the impact of COVID19 on the regulated community. At the last meeting the Board directed FVHD to issue permits as normal and we can deal with requests for adjustment on a case by case basis. Salon permits have been issued, food permits went out this week and pools will go out shortly in anticipation of the June 20 Phase 2 opening. NON food fee revenue is approximately \$15,000 shy of our budgeted figure and anticipate hitting that goal. FOOD revenue is too soon to tell. Food permits just issued, some are coming in and we are tracking similar to previous year.
    - Potential revenue loss:
      - \$25,000 block grant has not been received. This is CDC funding and it is Jennifer's understanding that this funding can be used for COVID related response but she will look into this. Normally this is used for our chronic disease programs
      - Men's Health grant supposed to end by Sept 30<sup>th</sup> however, we have had to cancel certain activities. We are working with our funder on no cost extension.
  - **COVID 19 Federal Funding Update**

CT has received at least 20 million in CDC funding, this funding is specifically for public health response including State and Local health departments. In the first crisis award of \$7 mill—locals receive 2.5 mill. FVHD has been told by DPH we would receive \$40,000 for entire YEAR! Our first request for Feb-March was \$20,000, which

included overtime and laptops so staff could work remotely. We have received that check. Our second request for April--\$4,000--it was submitted. Most of this is overtime. Jennifer reported that we will easily go through the remaining allocation and we will continue to have expenses including:

Overtime (contact tracing, 24/7 phone, inspectional work evenings and weekends)

Supplies-vaccination clinics (eventually-PPE, needles, other)

Office modifications-plexiglass.

She emphasized that CADH has made inquiries but DPH tells us to sign up to get FEMA reimbursement. Jennifer will apply but is not convinced that will be a viable option for us. She indicated that municipal officials and legislators may need to advocate for the public health resources we need. Brandon indicated that he believes that there is strength in numbers and he has spoken with CCM and provided some of the funding data. In addition legislators may need to get involved.

- **Staffing:** Jennifer reported Deb is retiring June 12. We will celebrate her many contributions with a luncheon outside on the 12<sup>th</sup>. We have completed first interviews for her position and conducting second interview and references checks for final two candidates. Our goal is to have some cross over with Deb.

Environmental team in the field quite a bit, surprisingly—lots of septic work and location approvals for things like pools.

Food Team getting a lot of support from our towns regarding the outdoor seating and zoning, we are having to field complaints but we are triaging those. Also conducting a lot of opening inspections for those restaurants that have been closed

- **Report from Director: Update-2019 novel Coronavirus:**

- data summary:

- 600 confirmed cases 16% of all those tested have been positive—same as state rate. US at 12% goal is less than 3%
- 92 deaths—majority residents in LTCF
- On average—takes 6 days from test to result getting in system—sometimes longer
- 2 days was most common time period
- Currently actively monitoring 15 cases and contacts

- Testing:

- FVHD is working to make testing more accessible to our towns particularly as additional venues begin to reopen
- Approx. 3.5% of FVHD population has been tested compared to 7.3% at State
- Working with Urgent Care that is doing drive thru testing
- June 8 first one in Granby—working on Canton/Simsbury—don't have to be a resident pre-screening is recommended.
- Governor has released testing strategy—lacks detail regarding specific goals % of population aiming to test—focusing on congregate living, first responders etc.

- Reopening:

- Restaurants-outdoor seating
- Salons—for hair only –gaps and details in State guidance that we have to fill—tanning, recreation as examples
- We've been working with all schools regarding Graduations
- Changes in numbers of people that can be in indoor and outdoor social and recreational activities—implications for other things—(gyms closed-what about outdoor yoga etc.)

- Flu Clinics—

- Increase push for flu vaccine/increased demand

- Working with VNA to do drive thru clinics
- Melissa working on plan
- Planning committee
  - Avon and Simsbury 2 locations
- VACCINATION PLAN for Covid 19
  - ??timing

**IV. OTHER:** Brandon Robertson asked if there was any other business? There was none.

**V. Adjourn:** Brandon Robertson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jadwiga Gocłowski 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.