

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM
December 8, 2015**

Mr. Nachtigal called the regular meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:32 P.M.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Health was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both the Chatham Courier and the Morris County Daily Record on January 14, 2015; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 14, 2015; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 14, 2015.

Answering present to the roll call were Mrs. Swartz, Mrs. Plantemoli, Dr. Downey, Mrs. Babbitt and Mr. Nachtigal. Mr. Samara and Mrs. Gulla were also present. Mrs. Taormina was absent.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Swartz moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2015 meeting as amended. Mr. Nachtigal seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Reports

Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Mr. Samara provided his report from October. Several retail food establishments were inspected. Fito's had received a conditional approval, and the violations were corrected for the re-inspection. A summons was issued for property maintenance at 38 Meyersville Road. Mr. LaConte noted that there is an ongoing property maintenance issue at the site.

Mr. Samara also provided a report for November. Retail food establishment inspections continued, including some walk-through inspections. The annual rabies clinic was also held on November 7th. A soil log was witnessed on River Road, and there was a high water table. Regular inspections of the Hickory Plaza parking lot continued.

Health Officer

Mrs. Gulla reported that the Madison-Chatham Coalition received a renewed grant for the mentoring program. The Madison Health Department is also applying for a grant for Senior Care, and Mrs. Gulla described the program. She also discussed the Senior Transport program. The Municipal Alliance Program was also discussed, and it focuses on curbing underage drinking. Mrs. Gulla noted that the program does not focus on opiate use and abuse. Mrs. Swartz added that the School District is now participating in the Passive Breath Alcohol Sensor Device program.

Registrar of Vital Statistics

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in October 2015:

3 Marriage Licenses	\$84
5 Marriage Certificates	\$30
2 Death Certificates	<u>\$15</u>
Total	\$129

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in November 2015:

17 Marriage Certificates	<u>\$110</u>
Total	\$110

The year-to-date vital statistics income is \$1,458.00 as of November 30th.

Board Secretary Report

Mr. LaConte reported that retail food establishment license renewal notices were sent out, and several establishments have already renewed. He also reported that the Rabies Clinic treated 26 animals, including 19 dogs and 7 cats. Mrs. Gulla added that the retail food license renewal applications included a letter regarding an Emergency Preparedness for Retail Food Establishments document that is available online.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to accept the reports. Mr. Nachtigal seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Discussion

Professional Service Contracts

Mr. Nachtigal noted that the review fees for the proposed contract for Hatch Mott MacDonald has a modest increase. Mr. LaConte said that those fees are paid by escrow money collected from applicants. Mr. Nachtigal asked about the amount of money held in escrow by the Township. Mr. LaConte said that total review bills have been coming in under the \$1500 collected, and the amount does not need to be adjusted at this time. He also recommended renewing the contract with Hatch Mott MacDonald.

Mr. LaConte also said that the contract amount with Ms. Taormina is remaining at \$145 per hour.

The contracts will be approved at the Reorganization meeting in January.

Madison Health Department Contract

Mr. Nachtigal asked Mrs. Gulla about potential upcoming changes in the focus and needs for Chatham Township from the Health Department. Mrs. Gulla said the Madison-Coalition is moving forward positively. Chronic disease management and prevention will also be a focus. Mrs. Gulla also noted that there are reports that the Health Officer can now get from local registrars regarding causes of death. Mr. Nachtigal asked about water quality testing from New Jersey American Water. Mrs. Gulla said that the DEP and EPA address water quality standards, and local health departments are unable to do much about water quality. Mr. Nachtigal also asked about air quality. Mrs. Gulla said that a focus has been on lead investigations. She also said that communicable diseases are being monitored. Furthermore, the State is reducing the size of their field investigating force, and local health departments will have to pick up the slack. The Health Department is also working toward accreditation. Mrs. Plantemoli asked about the benefit of the Health Department being accredited. Mrs. Gulla said that accreditation for health departments is still new. The primary benefit will be good public health, and there is a potential that being accredited could lead to greater opportunity for grants.

Meeting Open to Public

Mr. Nachtigal opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mrs. Babbitt moved to adjourn at 8:29 PM. Mrs. Plantemoli seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Gregory J. LaConte
Board of Health Secretary