

**WARREN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH
RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 25, 2023 – 7:00 pm
2nd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM-MUNICIPAL BUILDING
46 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD, WARREN**

Call to Order: The regular public meeting of the Warren Township Board of Health was called to order at 7:04 pm.

The Opening Statement: Adequate notice of this meeting was given on January 01, 2023 by posting a copy on the Township Bulletin Board, sending a copy to the Township Clerk and the Star Ledger, as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. We plan to adjourn no later than 10:00 pm.

Roll Call:

Mr. Plager – present
Mr. Morlino – present
Dr. Sarraf – absent
Ms. Lontai- present
Mr. Riley – present

Mr. Rosenman - absent
Dr. Mandal - present
Ms. Valerio (Alternate #1) – present
Dr. Singh (Alternate #2) – absent

Ms. Martins informed the Board of new appointments from the Clerk.

The Township Committee concurs and recommends the following appointments to the Board of Health:

Bruce Morlino	Appointment Expiration Date – December 31, 2025
Mark Rosenman	Appointment Expiration Date - December 31, 2025

Alternate #2

Dr. Anita Singh	Appointment Expiration Date – December 31, 2024
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Mayor's Appointment:

Lisa Lontai	Appointment Expiration Date – December 31, 2023
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Ms. Martins administered the oath to Ms. Lontai.

Order of Business:

Mr. Sumner read the Order of Business for the 2023 Re-Organizational Meeting as outlined in the agenda:

1. Election of Officer
2. Resolution concerning Authorizing Use of Consent Agenda at Warren Township Board of Health Meetings
3. Consent Agenda
4. Reaffirming Membership in the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission for Public Health Services
5. Schedule of Meetings
6. New Business
7. Resolution concerning Appointments for Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission Representatives and Alternates.
8. Old Business
9. Privilege of the Floor

10. Approval of Minutes
11. Correspondence
12. Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission Report
13. Reports of Employees
14. Financial Reports
15. Adjournment

Motion made by Mr. Plager, seconded by Mr. Riley to adopt the Order of Business as read by Mr. Sumner.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Election of Officers:

Election of President – Nomination was made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Mr. Morlino to elect Mr. Plager as the President of the Warren Township Board of Health.

There being no further nominations from the floor, motion was made by Mr. Morlino, seconded by Mr. Riley to close nominations.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Election of Vice President – Nomination was made by Mr. Plager and seconded by Ms. Lontai to elect Mr. Morlino as the Vice-President of the Warren Township Board of Health.

There being no further nominations from the floor, motion made by Mr. Plager, seconded by Ms. Valerio to close nominations.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Election of Secretary/Treasurer – Nomination was made by Mr. Plager and seconded by Mr. Morlino to elect Ms. Angela Valerio as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Warren Township Board of Health.

There being no further nominations from the floor, motion made by Mr. Morlino and seconded by Mr. Riley to close nominations.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Mr. Sumner read Resolution 2023-1 – Authorizing Use of Consent Agenda at Warren Township Board of Health Meetings. Resolution is listed on the agenda for review and a complete copy made available in the Warren Township Board of Health.

Motion made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Mr. Morlino to authorize the use of the consent agenda.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Sumner read Resolution 2023-2 – Reaffirming Membership in the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission for Public Health Services and Resolution 2023-3 – Schedule of Meetings. These resolutions are listed on the agenda for review and a complete copy made available in the Warren Township Board of Health.

Motion made by Mr. Morlino, seconded by Mr. Riley, to approve consent agenda.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

New Business:

Mr. Sumner read Resolution 2023-4 – Appointments of Representatives and Alternates to Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission. Mr. Plager recommends Mr. Riley and Ms. Valerio to be appointed as Representatives to the Commission. Mr. Plager agreed to be the Alternate. Resolution is listed on the agenda for review and a complete copy made available in the Warren Township Board of Health.

Motion made by Mr. Plager, seconded by Ms. Lontai to approve Resolution 2023-4 as read.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Discussion:

Mr. Sumner briefly discussed the role of Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission as the entity providing public health services to Warren Township. Ms. Lontai, being our newest member benefited from the discussion. Ms. Lontai asked Mr. Sumner for clarification on what differentiates Warren Township Board of Health and the Somerset County Health Department. Mr. Sumner clarified that Somerset County Health Department is an independent entity that contracts with municipalities to provide services, much like Middle-Brook Regional Health, except that Warren is a member of the Commission and there is no contract. Mr. Morlino asked what advantages are gained by Municipalities by retaining MBHC. Mr. Riley explained that MBHC provides State mandated public health services to member municipalities on a shared basis for economic advantage and better management and control of services offered. As a member Warren has a voice and vote on actions of the Commission that would not be available in a contractual relationship.

Case # 1

24 Highmount Ave.

Block: 211, Lot 3

Application: Variance Application- BH4-5 et seq. requiring sewer connection

Applicant: Mr. Angelo Paoella, Jr.

Attorney: Mr. Richard M. Sasso, Esq.

Mr. Sumner re-introduced the case as it being the case that was deferred from prior meetings. Mr. Paoella is in the hospital and not able to attend. Mr. Paoella's attorney, Mr. Sasso does not feel

comfortable attending the meeting on behalf of client without his presence, therefore, he requests via letter, as provided to Board prior to today's meeting, for the Board to make final decision on the application based on statements provided by Mr. Paolella or defer case once again, in order to give Mr. Paolella, the chance to appear in front of the Board. Mr. Riley discussed past revision of ordinance BH4-5, and recalls removal of financial hardship provision from the ordinance.

Motion made by Mr. Plager deferring further conversation relating to the case until the applicant and his attorney be present. Mr. Riley seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Ms. Lontai asked if there was any precedent where other residents were required to hook up to sewer using financial hardship as a reason to avoid connecting. Mr. Riley and Ms. Lontai both agreed revised ordinance should comply with and financial hardship should not be on the table as a reason to not connect to sewer. Mr. Morlino asked for clarity on why Mr. Plager feels the case should be deferred. Mr. Plager stated that he feels there is more to the appeal and feels that the applicant should be heard. Mr. Plager questions if motion he proposed be altered and a time line be put in place. Mr. Riley suggested Mr. Sumner send Mr. Sasso a letter with the updated ordinance included and ask Mr. Sasso if based on the ordinance, he wants to proceed with application, if so, a deadline to present case by March 2023 meeting and if there is no show, then the Board will act and make final decision on case by the May 2023 meeting.

Modification is made to motion by Mr. Plager to defer the application until the applicant can be present, but no later than May meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Riley. Mr. Sumner will send out a letter to Mr. Sasso with today's Board decision and deadline to appear.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Old Business: None.

Privilege of the Floor: None.

Approval of Minutes: November 09, 2022

Motion made Mr. Riley to approve minutes from November 09, 2022 meeting, as amended, seconded by Mr. Morlino.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Mr. Plager, Mr. Riley, Mr. Morlino, Ms. Valerio, Dr. Mandal

Opposed: None

Abstain: Ms. Lontai

Correspondence File: None.

Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission Report:

Mr. Riley requested Mr. Sumner provide update on his behalf. Mr. Sumner briefly went over what was discussed at December 2022 budget meeting. Primary task was to approve 2023 budget. Covid and triple demic was discussed. Shortage of Commission members from other municipalities was discussed.

Reports of Employees/Health Officer’s Report:

Mr. Sumner discussed Covid numbers in the Commission as being relatively stable, except for a slight uptick during holidays. Most long-term care facilities had an increase in cases. Six deaths reported in the Commission. The FDA is considering a recommendation to make covid vaccine an annual shot like the flu. Mr. Plager asked Ms. Lontai and Ms. Valerio about covid numbers in the school system. Ms. Lontai stated that covid cases are up in the Middle School, likewise, Ms. Valerio has same issue in the High School. Mr. Sumner discussed the ongoing campaign to license dogs and cats that has been initiated by the Health Department. Mr. Sumner also informed the Board that Covid clinics and home vaccination services are still on going and being offered on a monthly basis for now. Dr. Mandal commented that she noticed many people are confused as to which booster or vaccine they need to ask for. She suggested an informational e-blast be sent to educate residents on vaccines being offered. Ms. Lontai asked Mr. Sumner if other non-covid/flu vaccination clinics are offered to the community. She has seen an increase in students that need varicella and other immunizations that are required to attend schools, due to an increase of kids coming from other countries without immunization records. She needs guidance on where to send them to obtain free vaccinations. Mr. Sumner provided information on resources.

Financial Reports: November and December 2022

November 2022 - Receipts	
Receipts for Registrar	\$ 470.00
Health	\$ 187.50
Application Fees	-
Septic and well	\$ 500.00
Total Health	\$ 1,157.50

November 2022 - Animal Control Receipts	
Dog	\$ 113.00
Cats	\$ 10.00
Total Animal	\$ 123.00

Total Receipts - November 2022 **\$ 1,280.50**

November 2022 - Health Disbursements	
Middlebrook Regional Health Commission - 4th Quarter	\$ 38,388.00
Total Health Disbursement	\$ 38,388.00

November 2022 - Animal Control Disbursements

Animal Control Solutions Contract- November	\$ 2,000.00
State Dog License Fee- November	\$ 12.50
Total Animal Control Disbursements	\$ 2,012.50

Total Disbursements - November 2022 \$ 40,400.50

December 2022 - Receipts	
Receipts for Registrar	\$ 340.00
Health	\$ 8,825.00
Application Fees	\$ 450.00
Septic and well	\$ 240.00
Total Health	\$ 9,855.00

December 2022 - Animal Control Receipts	
Dog	\$ 4,476.00
Cats	\$ 90.00
Total Animal	\$ 4,566.00

Total Receipts - December 2022 \$ 14,421.00

December 2022 - Health Disbursements	
Marriage License Fee - 4th Quarter	waived
Registrar Paper Reg 42A - Blue 100 sheet pk.	\$ 43.00
D. Ostman Clothing Allowance	\$ 193.94
D. Ostman REHS License Renewal	\$ 50.00
Total Health Disbursement	\$ 286.94

December 2022 - Animal Control Disbursements	
Animal Control Sol. Contract- December	\$ 2,000.00

ACS Inv. # 4094 125 Washington Valley Rd-dead cat removal	\$ 50.00
Kennel/Emergency Vet Care Inv. # 4038	\$ 464.00
State Dog License Fee - December 2022 (2023 Licenses Issued)	\$ 376.80
Postage Animal License- U.S. Postmaster	\$ 1,355.77
Mailing Animal License Townwide Campaign	\$ 2,515.00
Total Animal Control Disbursements	\$ 6761.57

Total Disbursements - December 2022	\$ 7,048.51
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Motion was made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Ms. Valerio to approve November and December 2022 Financial Report as read.

Discussion: Mr. Riley asked for clarification on Marriage License Fee being waived. Ms. Martins explained process of reporting and submitting fees on a quarterly basis to the State of NJ and Governor Murphy’s mandate waiving \$28.00 marriage license fee, effective July 1, 2022 thru July 2023.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Dr. Mandal to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm.

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Respectfully submitted,
 Patricia Martins
 Administrative Secretary
 Warren Township Board of Health