



**MINUTES OF HAMPDEN COUNTY HEALTH COALITION
ZOOM MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020**

CALLED TO ORDER AT: 10:05 a.m.
MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 11:07 a.m.

ATTENDEES:

Jeanne Galloway	Co-Chair; Health Director, West Springfield
Christopher Goshea	Public Health Emergency Preparedness Planner, PVPC
Beverly Hirschhorn	Director Board of Health, Longmeadow
Angela Kramer	Public Health Nurse, Ludlow
Lorri McCool	Health Agent for Wilbraham, Monson & Hampden
Aimee Petrosky	Health Agent, East Longmeadow
Sherry Petrucci	Public Health Nurse, Agawam Health Department
Deb Schaier	Public Health Nurse, Holyoke
Tammy Spencer	Co-Chair; Health Director, Southwick

GUESTS:

Jonathan Miller	Director, Health & Wellness Center, STCC
Sandy Table	Registered Nurse, Ludlow
Marianne Moura	Registered Nurse, Ludlow

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED AT THIS MEETING:

- Agenda
- Minutes of July 2, 2020 Hampden County Health Coalition Zoom meeting
- HCHC July 2020 Financial Statement

1. Meeting Called to Order

The August 6, 2020 Zoom meeting of the Hampden County Health Coalition (HCHC) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Jeanne Galloway.

2. Welcome & Attendance

Tammy Spencer took roll call and she noted that the following communities were in attendance: Agawam; East Longmeadow; Hampden; Holyoke; Longmeadow; Ludlow; Monson; Southwick; West Springfield and Wilbraham. She also noted that attendees included PVPC PHEP Planner, Christopher Goshea and PVPC Administrative Assistant Lynn Shell, as well as guests Jonathan Miller, Sandy Table and Marianne Moura.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Spencer called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2020 HCHC meeting which was held via Zoom.

AIMEE PETROSKY MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 2, 2020 MINUTES; ANGELA KRAMER SECONDED THE MOTION; THERE BEING NO OBJECTIONS OR ABSTENSIONS, THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ALL THE HCHC MEMBERS PRESENT.

4. Financial Report: July 2020

Chris Goshea reported on behalf of Erica Johnson who was unable to attend today's HCHC meeting. Mr. Goshea stated that

the balance of PHEP funds for FY20 is \$3,981.80. He noted that it was necessary to reallocate some funds due to Verizon cell phone expenses. Mr. Goshea explained that the Coalition's cell phone minutes were not unlimited however going forward this will not be an issue because we are now on a new Verizon cell phone plan and he encouraged HCHC members to use their phones as much as they need to. In response to a question raised by Ms. Schaier, Mr. Goshea stated he believes each community is provided with 2 cell phones that are paid for with HCHC PHEP funds. He noted that Ms. Johnson could answer any other questions about the cell phones. As regards the FY21 financial report, Mr. Goshea stated that we have not yet received those funds and nothing has been spent thus far.

Ms. Spencer then called for a motion to accept the HCHC financial report for the month of July 2020.

ANGELA KRAMER MADE THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE HCHC FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2020; DEB SCHAIER SECONDED THE MOTION; THERE BEING NO OBJECTIONS OR ABSTENSIONS, THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ALL THE HCHC MEMBERS PRESENT.

5. Business At Hand

a) Seasonal Flu Clinics & MRC Participation

Ms. Galloway asked if there are enough MRC volunteers to help with the seasonal flu clinics. Ms. Spencer stated that she could put out a call for MRC volunteers and she asked the communities of Holyoke, Agawam, West Springfield, and Wilbraham to let her know if they need assistance. Mr. Goshea noted that he sent out an email with updated DPH guidance for flu clinics and shelters that Michael Nelson had submitted and he asked HCHC members to let him know if they did not receive his email. As far as potential dates for flu clinics, Ms. Galloway stated that West Springfield is looking at September 26th and October 10th. Ms. Spencer stated that Southwick's clinic will take place September 10th and they will be utilizing a tent that is set up outdoors. She noted that they haven't yet decided if they will ask people to remain in their cars. Ms. Kramer stated that Ludlow will be looking into doing a drive-through clinic and they would welcome any ideas. Ms. Spencer suggested that HCHC members communicate with each other via email regarding their flu clinic plans and Mr. Goshea offered to post the information to HCHC's Google calendar events.

b) School Reopening

Ms. Galloway noted that West Springfield will make a decision about school reopening by Monday, August 10th. Ms. Petrosky stated that East Longmeadow believes a fully remote program in the fall is the best way to prevent the spread of the virus. She noted that Massachusetts is currently trending up and her recommendation, as well as the school's position, is to have an isolation and quarantine model that is a little more conservative than DESE's or DPH's plan.

Jonathan Miller stated that all colleges with dorms are planning to have students in them. He pointed out that STCC and other community colleges are doing much of their training online however some labs cannot take place remotely so there will be a high presence of students each day. Mr. Miller stated that STCC hasn't finalized their plans but they expect to use a technology system to screen everyone each day. He noted that they will try to do some contact tracing however he pointed out that it is very labor intensive and some of that work will spill over into local public health. Mr. Miller stated that he would like to get a conversation going between STCC and public health. A discussion followed

about contact tracing and HCHC members agreed that it can be very time-consuming and overwhelming.

At this point, Mr. Goshea stated that PVPC's Executive Director, Kim Robinson, convened a planning meeting to talk about ways for Hampden and Hampshire Counties to collaborate. He noted that there will be a discussion on August 26th at 9 a.m. which will include various topics including MAVEN. Mr. Goshea stated that a *Save the Date* will go out today. Mr. Goshea also noted that the Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC) has offered to give a presentation to HCHC. Ms. Galloway asked if anyone is interested in having a CTC representative attend a Coalition meeting. Ms. Petrosky did not feel that a presentation would be useful but she suggested asking if the CTC representative would be willing to hear some of our concerns about the challenges of the program. After a brief discussion, Ms. Galloway stated that it appears HCHC does not wish to have a CTC representative provide us with a presentation. Ms. Petrosky noted that the CTC could potentially be a useful program and she suggested giving them the option to attend a Coalition meeting to see if they are interested in hearing feedback about Hampden County's concerns.

c) Mandatory Quarantine Orders

Ms. Hirschhorn commented on the discrepancy between the DESE guidance and the MDPH protocol on quarantine and she asked if any other communities are going to be passing local regulations to require the school department to be in conformance with whatever the state protocol is. Ms. Galloway remarked that West Springfield's school department has gone with the DPH guidance. Ms. Hirschhorn stated that since the Board of Health imposes and discharges the quarantine, she will not impose something that is different from a DPH protocol.

d) WRHSAC EDS Trailer Purchase

Ms. Spencer reported that WRHSAC may be planning to purchase a second EDS trailer. Mr. Goshea noted that the Pan Flu Subcommittee is looking for someone to host the trailer, which would include housing, maintaining, insuring and registering it. He stated that Springfield is interested and they will get back to him. He also asked HCHC members to let him know if anyone else is interested.

e) PHEP FY21 Workplan Update

Mr. Goshea stated that he is still waiting for updates from the state for the new guidance. He noted that HCHC is looking at the SNS drill versus the table top exercise and he asked the group to let him know what they prefer.

6. News and Updates

a) MRC & PVCOAD Updates

Mr. Goshea stated that there has not been a recent PVCOAD meeting that he is aware of. He noted that there will be a meeting of the MRC next week. Mr. Goshea stated that MRC has many volunteers who want to help but there is concern about putting those at risk into vulnerable situations. He asked HCHC members to let him know if they have a need for MRC volunteers noting that they are trying to find opportunities that are safe.

b) HMCC Update

Ms. Galloway reported that the HMCC is continuing to convene regular meetings although the meeting this month was

cancelled because there wasn't enough on the agenda. Ms. Galloway stated that the projects that HMCC is working on with WRHSAC are moving forward.

c) MCD Update

Ms. Galloway reported that emails were sent out about the findings for EEE and West Nile Virus across the state and she noted that the districts have been doing increased trapping since the recent storm. She added that efforts are being made to provide members with their weekly or monthly sampling and she pointed out that the PVMCD now includes 16 towns. Ms. Galloway suggested contacting Christopher Craig if anyone else is interested in joining the PVMCD.

d) Western MA Public Health Advisory Group (WAG)

Mr. Goshea stated that the WAG meeting included discussions about the EDS trailer. He also announced that Michael Nelson recently had a baby boy and he is now working at a limited capacity of roughly 15 hours a week.

e) LSAC Update

Mr. Goshea reported that the last LSAC meeting was in June and no other meetings have yet been scheduled.

f) WRHSAC Updates

Ms. Galloway stated that a procurement process is underway for signage and they plan to provide signage to the 4 western Massachusetts counties during the next couple of months.

g) MAVEN Report

Angela Kramer reported that at the moment she has seen a decrease in COVID and she noted that there has been an increase in tickborne diseases especially in the Monson area.

h) Upcoming Events, Trainings & Exercises

Ms. Petrosky reported that there will be a FDA training in August. She noted that it is free and CEUs are available and she asked HCHC members to let her know if they would like to receive an email with more information. .

7. Other Business

Ms. Galloway asked if anyone had any other business to conduct but no further business was presented for discussion.

8. Meeting Adjourned

Ms. Galloway called for a motion to adjourn today's August 6, 2020 HCHC Zoom meeting at 11:07 a.m.

DEBORAH SCHAIER MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE AUGUST 6, 2020 HCHC ZOOM MEETING, LORRI MCCOOL SECONDED THE MOTION, AND THERE BEING NO OBJECTIONS THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ALL THE HCHC MEMBERS PRESENT.