

Ocean County Board of Health  
 175 Sunset Avenue  
 Toms River, New Jersey

Minutes

August 14, 2024  
 9:30 AM

The Regular Meeting of the Ocean County Board of Health was called to order on August 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room, at 175 Sunset Avenue, Toms River, Ocean County, New Jersey, with Chairman John J. Mallon presiding.

**1. Reading of “Open Public Meeting Act:”**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman asked everyone to join him in honoring our military service members who protect our freedom every day.

**3. Roll Call:**

- Ms. Jennifer Bacchione
- Dr. Theresa Kubiel
- Ms. Veronica Laureigh
- Ms. Scaturro
- Senator Robert Singer
- Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman

Daniel E. Regenye, Public Health Coordinator  
 James Holzapfel, Board Counsel

**4. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:**

On a motion made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, the open meeting minutes from the June 19, 2024, meeting were approved.

Name	Bacchione	Gupta	Hill	Kubiel	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes	X			X	X		X	X	X
Abstain									
Nays									
Absent		X	X			X			

**5. Ocean County Health Department 2023 Audit Review Presentation:**

Matt Holman of Holman Frenia Allison, auditors to the Ocean County Board of Health provided an overview of the 2023 agency audit report. Mr. Holman stated that the audit was clean and clean opinion, more specifically the auditors have no comment or recommendations, adding that the Ocean County Health Department has healthy financials.

Dr. Avinash Gupta entered the Board Meeting during Mr. Holman’s presentation.



**Resolution 199(24)** – Authorization to accept the State Fiscal Year 2025 Governor’s Council on Substance Use Disorder Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program Grant in an amount of \$287,920.00 for the grant period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 200(24)** – Authorization to accept Program Funding from the Ocean County Commissioners for the Recycling Enhancement Act Bonus Grant in an amount of \$60,000.00 for the calendar year 2024 - Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 201(24)** – Authorization to apply and accept Childhood Lead Program for an amount not to exceed \$218,050.00, for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 202(24)** – Authorization to accept the Right To Know Program Grant in the amount of \$12,259.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 -Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 203(24)** – Authorization to accept the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$270,180.00, and appropriate matching funds in the amount of \$191,716.00 for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 204(24)** – Authorization to accept the Strengthening Local Public Health Capacity Grant in the amount of \$45,202.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 205(24)** – Authorization to accept the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC STRONG) Grant in the amount not to exceed \$27,760.00 for the period of June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 206(24)** – Authorization to accept the Diabetes and Prevention and Program Control Grant for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025– Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 207(24)** - Authorization to accept the DHSTS HIV Elixir grant in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 208(24)** – Authorization to accept the Early Intervention Health Services Program Grant in an amount not to exceed \$3,176,606.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 209(24)** – Authorization to continue the Ocean County Overdose Fatality Review Program for an additional two years from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 210(24)** – Authorization to forward the following vehicles for public auction to the Director of Purchasing for the County of Ocean, HD30 2006 Ford Econoline 1FMRE11W56HA84274 and HD40 2008 Ford Explorer 1FMEU73E48UA70465 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 211(24)** – Authorization to apply and accept the Alternative approach to Pain Management for Older Adults for an amount of \$75,000.00 for the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 212(24)** – Authorization to apply for the Special Child Health Care Management Program Grant in an amount not to exceed \$181,429.00, with matching funds not to exceed \$134,558.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 213(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement for laboratory testing for sexually transmitted diseases to be performed by the NJDOH Public Health and Environmental Laboratories for an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 – for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 214(24)** – Authorization to sign an Over the Phone Usage Agreement with the Southern New Jersey Regional Early Intervention Collaborative for interpretation services at no cost to the agency for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 215(24)** – Authorization to enter into a Letter of Understanding with WIC community partners to accept and provide referrals and linkages for child health services at no cost of the agency for the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, with Dr. Gupta, Dr. Kubiel and Senator Singer abstaining from RWJ Barnabas and Ms. Scaturro abstaining on the Ocean County Library- Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 216(24)** – Authorization to enter into a fee for service contract for Cancer Education and Early Detection services with VNACJ to reimburse the Ocean County Health Department for an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025- Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh, and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 217(24)** – Authorization to enter into a voucher referral program with OneSight for patients to fill their eyeglass prescriptions at no cost to the agency – for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 218(24)** – Authorizes the establishment of a clinical sliding fee schedule for indicated clinical services offered by the Ocean County Health Department effective August 14, 2024- Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 219(24)** –Authorization to amend the Vendor Certification Policy to include Automatic Vehicle Location control hardware – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 220(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Center for Health Education Medicine and Dentistry (CHEMED) for dental services for an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 for a period of July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 221(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Ocean Health Initiatives (OHI) for dental services for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 for a period of July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 222(24)** – Authorization to enter into a contract with Turning Tech Intermediate d/b/a ECHO 360 for digital file storage for an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00 for the period of September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 223(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Clarion Hotel to host a presentation entitled “Culture and Ethics in Crisis Response: Prioritizing Self-Care and Resilience for an amount not to exceed \$3,288.51 on November 15, 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved

**Resolution 224(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Wellspring Center for Prevention “We’re Not Buying It” for an amended amount from Resolution 34(24) for a new amount not to exceed \$3,300.00 -Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 225(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with Summit Benefit Consultants, LLC for GASB 75 Actuarial Services for an amount not to exceed \$8,400.00 for the period of August 14, 2024, through December 31, 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 226(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Long Beach Island Health Department to offset some of their costs associated with lead testing for an amount not to exceed \$3,800.00 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 227(24)** – Authorization to enter into an agreement for a Substance Use Treatment Awareness Media Campaign with Purplegator for an amount not to exceed \$ 75,946.00 for the period of September 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 228(24)** – Authorization to participate in **Clear the Shelter Day** where the Ocean County Health Department will participate in adoption awareness campaign taking place from August 10, through September 8, 2024, and a reduced adoption fee of 50% on September 7-8, 2024, for all cats and dogs adopted in conjunction with this event – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 229(24)** – Recognition -National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month-September 2024- Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 230(24)** – Recognition – National Preparedness Month – September 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 231(24)** – Recognition – National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month – September 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 232(24)** – Recognition – National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month – September 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 233(24)** – National Fruits and Veggies Month – September 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by, Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**Resolution 234(24)** – World Rabies Day- September 28, 2024 – Motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Ms. Veronica Laureigh and unanimously approved.

**7. Recognitions: Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman:** Mr. Mallon recognized the retirement of Meg McCarthy Klein and thanked her for her 37 years of service and Joseph Arrington for his 25 years of service. Congratulations to them both.

Mr. Mallon also presented Cameron Lloyd with a certificate to recognize him for raising \$3,650.00 and donating it to the Northern and Southern Ocean County Animal Facilities to assist in adoption fees.

**8. Comments: Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Health:**

**Comments from Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn:** Commissioner Deputy Director Gary Quinn, Liaison to the Board of Health thanked Cameron for the amazing job he did raising money for the animals in our shelters. He is a special young man.

Commissioner Gary Quinn also congratulated Meg McCarthy Klein and Joe Arrington on their retirement and thanked them for all their years of service. Best of luck to them on the next chapter of their life.

Commissioner Gary Quinn also complimented Mary McCarthy and her staff for the hard work she and her staff do all year with preparing for the audit and making sure everything is in line and done properly and with all the regulations that must be followed they do a phenomenal job.

**9. Other Matters:**

**Audit:** Mr. Daniel Regenye, Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer thanked Ms. Mary McCarthy, Director of Finance, the administrative staff and Holman Frenia Allison for their work during the audit process. Mr. Regenye commented that the audit was another good report of where the Health Department is financially. Mr. Regenye added that a lot of work goes into it and thanked everyone for their assistance.

**Retirement:** Mr. Regenye thanked Meg and Joe for all their hard work and years of service during their time here. You will be missed, and best of luck to both of you in the future.

**Seasonal flu program:** Mr. Regenye informed the Board that the Health Department is already well into planning for the 2024-2025 seasonal flu program. Mr. Regenye stated that currently we are working on finalizing a draft schedule that should be complete by the end of the month. Mr. Regenye added that the seasonal flu campaign will start September/October.

**Toms River Animal Shelter Update:** Mr. Regenye provided an update to the Board regarding the Toms River Animal Shelter. We are still waiting for a draft shared service agreement to come from the Township of Toms River. There is still a need for the shelter and the Toms River Animal Shelter and if Toms River cannot fulfill the need we would look to help.

**10. Comments from the Public: Comments from members of the audience were invited at this time with a limit of five (5) minutes per speaker:** Mr. John J. Mallon, Chairman, asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Debbie Pagano, a former Ocean County Health Department Employee who worked closely with Meg McCarthy Klein and Joe Arrington thanked them for all they did for the WIC program and how lucky the employees were to have them as leaders and how grateful she was to be able to have worked with them both.

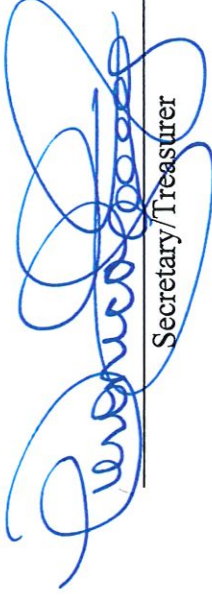
Christopher Raimann, a resident of Toms River and one of the petitioners for the Toms River Animal Facility realizes that the Ocean County Health Department didn't ask to take over the Toms River Shelter, but the residents didn't ask for that either. As a resident with animals, he believes there is enough money in the budget of Toms River to be able to run that facility without the involvement of the Ocean County Health Department and hopes that the money that was left for the Toms River Animal Facility by a resident of Toms River will be used to keep that facility open and running by the residents of Toms River.

Dawn Lazar, a Toms River resident who worked with Christopher Raimann on the petitions thanked the Ocean County Health Department for stepping in to offer to take the Toms River Shelter. She feels that just getting the shelter back open and not do major renovations would be more beneficial to everyone because making that shelter look like the ones the county has and doing all those renovations, that building will have to remain closed for a long time.

Julie Adamek, a Toms River resident speaking on behalf of the Toms River Animal Shelter, and has volunteered at the old sight on Whitesville Road, which has now moved to the new location by the police department in a beautiful facility and the staff there is so compassionate. Please step aside and let the residents of Toms River continue to run this facility.

**10. Authorization to Enter Into Closed Session If Necessary:** Closed Session was not needed at this time.

**11. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Senator Robert Singer, seconded by Dr. Theresa Kubiel, and the meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.



Secretary/Treasurer