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BOARD OF HEALTH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

January 31, 2018 Special Meeting **Minutes**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Meeting called to order by Chairman Judith Sartucci at 1:02 PM in Mezzanine Conference Room, Wethersfield Library, Wethersfield, CT.

Present: Charles Brown (Director of Health), Patricia Checko, Judith Sartucci (Chairman) and Michele Sadlosky.

Excused: no one **Quorum present.**

Guest: Carolyn Wysocki

Date notice posted: January 30, 2018

B. PUBLIC FORUM – Carolyn Wysocki participated via conference call as an interested CCHD Board member and contact person for the CT Association of Boards of Health (CABOH) on advocacy issues.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Checko, seconded by Brown to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2017 Committee meeting as submitted. In favor: Brown, Checko and Sartucci. Opposed: no one. Abstained: Sadlosky., **Motion carried.**

D. REVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BY BYLAWS AND BOARD

Sartucci reviewed with Committee members the documents affecting this Committee's role and responsibilities

- Main charge in the Board bylaws is responsibility and authority to meet and act on urgent when convening the Board is not possible or feasible.
- Document outlining procedure for Executive Committee meetings and action reviewed.
- The Board's bylaws were amended in 2016 to delegate more responsibility to the Executive Committee under the agency's collective bargaining contract. This Committee will hear Step 2 in the grievance process.
- Lastly, in lieu of a separate advocacy committee the Board directed in 2016 that the Executive Committee review federal and state legislation and any advocacy issues that arise and either respond on behalf of the Board or bring to the Board with recommendations for action.

E. Review of Advocacy Issues and Proposed Legislation

A. State Legislation

- The State Legislative session this year is the short session (Feb. to May) and is supposed to focus on fiscal issues, so fewer bills should be raised in the oversight committees there.
- State fiscal crisis is overshadowing much of what the Legislature will be able to do.
- Committee members provided updates on information from CADH and other contact groups and meetings or discussions with state legislators or their staff regarding potential issues of concern.
- Committee identified the need to monitor carefully the potential for another DPH proposal to consolidate all local health departments and health districts into large regions and to increase funding required from towns to support public health.
- Budget proposal from the Governor will need to be reviewed.
- Brown reported that potential legislation from DPH included changes to the statute governing local health director qualifications to remove the requirement for a MPH degree; uniform property maintenance code; food service classifications related to FDA changes; immunizations – access to data; safe drinking water bill – aging infrastructure; and seat belts in all positions (back and front)
- Checko reported that tobacco control expansion would look at more taxation on tobacco alternatives, pre-emption (state dominates, local limited; reason for local doing outdoor control); Tobacco 21 again this year – maybe.
- Wysocki reported that the SHIP group also mentioned seat belts in all positions; drinking water as well as a possible DOT bill for motorcycle helmets and a lead assessment fee for manufacturers of architectural paint in residential housing (would go to state general fund).
- Committee discussed who from CCHD towns are on legislative committees. Brown to make up list and send to EC members.
- Committee discussed how to proceed as the State Legislature will be in session next week.

B. Federal Advocacy

- Brown reported that continued support will be needed for the ACA and funding for the Public Health and Prevention Fund as well as such issues as the opioid epidemic.
- No good sense at this time of where Congress is headed for the rest of this federal session.

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Sartucci commented that local advocacy efforts also need to be considered by the Committee as issues such as banning fracking waste were being considered by the town councils (ordinance passed in Dec. in Rocky Hill). Also, Brown and CCHD staff helped with the housing code revision in Rocky Hill. Board support and testimony for these and other local public health issues should be provided. Committee asked to think about and address at next meeting.

C. NEXT MEETING

1. Committee to meet on Weds. 2/21/18 at 10:00 AM at the Wethersfield Library (Brown to confirm)
2. Agenda items
 - List of state legislators and legislative committees they serve on – Brown
 - Monitor and forward proposed legislation, hearing dates, etc. – Brown and Committee members
 - Bill review and draft testimony – Brown and Committee members.
 - Addressing local issues

D. ADJOURNMENT - A MOTION was made by Sadlosky, seconded by Checko to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Charles K. Brown, Jr.
Recorder pro tem

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY COMMITTEE: _____