

MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 12, 2021 at 7:30 pm

Members Present

Mr. Charles Perry
Ms. Betty Bowers
Dr. Sunil Shah
Dr. Steven Tuckman
Dr. Sachin Shah
Dr. Nisha Jani

Members Absent:

Dr. Arnold Pallay

Others Present:

Aimee Puluso, Health Officer
Amanda Rizzo, BOH Secretary
David Pennella, Esq., BOH Attorney
June Witty, Committeewoman

Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Mr. Perry called the meeting to order at 7:41pm.

As required by the Open Public Meetings Act (a.k.a. "Sunshine Law"), adequate notice of this meeting was provided. The notice specified the meeting was to be held at 7:30 p.m., in the Health Department at the Montville Township Municipal Building, 195 Changebridge Road. Legal notice of this meeting emailed to The Daily Record Newspaper, posted on the public bulletin board in the lobby of the Municipal Building, posted with the agenda on the Montville Township website at www.montvillenj.org, filed with the Montville Township Clerk.

Mr. Perry took a roll call of members present.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Bowers, to approve the Regular Minutes of the Board of Health Regular Meeting held on May 10, 2021. Seconded by Dr. Tuckman.

Mr. Perry took a roll call of members present. All members voted yes. Motion passed.

Public Comments

MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Bowers, to open the meeting to public comments from any citizen wishing to speak before the Montville Township Board of Health. Seconded by Dr. Tuckman.

Mr. Perry asked if there were any questions or comments for items on the agenda.

There were no questions or comments.

Mr. Perry asked if there were any questions for items not on the agenda.

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Bowers, to close the meeting to public comments from any citizen wishing to speak before the Montville Township Board of Health. Seconded by Dr. Tuckman.

Mr. Perry took a roll call of members present. All members voted yes. Motion passed. Public session closed.

New Business

Mr. Perry read the title of the proposed ordinance revision "Township of Montville Board of Health Ordinance 2021-01, The Code of the Township of Montville, New Jersey Chapter 419 Food and Beverages Article II Retail Food Establishments."

Ms. Bowers had questions pertaining to the Food Handler Application. Ms. Puluso provided the answers.

1. Handwashing stations. What does hot and cold water under pressure mean?
It means the water is being pushed out under pressure rather than flowing like a garden hose.
2. Are these handwashing stations for the operators of the trucks/vendors?
Yes, the water is not for the general public.
3. Where would the operator get their water source if they did not have a hand washing station?
If vendors are not equipped with hand washing stations, field handwashing sinks are an option. The field handwashing sinks are 5-gallon thermos containers place on a table with a spigot attached and a 5-gallon bucket underneath to catch waste.
4. Where would the vendor get the water source if they needed to replenish their supply?
Montville Twp. has water connections at the majority of their parks and facilities.
5. It is understood that the Food Handlers are wearing gloves. Who will monitor the proper changing and disposal of gloves, for instance like when handling food and then money?
The vendors are trained on food safety so they're aware of proper protocols. No one will be directly watching, but there will be spot checks.
6. The 3-compartment sinks, these Recreational Vehicle's have them?
Yes, most of them do. The vendors are usually operating out of a facility where the food is prepped at those locations and so handwashing stations are usually not used for food prepping.
7. The Commisary Agreement said kitchen facilities on the commissary are only to do preparation of the food on the day of the event. That doesn't seem practical. Most foods are going to be prepared the day before. Shouldn't this be expanded to prior days before the event?
Yes, it will be revised so that the preparation is not limited to just "the day of" the event.

Ms. Puluso stated for the record that the impetus behind ordinance revision was a request from the Township Committee to have a Food Truck Ordinance. Because the Health Department already had an ordinance, Ms. Puluso suggested a revision rather than the Township Committee creating an entirely new ordinance. This way rather than a temporary retail food vendor licenses the vendor could apply for an annual license instead of a temporary license for every single event.

Ms. Puluso asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Sachin Shah, to pass the 1st reading of Ordinance 2021-01. Seconded by Dr. Sunil Shah.

Ms. Rizzo took a roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Ms Puluso reported that all issues have been resolved satisfactorily with SiParadigm Diagnostic Informatics and P4 Clinical regarding COVID-19 reporting compliance failures.

Reports

Ms. Puluso stated for the record that all documents were posted to the Montville Township Board of Health page for the Board of Health and the public's review.

Ms. Puluso presented the May and June 2021 Health Department's Monthly Activity Report and asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Bowers had questions and Ms. Puluso provided the answers.

1. There was one case of "Babesiosis" which relates to ticks. How did the doctor's office determine the difference between babesiosis and lyme disease?
The doctor's office performed the test and that was the result.
2. There were three cases of "Campylobacter". Were these cases all from the same family?
The cases were not related. One was believed to be from a Food Truck Festival. The second was believed to be from eating take-out food. The third was unknown because the person refused to cooperate with tracing efforts.
3. There were "Hepatitis C" cases listed on the monthly report. Were they encouraged to get HIV tests?
According to our public health nurse, Hepatitis C is frequently tested nowadays as part of a screening process when other tests are being done. As far as we know all who tested positive for Hepatitis C are under a doctor's care.

Ms. Puluso presented the COVID-19 Summary as of July 12, 2021. Ms. Puluso asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Dr Sunil Shah asked about the four cases of COVID-19 and whether or not that represented unvaccinated individuals. He also asked the age-range and if contact tracing and testing were done. Ms. Puluso confirmed that these individuals were unvaccinated. Age range could not be divulged due to the small number of cases. All proper protocols were followed as far as contact tracing and testing.

Dr. Sunil Shah voiced concerned about when the schools open in the Fall and a possible increase in COVID-19 cases. Ms. Puluso stated that it was a valid concern, but said it seemed that the majority of the cases among children are happening outside of the school environment where children are gathering, rather than in school at their desks, masking and social distancing.

Ms. Bowers asked about “Unmask Montville” and what it was all about?

Ms. Puluso answered that it’s a group of people that have a website and are opposing masking in schools. Ms. Bowers asked what the issue was since the mask mandate had been lifted. Committeewoman Witty stated that it started prior to the mask mandate being lifted. Ms. Puluso stated that the schools were following the Department of Education for masking guidance and were requiring masks in the best interest of the children.

Correspondence

Ms. Puluso stated there was no correspondence to report.

Adjournment

Mr. Perry asked if there was any further business to come before the Board.

There was no further business.

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Dr. Sunil Shah to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dr. Tuckman.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2021 at 7:30 pm.