

**MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 8, 2021 at 7:30 pm**

Members Present

Mr. Charles Perry  
Dr. Arnold Pallay  
Ms. Betty Bowers\*  
Dr. Sachin Shah  
Dr. Steven Tuckman  
Dr. Nisha Jani\*\*

Members Absent:

Dr. Sunil Shah

Others Present:

Aimee Puluso, Health Officer  
Amanda Rizzo, BOH Secretary  
David Pennella, BOH Attorney  
Dr. Matthew Kayne, Twp. Committee Member  
Ms. Sarah Foye  
Anonymous Caller from the Public

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

With a quorum present, Mr. Charles Perry called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

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 7:45 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](http://www.montvillenj.org), filed with the Montville Township Clerk.

Ms. Rizzo took a roll call of members present.

\*Note for the record: Betty Bowers was present but was having technical difficulties and was unable to communicate verbally. She was able to communicate via the “chat” feature on Webex.

**Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Perry, to approve the Reorganization Minutes of the Board of Health Reorganization Meeting held on February 8, 2021. Seconded by Dr. Sachin Shah. Ms. Rizzo took a roll call of members present. Motion approved.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Perry, to approve the Regular Minutes of the Board of Health Regular Meeting held on February 8, 2021. Seconded by Dr. Pallay. Ms. Rizzo took a roll call of members present. Motion approved.

### **Public Comments**

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Perry to open the meeting to public comments from any citizen wishing to speak before the Montville Township Board of Health. Seconded by Dr. Sachin Shah. Ms. Rizzo took a roll call of members present.

Sarah Foye introduced herself as a member of the public who was listening in on the meeting. Ms. Foye had no other comments.

There were no other public comments.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Perry to close the meeting to public comments from any citizen wishing to speak before the Montville Township Board of Health. Seconded by Dr. Pallay. Ms. Rizzo took a roll call of members present.

### **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 February 2021 Health Department's Monthly Activity Report and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Ms. Puluso presented the COVID-19 Summary as of March 5, 2021. Ms. Puluso asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

### **Unfinished Business**

None.

### **New Business**

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

Ms. Puluso gave a brief explanation regarding Resolution 2021-05. Every year an agreement was signed by the Board of Education. The State Department of Education provided the Board of Education with a certain amount of money for nursing services to non-public (private) schools within the Township. They in turn had an agreement with the Health Department to provide those specific services to the non-public schools. The prior amount of \$21,825 had been awarded from the State to the Board of Education. The state revised the amount slightly upwards and therefore that was the purpose of the revised agreement. Ms. Puluso asked Mr. Perry to read the caption of Resolution 2021-05.

Mr. Perry read caption of Resolution 2021-05. "Resolution of the Board of Health of the Township of Montville, County of Morris and State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution of a Revised Shared Services Agreement with the Board of Education of the Township of Montville for the provision of nursing services to non-public schools located within Montville Township."

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Perry. Seconded by Dr. Sachin Shah, all in favor. Ms. Rizzo took the roll call. Motion approved.

Dr. Pallay asked Ms. Puluso if there were any updates on vaccine distribution that she would like to share with the Board.

Ms. Puluso stated the New Jersey Immunization and Information System (NJIS) is the office at the state that approves new COVID-19 vaccine providers and vaccination sites. NJIS issued a moratorium on approving any new providers and sites because it would further divide the small amount of vaccines that the state had received to date. It is assumed that NJIS will begin approving new providers/sites in the future, once vaccine is more readily available, but this may occur at a time when the vaccine is so widely available that it may be a moot point for additional providers, including local health departments. The Health Department does sometimes come across resources for people, and their focus was specifically for those most at need. The State had also recognized that, and put together a hotline for those 75 and older to call for assistance in getting scheduled for vaccination. The Health Department had put together a flyer regarding the 75 and older hotline, which was posted on the Health Department's COVID-19 page. Ms. Puluso had stated that if anyone was aware of a person age 65 or older in the Township who had difficulty obtaining an appointment for their vaccination, to please direct them to call the Health Department. In those instances, the caller's name, address, telephone number, and date of birth were retrieved and either they are referred to a specific provider or the specific provider may contact them directly to schedule their appointment. Ms. Puluso contacted many organizations in Montville Township, such as the VFW, Dial-A-Ride, Meals on Wheels, Social Services (Nancy Mertz, Director) and obtained their lists and made telephone calls. Ms. Puluso stated that through these means, the health department was able to get about 50 additional township seniors vaccinated. Other people were referred out and were able to get their vaccinations through those referrals. Mr. Perry responded that that was great.

Ms. Puluso noted for the record, that Betty Bowers typed in that she had been at the meeting but doesn't have a microphone.

Dr. Jani joined the meeting at 7:51 pm.

Dr. Sachin Shah commented that he heard that the Township had access to advertise or display messages on the Route 46 electronic billboards owned by Outfront Media. Dr. Shah asked if this were true, as he was told that the Township does have a certain allotment of time to use the billboards and if that is in fact the case, suggested vaccination information be put on those billboards. Ms. Puluso was not aware of that for the Township. Dr. Shah asked Dr. Kayne to weigh in on the subject. Dr. Kayne stated that there are rights to some advertising time on those billboards. Dr. Pallay asked if gratis? Dr. Kayne stated yes. Dr. Shah asked if there were time slots available on the billboard, or if they were taken up already. Dr. Kayne stated he would have to talk to Administration and have them address that directly with Ms. Puluso. Dr. Pallay would

like a simple statement put on the billboard such as “Please get your COVID-19 vaccination.” Dr. Pallay stated that if the Township Committee finds it doable, he would make a motion to do this, because he believes we are hitting a critical period in the next three months and if we could really hit on the vaccine it could have a huge impact on the Township. Dr. Kayne stated there is access to electronic billboards throughout the township such as at Town Hall and Fire Houses, so he can ask about the additional billboards too. Dr. Shah stated that he knows wearing a mask and contact tracing was on the signage. Ms. Puluso stated that she believed that there was information about vaccination on the signage as well, but she will check into that with Administration. Ms. Puluso stated that the general message to get out is to receive vaccine as soon as you can and also that hotline for 75 plus.

Ms. Puluso asked Ms. Bowers if she was able to get her vaccine yet, as she had contacted her about that via email and had not heard back. Ms. Bowers typed in the chat that she did have an appointment for her vaccination.

Ms. Puluso reiterated for Dr. Jani what she had stated earlier to other members of the Board of Health that if you know of anybody over the age of 65 who is still having difficulty obtaining the vaccine especially anyone 90 plus, 80 plus, 75 plus, please put them in contact with the Health Department. Ms. Puluso stated as a side note that the Health Department arranged a vaccination appointment for our oldest Dial-A-Ride resident Rose, who will be 102 this year. Dr. Jani stated that was wonderful.

Ms. Bowers asked via the chat whether or not Ms. Puluso had seen the email that she had sent her prior to the meeting. Ms. Puluso stated that she had not received it and for Ms. Bowers to call her at the office the next day to discuss.

Mr. Perry commented that he read that the Astra Zeneca vaccine may be out in a couple of months.

### Correspondence

None.

### 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 Mr. Perry, seconded by Dr. Sachin Shah, all in favor, to adjourn the meeting. Next meeting, April 12, 2021. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.