

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH**

Minutes

Monday, May 3, 2021 5:00 p.m.

Electronic Meeting Platform, in accordance with guidelines issued by the
Division of Local Government as a result of the Covid-19 State of Emergency

*To be read: This is an electronic meeting of the May 3, 2021 meeting
of the Hopewell Township Board of Health Committee*

The May 3, 2021 meeting of the Hopewell Township Board of Health was called to order by Mayor Julie Blake at 5:00 p.m.

Notice of this meeting has been posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News, Trenton Times and the Trentonian and Hopewell Express (the official newspapers) on January 5, 2021, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

Secretary called the roll:

Present: Mayor Blake, Ms. McLaughlin, Mr. Kuchinski, Mr. Ruger, Ms. Peters-Manning

Also Present: Dawn Marling, Health Officer

Pledge Allegiance and Salute to the Flag

The first order of business was review and approval of minutes from the November 9, 2020 meeting. Ms. Manning-Peters noted a correction to the minutes stating she had abstained. Ms. McLaughlin moved to approve minutes as amended, Mr. Ruger seconded.

Horacio Hernandez, Vulnerable Populations Outreach Coordinator (VPOC), presented a Power Point summary of a 23-page "needs assessment report" highlighting key findings of the effects of COVID-19 on the community. Mr. Hernandez worked in collaboration with Mercer County and various social service agencies to hone-in on the needs of Hopewell Valley residents. Mr. Hernandez reported on the financial impact and secondary effects of COVID-19 and the ongoing progress to promote and implement programs and services that contribute to the safety and well-being of the community.

Mr. Hernandez also provided an organizational chart reflecting the current staff of the Hopewell Township Health Department:

Dawn Marling, Health Officer

Sue Einstein, Public Health Nurse

Peter Enea III, Senior Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Glen Belnay, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (part-time)
Evelyn Estrada, Registrar of Vital Statistics
Belinda Ogitis, Animal Control Officer & Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics
Horacio Hernandez, Outreach Coordinator
3 per-diem COVID-19 contact tracers
1 per diem Deputy Animal Control Officer

All Board of Health members profusely thanked Mr. Hernandez for his contributions and efforts to serve and build a stronger community during such a critical time.

Operations Update:

Ms. Marling reported on issues with the septic system at the Brick Farm Tavern. Ms. Marling noted there is a Hopewell Borough sewer connection across the street from the restaurant and she supports the restaurant connecting with the system in the future. Ms. Marling stated there is no imminent emergency at the present time, but the septic system could be a public health issue in the future.

Ms. Marling reported on Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) which are a group of manmade chemicals that do not break down. Water sampling detected low levels have shown up in the area of Bear Tavern School and Timberlane Middle School. Residents in the area have expressed concerns regarding the cost of water sampling and information on a POET (point of entry treatment) system. POET systems are installed to treat and filter all water as it enters your home or building. Ms. Marling will gather and provide more information from the DEP.

Pools/Youth Camps/Summer Events:

Ms. Marling reported on pool licensing and advised youth camps will be in operation this summer.

COVID-19 case data & vaccination clinics report will be presented at the Township Committee Meeting. Grants from the NJ Dept. of Health will be extended into next year to continue funding the VPOC position, allow stocking of more ancillary supplies such as Epi pens, and possible hire a per diem nurse to assist with clinics.

Open to Public:

Mayor Blake opened the meeting to a member of the public, Ms. Mary Baltycki of Titusville, NJ. Ms. Baltycki expressed concern regarding a septic issue at the location of 16 Butterfoss Avenue, Titusville, NJ. She stated a septic permit had been issued, however the site plans and survey did not meet the septic distance of 50 feet. Ms. Marling advised she would discuss the permit with Peter Enea, Senior REHS. Ms. Marling assured Ms. Baltycki that she would contact her and come up with a plan.

There being no further business, Mr. Ruger moved to adjourn, Ms. McLaughlin seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Prassas