



Board of Health Minutes

Date: Friday, October 23, 2020
Location: Electronic via Zoom
Time: 10:02 a.m. – 12:23 p.m.
Members Present: Mitch Twolan (Chair), Anne Eadie, Selwyn Hicks, Brian Milne, Brian O’Leary, Sue Paterson, Chris Peabody, Paul McQueen (Non-Voting), Alan Barfoot (Non-Voting)
Regrets: Nick Saunders (Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, Non-Voting)
Also Present: Dr. Ian Arra, Matt McMurdie, Drew Ferguson, Ian Reich, Kristy Hansford
Special Guests:
Recording Secretary: Erin Meneray

1.0 Call to Order

The Roll was called by the recording secretary.

Chair Mitch Twolan declared quorum present and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2.0 Amendments to Agenda

The following were added to the agenda:

In-Camera, Advice subject to solicitor client privilege – 1 item added
Other Business, 9.6 Flu Shots

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Brian Milne

Seconded by: Brian O’Leary

“THAT, the Board of Health approve the agenda as amended.”

Carried

4.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest declared at this time.

5.0 Adoption of Minutes

5.1 Friday, September 25, 2020

5.2 Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Moved by: Anne Eadie

Seconded by: Sue Paterson

“THAT, the minutes of the Board of Health Meeting held on Friday, September 25, 2020 and Tuesday, October 13, 2020 be approved as presented.”

Carried

Chris Peabody joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

6.0 Correspondence and News Releases

6.1 Correspondence

6.1.1 Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team Planning Committee Letter

Moved by: Anne Eadie

Seconded by: Brian O’Leary

“THAT, the Board of Health support the position of the South East Grey Community Health Centre regarding governance and community representation with respect to the upcoming Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team (GBOHT), and FURTHER THAT, a letter be sent to all applicable organizations stating such support.”

Carried

6.1.2 Sudbury and Districts Public Health Re. Income Security during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond

Moved by: Selwyn Hicks

Seconded by: Sue Paterson

“THAT, the Board of Health receive the correspondence from Sudbury and Districts Public Health advocating for support for the evolution of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) into a basic income for all Canadians, during COVID-19 Pandemic and beyond.”

Carried

6.2 News Releases

6.2.1 Good Food Box is Back

6.2.2 COVID-19 Community Clusters

6.2.3 Public Assistance Request Dog Bite

6.2.4 COVID-19 Assessment Centre Capacity

6.2.5 Mandatory Face Covering in Indoor Public Places

6.2.6 Return to School

6.2.7 Grey Bruce Virtual Climate Change Conference

6.2.8 Flu Shots Are Available, Call Your Local Pharmacy or Healthcare Provider

6.2.9 COVID-19 Associated with School Students

Moved by: Sue Paterson

Seconded by: Brian O’Leary

“THAT, the Board of Health receives the October correspondence and media releases as presented.”

Carried

Paul McQueen joined the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

7.0 Medical Officer of Health Update

7.1 [Update on Schools](#)

Dr. Arra provided the linked update on schools which included an update on public health response to COVID-19 cases associated with two Schools in Grey

Bruce. He reviewed the organization-wide preparatory work, the case and contact management and extensive communication that was undertaken.

Board of Health Members thanked Dr. Arra, Drew Ferguson and Health Unit staff for all their efforts in providing timely information to municipal leaders, media and the public.

Special Events/Traditions/Community Engagement

We are waiting for direction from the province on their position regarding Remembrance Day and Christmas. As with Halloween, we want to align with the provincial messaging. The favourable epidemiology in Grey Bruce would allow for events in a modified way.

The Board received information on public health plans for initiatives to support community physical and mental health wellbeing in response to limited social engagement and reduced access to physical activity due to COVID-19.

The meeting dropped at 10:40 a.m. due to technical issues.

*The meeting reconvened at 10:50 a.m. with Chair Twolan presiding.
Kristy Hansford joined the meeting.*

7.2 Public Health Modernization Update

Dr. Arra identified that the province has signaled they will resume discussion with regard to public health modernization this coming winter.

Moved by: Sue Paterson

Seconded by: Brian Milne

“THAT, the Board of Health receives the Medical Officer of Health updates as presented.”

Carried

8.0 Corporate Services

8.1 Financial Report – August 2020

The financial statements show a surplus primarily due to COVID response delaying regular program expenses. As of the end of August, many programs are still operating at a reduced capacity due to COVID. Overtime was being paid out through this period, and we had many new hires in place. The new hire expenses will continue through the end of the year. General revenue in line with expectations.

Moved by: Selwyn Hicks

Seconded by: Anne Eadie

“THAT, the Board of Health receives the August Financials as presented.”

Carried

8.2 Christmas and New Years Time Off

The Board reviewed and approved a memorandum that will be sent to all staff regarding office closures and time off over the holidays. The Health Unit will remain open all day on Thursday December 24, 2020 and Thursday December 31, 2020.

Kristy Hansford left the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

9.0 Other Business

9.1 Citizen Letter to Ministry of Labour Re. Long-Term Use of Masks
Circulated for information.

9.2 Bruce Grey Child and Family Services Thank you Letter to Public Health
Appreciation for the excellent work of the staff during the emergency.

9.3 South Bruce Peninsula Fire Department Thank you for Mask Donation
Thank you for mask and PPE donations.

9.4 Board of Health Member Term

Moved by: Anne Eadie

Seconded by: Brian O'Leary

"WHEREAS, the Board of Health passed a motion on July 25, 2019 requesting the Counties of Grey and Bruce to prepare enabling revisions to amend the Board of Health term from one year to two years;

WHEREAS, the two-year term expires on December 18, 2020 and Board of Health Members are appointed on an annual basis by the respective councils in December;

WHEREAS, the Counties of Grey and Bruce are still in declared States of Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic;

AND FURTHER, that continuity of the Board of Health is essential to efficient operations of the Health Unit during the emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Health requests that the Counties of Grey and Bruce prepare enabling revisions to procedures and/or by-laws to allow the current Board of Health to serve for one more term."

Carried

9.5 Update on Provincial Appointee Application

Board of Health Member Alan Barfoot's application for Provincial Appointment is with the Provincial Appointments Secretariat and they are awaiting direction from the Minister of Health. No indication on sense of timing was given.

9.6 Flu Shots

The Board Recording Secretary will arrange for a flu-shot event/photo-op for Board Members.

10.0 In-Camera Session

Moved by: Chris Peabody

Seconded by: Anne Eadie

“THAT, the Board of Health does now go into closed session at 11:30 a.m. to discuss 2 items under advice subject to solicitor client privilege and FURTHER THAT, Dr. Arra, Matt McMurdie and Erin Meneray shall remain present.”

Carried

The Board returned to open session at 11:45 a.m. with Chair Mitch Twolan presiding. Chair Twolan confirmed that only the items stated in the resolution to move into closed session were discussed with one item received for information and direction given on one item.

11.0 Adjournment

By motion of Chris Peabody, the Board of Health meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Next Meeting:

Friday, November 27, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
Electronic Participation

X

Mitch Twolan
Chairperson

X

Dr. Ian Arra
Medical Officer of Health

X

Erin Meneray
Recording Secretary