

BOUND BROOK BOARD OF HEALTH  
**MEETING**  
THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010  
**MINUTES**

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The meeting was called to order by President A. Robinson at 5:30 P.M. with the following statement:

“This meeting held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the Law have been met by the Annual Meeting Notice being forwarded to the Courier News and posted in the Municipal Building on December 29, 2009.”

**ROLL CALL:**

The following members were present: Angela Robinson, Mary Fuentes, Helen Goodrich, Lisa Slater, and Mary Straub.

Others in Attendance: Kevin G. Sumner, Health Officer; Heather Ross, REHS.

The following members were absent: Judy Bailey, Debbie Cozza, Barbara Lobman, and Diane Scarpulla.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

A Rutgers University undergraduate student was present to observe a Board of Health meeting and to interview the Health Officer. No other public was present. Public portion of meeting closed.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

M. Straub moved for acceptance of the minutes of the March 4, 2010 meeting. Motion seconded by L. Slater. All in favor.

**VOUCHERS:**

L. Slater moved to pay the \$50.00 voucher by M.A. Schamberger for typing the minutes of the March 4, 2010 meeting. Motion seconded by M. Straub. All in favor.

**COMMISSION:**

A. K. Sumner advised members that the Commission voted at their March 1, 2010 regular meeting to table the proposal to increase the notification time for leaving the Commission. While all parties involved feel there is a need to extend the time from six months they also agreed that two years is too long. Most feel a time period that coincides with the budget year and gives the Commission’s member municipalities’ time to react

appropriately is all that is needed. In addition, all feel that now is not the time to make any changes so no action is to be taken.

B. K. Sumner presented an update on the H1N1 vaccination efforts and the current status of disease in the community. He reported that the amount of disease and illness associated with H1N1 continues to decline across the state and in Bound Brook, though there are some reports of increased activity in the Southern part of the country that is being monitored. He advised that the Commission will not be sponsoring any more public clinics at this time due to a lack of interest and participation by the public. If things change in the spring this will be reevaluated, but the resource commitment is too great to service the few attending. A different approach will be used to access populations not previously vaccinated and State grant funds will pay for these efforts when approved.

C. K. Sumner reported to the Board that further reductions were made to the Commission budget necessitating the layoff of a part-time Registered Environmental Health Specialist and the reduction of hours by the already part-time health educator. This will result in a reduction of "extra" inspections and necessitate the use of full-time inspectors for weekend and after-hour inspections such as fairs and other events. The additional \$22,500.00 cut from the Commission budget takes the operating budget to a level just slightly more than the 2005 Commission budget level but resulted in additional savings to each of the member municipalities. Bound Brook was advised of their additional savings in the amounts of \$3587.50 from the Commission contribution and \$432.00 for the Visiting Nurse Service, or just over a total of \$4000.00.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. K. Sumner reported that he heard from the Somerset County Health Officer that the Borough of Bound Brook had requested a proposal from him for health services. This was reported to K. Sumner on Friday, March 12, the day before the flooding began. The County Health Officer also advised that he would not be in a position to provide many of the services that the Commission provides such as property maintenance, housing, and animal control work. Therefore, it is especially important that the Board and Borough review any proposals for the content and how it compares by services offered, not just cost. No proposal has been received, but Board members were advised to be aware so that they are prepared to review any proposals submitted as it is their statutory responsibility to do so and make recommendations to the Mayor and Council.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Members were updated on status of activities related to the flood response. Members were advised by the Health Officer that a total of 202.5 man hours was committed to Bound Brook since the flooding began on March 13 to the present. They were further advised that no mutual aid was required from other local health departments, though

many offered. The Commission has thus far been able to accommodate all the needs of the Borough with its own staff. Members were advised that 48 food establishments were negatively impacted by flooding and thus far 42 have been reopened. Each one of these establishments has had to be inspected prior to opening, many on multiple occasions. It was noted that the impact was lessened by the flooding being less severe, but more so by the pre-notification of all establishments. All food establishments were contacted prior to flooding and advised to elevate or remove food supplies and contact surfaces to minimize negative impacts of flooding. Most complied, resulting in less loss. Some of the establishments still needing action are Frascella's Liquors who opened without proper approvals and was cited by the construction official, El Imperial, El Paraiso, King's Express and Pan Y Queso. More work is needed for them to reopen. In addition, many residents have been provided with information and guidance on clean up. All parties involved in the response worked very well together and the health department was an active participant in all operations. Health Department representation was present at all times and we participated in all LEPC, Business, and Resident meetings.

Members reviewed the activities reports for February and March 2010. Members asked about the condition of properties along Church Street and John Street. H. Ross was asked to investigate for property maintenance and take appropriate action or refer to the appropriate agency for follow up.

K. Sumner read the School Nurse's Reports for February and March. They were placed on file.

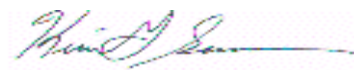
**ADDENDUM:**

K. Sumner presented the report from St. Hubert's regarding animal control. It was noted that several pets were collected during the flood event, but it appears that all have been recovered and returned to their owners.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business before the Board, M. Straub moved to adjourn at 6:40 P.M. Seconded by M. Fuentes. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



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Kevin G. Sumner  
Health Officer/Secretary