

**BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES  
COUNTY OF MORRIS, NJ**

**HEALTH COMMISSION MINUTES  
May 5, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33p.m. by Ms. O'Leary.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Commission members Mr. Kevin Duvall, Dr. Barbara Girz, Dr. Stephen Leviss, Ms. O'Leary, Dr. Behnam Salari, Ms. Deb Shertzer and Ms. Kelly Walsh were in attendance, as well as Health Officer Mike Fitzpatrick, Board of Health Secretary Cara Fox and Council Liaison Janet Horst.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

With consent of the Commission, Chairperson O'Leary opened the meeting for public comment. There were no members of the public present who wished to address the Commission.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Dr. Leviss, second by Ms. O'Leary, to approve the Health Commission meeting minutes from January 28, 2020.

**5. BOROUGH UPDATE**

Ms. Fox reported that the Borough Council appointed Ms. Deb Shertzer as an Alternate Member to the Commission and her term expires 12/31/2023.

**6. HEALTH OFFICER REPORT**

Mr. Fitzpatrick reviewed his reports from January through April 2020. He gave an update on how the Health Department is handling the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Commission asked questions to Mr. Fitzpatrick and he answered them. Mr. Fitzpatrick recommends that the Commission encourage residents to go outside in a responsible manner.

**7. COMMISSION DISCUSSION**

The Stigma Free subcommittee will meet to discuss moving forward during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Dr. Girz, second by Dr. Leviss, to adjourn the meeting at 6:37p.m. with all members in favor signifying by "Aye".

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**Cara Fox  
Board of Health Secretary**

# ***Borough of Mountain Lakes***

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

400 BOULEVARD • MOUNTAIN LAKES, NEW JERSEY 07046  
Telephone: (973) 334-3131 • Fax: (973) 402-5595



### **JANUARY 2020**

#### **Administration/Tests:**

- Review all swimming pool and spa results – Craig school, YMCA and Sports Care.
- Reviewed staff reports and collaborate regarding items or issues of concern.
- Retail food establishment updates and spot checks
- Continued working on lead education program
- Radon Canisters are available for distribution
- Attendance at various State & County meetings, reviewed LINC information and notices
- Coronavirus – monitoring from CDC and the State Health Department

#### **Inspections**

- 1.13.2020 – Barka – Re-Inspection – Satisfactory

#### **Court Appearances**

- 1.23.2020 – Barka – Plead guilty

#### **Complaints**

- 1.2020 – Food distribution between the High School and Wildwood School - unfounded

#### **Health Education**

##### **Month's Health Topic**

- The monthly newsletter highlighted national cervical health awareness month and explained what cervical cancer is and highlighted the importance of testing, treatment and other risk factors. In recognition of radon awareness month the health department advertised a free home test kit giveaway. The newsletter and factsheet were posted on the borough's website.

##### **Community Engagement**

- Health Educator Sharon Guerrero attended Watsessing elementary school wellness committee on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January to finalize the H&S meeting screenings and represent the health department as a committee member
- January 15<sup>th</sup>, ADAPT the Essex County alcohol and drug prevention coalition during their annual "Thank You" dinner presented Health Educator, Sharon Guerrero with a Coalition Member of the Year award.

- January 22<sup>nd</sup>, Health Educator, Sharon Guerrero attend the Center of Excellence for Latino Health at Clara Ma Medical Center quarterly community advisory board meeting as a member in representation of the health department.
- January 28<sup>th</sup>, Health Education staff and intern attended an Interfaith round table training hosted by ADAPT. T keynote speaker from clinical alcohol and drug counselor from the Partnership for Maternal Child Health spok of the health effects of fetal alcohol syndrome.

## Nursing

### CDC/NJDOH PUBLIC HEALTH ALERTS

#### **Update and Interim Guidance on Infection Prevention and Control for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019 nCoV)**

**Date:** January 30, 2020

**Public Health Message Type:** ☐ Alert ☐ Advisory ☒ Update ☐ Information Intended **Audience:** ☐ All public health partners ☒ Healthcare providers ☒ Infection preventionists ☒ Local health departments ☐ Schools/child care centers ☐ ACO ☐ Animal health professionals ☐

#### **Key Points or Updates:**

- (1) A novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) has been identified as the causative agent in the recent respiratory illness outbreak occurri in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China.
- (2) The most recent international case counts can be found here: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronaviru-2019/situation-reports/>
- (3) The most recent United States case counts and situation summary can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/201-ncov/cases-in-us.html>
- (4) The risk to the general public in the U.S. remains low
- (5) Many persons who have symptoms or travel risk are seeking care in outpatient and acute care settings. (6) CDC has issued tl document, Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Known or Patients Under Investigation for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in a Healthcare Setting (Attachment A), in an effort to prevent the spread of infection during healthcare delivery. This guidance is not intended for non-healthcare settings (e.g., schools) OR to persons outside of healthcare settings.
- (7) This guidance is based on the currently limited information available about 2019-nCoV related to disease severity, transmissi efficiency, and shedding duration. This cautious approach will be refined and updated as more information becomes available as response needs change in the United States. (8) The CDC has also provided two checklists: Hospital Preparedness Checklist (Attachment B) and Healthcare Providers Preparedness Checklist (Attachment C). These are available to aid healthcare facilities preparing to receive and evaluate potential cases or persons under investigation (PUIs)s for 2019-nCoV.

#### **Action Items:**

- (1) Infection preventionists, hospital epidemiologists and healthcare providers should carefully review information contained in the Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Known or Patients Under Investigation for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in a Healthcare Setting regarding infection control and prevention measures to minimize possibl exposure to, and transmission of 2019-nCov.
- (2) Providers should continue to report individuals meeting the following criteria: Clinical Features & Epidemiologic Risk
  - Fever or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath) AND Any person, including health care workers, who has had close contact with a laboratory- confirmed 2019-nCoV patient within 14 days of symptom onset
  - Fever and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) AND A history of travel from Hubei Province, China within 14 days of symptom onset

-Fever and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath)requiring hospitalization AND A history of travel from mainland China within 14 days of symptom onset

The criteria are intended to serve as guidance for evaluation. Patients should be evaluated and discussed with public health departments on a case-by-case basis if their clinical presentation or exposure history is equivocal (e.g., uncertain travel or exposure).

(3) Patients meeting the above criteria should be reported IMMEDIATELY to local departments of health, and strict infection control guidelines should be implemented to avoid potential transmission until the patient can be further evaluated and/or rule out for 2019-nCoV infection.

(4) Environmental infection control guidance includes the use of products with an EPA-approved emerging viral pathogen claim. a. These products can be identified by the following claim:

"[Product name] has demonstrated effectiveness against viruses similar to 2019-nCoV on hard non-porous surfaces. Therefore, this product can be used against 2019-nCoV when used in accordance with the directions for use against [name of supporting virus] on hard, non-porous surfaces."

b. Additional guidance on identification of these products is available from the EPA in the Emerging Viral Pathogen Guidance (Attachment D)

**Contact Information:**

- Lisa McHugh, PhD, MPH, Program Coordinator, Infectious Disease Epidemiology, lisa.mchugh@doh.nj.gov, or (609) 826-5964, c
- Alicia Sloughfy, MPH, Epidemiologist, Alicia.sloughfy@doh.nj.gov, 609-826-5964, or
- Stephen Perez, RN, PhD, Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer, Stephen.perez@doh.nj.gov, 609-826-5964
- The Communicable Disease Service at (609) 826-5964 during business hours

**References and Resources:**

- Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Known or Patients Under Investigation for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in a Healthcare Setting <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/infection-control.htm>
- Hospital Preparedness Checklist <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/hcp-hospital-checklist.html>
- Healthcare Providers Preparedness Checklist <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/hcp-personnel-checklist.html>
- CDC Novel Coronavirus <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>
- EPA guidance on Emerging Viral Pathogens [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/201609/documents/emerging\\_viral\\_pathogen\\_program\\_guidance\\_final\\_8\\_19\\_16\\_1\\_0.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/201609/documents/emerging_viral_pathogen_program_guidance_final_8_19_16_1_0.pdf)

**Monthly Activities**

CDRSS is checked, at minimum, twice daily to review for newly listed communicable diseases. This is accomplished by all nursing staff. Upon the listing of a new disease, investigation of disease is initiated by PHN.

NJLINGS checked daily. Health alerts and advisories are reviewed by all Public Health nurses. Health alerts, recalls, and specific health advisories are forwarded to the Health Educator for dissemination of information to the public if action is warranted as per NJLINGS.

**Screenings This Month**

No screenings this month.

**Seasonal Flu Activities**

Public Health Nursing continues to receive inquiries and schedules appointments for influenza vaccination for the public and for Township employees. We continue to disseminate the message to the public that individuals who did not receive the vaccine that doses are still available and appropriate to receive via newsletters, social media and the township website.

Influenza activity as reported by NJDOH surveillance remains **high** for this region for week ending January 25<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**Disease Prevention – Child Immunization Clinic - L. Gearhart, PHRN**

No patients this month for the Child Immunization Clinic.

**Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program – T. Fucci, PHRN**

No cases from Mountain Lakes reported to our office during this month. Lead case management monitoring occurs twice daily ; a minimum for jurisdiction within the NJDOH Welligent LeadTrax Monitoring system.

**TB Control Program – T. Fucci, PHRN**

No Mantoux tests were administered this month.

**Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program, T. Fucci, PHRN**

No PNHBV cases from Mountain Lakes reported to our office during this month.

**Immunization Audits**

Each year, starting in January, the PHNs conduct immunization audits in all the childcare centers and schools located within the community. During the audit, the PHNs examine each child's vaccine record to ensure the student has all the mandated vaccine as required by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH).

For January 2020, six (6) childcare centers were audited with 308 charts reviewed. A total of 22 vaccine deficiencies were found. Childcare centers will receive 30 days after initial audit to correct vaccine deficiencies at which time the PHNs will prepare findings of the immunization reports and submit to NJDOH. Five (5) immunization reports have been submitted to NJDOH.

**Communicable Disease**

The classifications for the cases listed below are based on the investigation conducted by the PHN, laboratory evaluation and NJDOH case definition. All investigation information is entered into CDRSS; NJDOH reads entries, comments on individual cases and will send PHN email requesting more data. Once NJDOH is satisfied with investigation methods, the case is approved and closed.

*Patient Status is based on pt s/s, lab result interpretation and NJDOH Case Definition which is found in the NJDOH Communicable Disease Manual*

**January 2020**

<b>New Cases: 1</b>	<b>Ongoing Cases: 0</b>
1-Brucellosis- Not a case	

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Fitzpatrick  
Health Officer

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**February/March/April 2020**

### **Health Department Report**

The purpose of this monthly Summary is to provide information regarding the activities of the staff during the past 2 1/2 months.

In early February routine programs were continued such as regular food inspections, Complaint inspections within the Environmental Health Division.

Procure as available masks, PPE gloves, wipes, Ox pulse, and BP cuffs

Planning for concerns related to exposure which required multiple changes per week due to limited information available from the State and Federal government at that time.

Coordinated and collaborated with Morris County Health Management for guidance that the county could create for all municipalities based upon local health officer input.

Worked with day care centers/nursery schools regarding guidance documents and practical implementation for concerns regarding spread of COVID-19 and guidance on closure timeline of their business.

Health Education continued to provide information regarding current health education programs. Communication regarding these programs and planning for implementation of future programs.

The Nursing Department completed its normal clinical programs, follow ups and review of lead tracks CDRSS and inventory the vaccines available for childhood and adult vaccine programs.

Standard meetings were attended either in person or by conference call early on during the 1st few weeks of February.

Certain aspects of re- accreditation were worked on especially as it related to quality improvement (QI) self-assessment and review and assessment of staff members.

Early in February some limited information was provided by State Department of Health and some information began to flow in from CDC with relationship to Corona virus from Wuhan China. As the days in the end of February to beginning the March began to unfold it became more apparent that this virus was going to be of some public health concern but not yet the defined.

Within the timeframe in early March the Specifics began to develop regarding this Corona virus and was determined to be called COVID-19 which is a SARS virus. It was determined that this was going to be with us for a while especially in view of the significant outbreak that occurred in the nursing home in the state of Washington which ultimately laid the initial foundation for concern in the United States on a large scale basis in conjunction with that the outbreak in Italy with a significant escalating population with COVID-19 virus in and around Milan initially coupled with the high incidence of death further increased the concern about this virus In the United States.

During late March and early April significant information was provided from NJDOH regarding the expansive concerns

with COVID19 within NJ. Due to our close proximity to New York significant concerns regarding PPE, healthcare systems, long term health care facilities and contact tracing were strategized on a daily basis. Guidance documents were received and discussed with the State Department of Health on a daily basis. Communication with school systems, administrators and businesses occurred on a regular basis to flow through the various situations and concerns raised by local government and individuals. Contact tracing expanded significantly in order to reduce the spread of COVID19 in order to lower the curve. Daily reports were provided to leadership in communities including the Chair of the Health Commission.

### **Activities**

- Participated in New Jersey state Department of Health conference calls on a regular basis
- Obtain guidance from NJDOH regarding ever changing rules and best practices
- Review CDC information
- Within February attended 10 meetings in person in March attended meetings through various online Internet services
- Develop policies for school closings and numerous conversations with superintendent of schools
- Develop protocols in guidance related to food establishments for possible closure. Discussion with food establishment owners regarding responsibilities and priorities pertaining to customers and sanitation
- Provide guidance to police fire EMS as needed on a regular basis
- Provide information to township administrators Mayor's and other leadership within the community
- Review most frequently asked questions with staff to answer COVID questions from the public.
- Train some initial staff for more capacity for CDRSS which is the communicable disease reporting system in New Jersey
- Answer innumerable questions and concerns from municipal and school leadership
- Answer a myriad of questions from residents pertaining to specific circumstances within their family and/or their work environment and/or concerned with disease transfer
- Created and delivered a daily report with information regarding case numbers in the municipality, county and state and also, expired cases. Also providing guidance documents and timely information(see today's report attached with graphic attachment, this is an example of the daily report)
- Discussed with leadership regarding various employment issues for exclusion from work within the municipality/government and businesses.
- Developed a testing program for first responders and municipal employees which was utilized by police, municipal staff members and BOE staff.
- Answered questions regarding positivity rate and death rate within the community including one death within our community.
- Ongoing response to questions pertaining to business opening summer activities etc.