

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
of the
SUMMIT BOARD OF HEALTH
Monday Evening – September 22, 2025
7:00 P.M.
Summit City Hall
Large Conference Room, 2nd Floor**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Dr. Jill Rathyen, President.

Ms. Mauro read the following Meeting Notice: “Adequate notice of this Meeting has been provided by the Secretary of the Board of Health by the preparation of the Annual Notice of Meeting Dates which set forth the date, time and place of this Meeting and by properly posting such notice and forwarding the notice to those designated newspapers and the persons requesting Meeting notices.”

PRESENT ON ROLL CALL: Ms. Laura Lameo; Dr. Jill Rathyen; Ms. Dorrie Gagnon; Ms. Milissa Aronson; and Mr. David Silk.

ALSO PRESENT: Megan Avallone, Health Officer; N. Gayle Mauro, Registrar/Board Secretary; Samantha Sanchez, Deputy Registrar/Assistant Board of Health Secretary; George Kornias, Sr. REHS; Bridget Colendenski, PHN; and Michelle Kalmanson, Liaison.

ABSENT ON ROLL CALL: Ms. Amitha Kumar; and Ms. Hermelinda Robinson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES—May 19, 2025—Ms. Aronson made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Mr. Silk, and unanimously approved by all members present.

REVIEW OF BILLS—September 2025—The Board Members had some questions regarding the extra fees that are being charged by Animal Control Solutions. Ms. Avallone addressed their questions and explained the charges.

Ms. Lameo made a motion to approve the bill list totaling \$25,050.60, seconded by Dr. Rathyen. Roll call vote taken: Ms. Lameo—Aye; Dr. Rathyen—Aye; Ms. Gagnon—Aye; Ms. Aronson—Aye; and Mr. Silk—Aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST REPORTS—Report reviewed by George Kornias, REHS. Mr. Kornias discussed the results of the Tobacco Age of Sale (TASE) Program, and a noise complaint at Overlook Medical Center.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE’S REPORT—Report reviewed by Bridget Colendenski, PHN.

HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT: Ms. Avallone reported that a lot of educational materials were sent out over the summer through their social media outlets.

Reports of mold at The Summit Housing Authority’s Vito Gallo Building were brought to Ms. Avallone’s attention. Ms. Avallone explained the Health Department has nothing enforceable on their end. However, they would always like to help residents by applying pressure to the authority or the landlord. Ms. Avallone spoke with The Housing Authority and was told they haven’t received a single call from a resident about mold, and neither has Ms. Avallone. Ms. Avallone did advise the Housing Authority that these complaints have been coming in, and it is in their best interest to address the issue if there is one. Ms. Avallone asked if there was any mold in the general area and was told there was none. Ms. Avallone told the Board that residents should contact her directly and they will help as best as they can.

Ms. Avallone has been busy with mosquito control over the summer. She advised the Board there was a domestic case of Malaria and West Nile Virus, both in Morris County Residents. She explained we have Culex mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus, and we have the highest number of them in Union and Bergen Counties.

Westfield Health Department has been hosting third-year medical residents from Overlook Medical Center for their Intro into Public Health Program. They are provided with all their resources, shadow the physician at their child health clinic, and if time allows, they will also go out on a food inspection.

ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT—The May through August 2025 reports from Animal Control Solutions were provided to the Board.

President Rathyen asked what happened with the owner who was going to court for dogs running at large. Ms. Avallone advised there have not been any incidents since before our last meeting. Ms. Avallone told the Board that the governing body passed an aggressive dog ordinance that allows enforcement of any incident, for immediate action. Also, our animal control met with the owner to advise them that rules have changed and how.

OLD BUSINESS—Mr. Silk asked for an update on the Oak Knoll Pool. Ms. Avallone told the Board that Oak Knoll Pool was unable to operate their pool this year, but they know what they must do for next year.

Ms. Avallone advised the Board that the federal funding that was taken away was re-instated until March. The Vulnerable Populations Coordinator will continue and will be absorbed by Westfield.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Annual Report—Ms. Avallone presented the 2024 Annual Report for Summit, hereto attached.

2026 Health Services Budget—Ms. Avallone provided a draft of the proposed 2026 Health Services Budget, hereto attached.

2026 Board of Health Meeting Schedule—The Board discussed the 2026 meeting schedule and decided to add one extra meeting a year in March. The meetings will take place on January 26, March 23, May 18, September 28, and November 23, 2026.

Local retail tobacco licensing—Ms. Avallone informed the Board that there are some municipalities in northern New Jersey that have started licensing tobacco establishments, with the idea that it supports substance abuse education. Ms. Avallone said a template ordinance is being drafted and can be brought to the next Board of Health Meeting.

President Rathyen advised the Board that Summit received funding from the opiate settlement cases, that must be used for prevention of opiate use disorder, treatment of people with opiate use disorder, or dealing with issues that are relevant, such as homelessness. The Board discussed different ideas for utilizing the money.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business a motion by President Rathyen was made at 9:12 P.M., seconded by Ms. Aronson, and unanimously approved by all members present.

Respectfully submitted,


N. Gayle Mauro, Board Secretary