

**TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM - BOARD OF HEALTH**

**June 27, 2016 – 7:30p.m.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Board of Health meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mr. West.

**ADEQUATE NOTICE:**

"Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Board of Health of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both the DAILY RECORD and the OBSERVER TRIBUNE on January 28, 2016. Notice was filed with the Township Clerk, and notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Township Hall on January 28, 2016."

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT:** Mrs. Desbiens, Mrs. Reale, Mr. Weber, and Mr. West.

**ABSENT:** Ms. deMontigny, Dr. Watson

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. John M. Mills, III, Board Attorney

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Led by Mr. West

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – May 23, 2016 minutes were approved by Mr. West and seconded by Mr. Weber.

**Upon Roll Call Vote:** Mrs. Desbien, Mrs. Reale, Mr. Weber and Mr. West.

**Ayes:**

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion on Board of Health Shared Services Agreement.

Mr. West states that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Board of Health Contract. The Township Administrator Deborah Bonanno and Carlos Perez from Morris County are here tonight.

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Ms. Bonanno explains that we are here to present a proposal from the county of Morris to provide shared health services to the township of Mendham. As part of the review process I was asked to look into the township contracts and while gathering information we felt we could provide better services to the residence of Mendham at a lower price. So we are here tonight to provide that proposal from the county to the Board of Health for your consideration. A spread sheet is presented that shows various municipalities with their contract cost and services they provide. Mr. Weber asks, on the spreadsheet does each of the bids you list, with the exception of VNA, meet the minimum criteria and Ms. Bonanno replies yes. Ms. Bonanno notes that our contract with Bernard's Township for 2017 the price would be \$101,845.19 but it is required that we also carry the contract with VNA services. Mr. Weber, does the \$101,845.19 include the \$5000, Ms. Bonanno replies no it does not. Mr. Mills asks, Debbie, you had examined the level of services involved verses what we now receive and what we would receive with Carlos's board and did you reach any conclusions. Ms. Bonanno replies we thought we would be better served by the County they have proposed to have a nurse on staff in the office here twice a month for 7 hrs a day to provide blood pressure screening, the options to provide ammunition services here in town for residents as opposed to them having to go elsewhere. During the process of trying to gather information it didn't seem like Bernards Township or VNA could give us specifics on services that were provided to Mendham Township and we were rather disappointed in that. Bernards Township does supply monthly reports that generally apply to septic inspections and soil testing and wells. VNA also provided demographic reports but in the quote they estimated 18 home visits but we found going back to 2015 there was only one home visit. Mr. Weber asks do you mean that the reports they give you they are seeing people from six different municipalities they can't give you a breakdown on how many Mendham residents they see. Ms. Bonanno replies no they do not give us specifics. And what Carlos has allowed us to do is to tailor our program to our residents needs so having a nurse on staff will allow us to really get an idea of what services our residents are looking for. Mr. Weber mentions the contract states that Morris County would be able to contract with medical provider, would the cost be imbedded in our annual cost or would those be passed on to Mendham. Carlos replies there would be no additional cost to the town.

Mr. Weber, the one thing I see is that this is a five year agreement and the pricing continues to be favorable throughout the 5 years. But I also read that either side can terminate if you give 6 months' notice, if after one year either party is not happy then they can terminate, Carlos replies yes, Mr. Weber, so it's not a guarantee that we will or be bound to use it for 5 years. So if you determine that \$70,000 was to low you could terminate the agreement and then offer to provide it to us again at a different rate. Carlos replies that would be a decision of the freeholder board.

The board continues to review and discuss the services offered by Morris County. Ms. Bonanno states she thinks it is a great opportunity for us to cut our costs while providing a good service to the residents. Carlos continues to explain all the services that are offered to the residents.

Mr. Mills states if there are no more questions I suggest that we offer a resolution to go into closed session and discuss the legal ramifications.

Mr. Weber asks Carlos do you consider your collection of 5 towns to be a health agency. Carlos replies, we are recognized by the State of NJ as a local health service provider. Mr. Weber, the statute says, establish a local health agency or join with another in a local health agency, so has

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Morris created a local health agency for its self and invited others to join them, Carlos replies yes and you would be joining our health agency. Mr. Mills asks Carlos when you need to know if we were to start with Morris County on January 1, 2017. Carlos replies, as soon as possible, I would say maybe September/ October.

Board goes into closed session.

Board goes back into open session.

Mr. West makes a motion to adopt resolution 2016-4 declaring intentions to terminate the contract with Bernard's Township Board of Health. Mr. Weber seconded the motion.

Mr. West asked if there are any further discussions. Mr. Weber has 2 comments; the first is to put a period after agency on the first page and the other one is in the final paragraph of the resolution itself are we determining to withdraw or are we determining an attempt. We should leave a little bit of wiggle room on that. Mr. Mills modifies the last paragraph of the resolution to read as follows; so we will change hereby determines to withdraw to hereby declare its intention to establish or join with another agency.

Mr. West accepts the friendly amendment to the motion. Being no further discussion

**Vote:** Mrs Desbien, Mrs. Reale, Mr. Weber, Mr. West.

**HEALTH OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT:** None.

**SUCH MATTERS THAT MAY RIGHTFULLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD:**

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT** -- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Piscitello  
Board of Health Secretary