

A regular meeting of the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit was held on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, via teleconference. Audio live streaming of the proceedings was provided for the public.

PRESENT:

Nipissing District:

Central Appointee

Dave Butti

Central Appointee

Nancy Jacko (*Chairperson*)

Central Appointee

Stuart Kidd

Central Appointee

Scott Robertson

Eastern Appointee

Dean Backer

Western Appointee

Dan Roveda

Parry Sound District:

North Eastern Appointee

Blair Flowers

South Eastern Appointee

Marianne Stickland

Western Appointee

Jamie McGarvey

Public Appointees:

Gary Guenther

Mike Poeta

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer

Dr. Chirico

Master of Public Health Student

Dr. Carol Zimbalatti

REGRETS:

Central Appointee

Tanya Vrebosch

RECORDER:

Management Administrative Assistant

Sheri Beaulieu

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

In keeping with public health measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Health meet electronically. Audio live streaming of the meeting was available to the public through a link provided on the Health Unit's website.

Nancy Jacko called the Board of Health meeting to order at 5:28 p.m.

New Board of Health member, Jamie McGarvey was welcomed to the Board.

2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the April 28, 2021, Board of Health meeting was reviewed and the following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/04/01 *Kidd/Guenther

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Health Agenda, dated April 28, 2021, be approved.

The recorded vote was as follows:

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer				Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	x			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch			
Stuart Kidd	x						

“Carried”

3.0 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Nominations for the Vice-Chairperson position was conducted electronically prior to the Board of Health meeting. The Chairperson opened the floor for further nominations for Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Health for 2021.

Andrea McLellan, Director of the COVID-19 Immunization Strategy joined the Board of Health meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Dean Backer joined the Board of Health meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Scott Robertson nominated Dan Roveda, Dan agreed to stand.

A vote was held with six votes for Stuart Kidd, and three votes for Dan Roveda.

The following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/04/02 *Butti/Guenther

Be It Resolved, that Stuart Kidd be elected Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit for the year 2021.

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	x			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	x			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch			
Stuart Kidd	x						

“Carried”

4.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Board of Health Minutes – February 24, 2021

The minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on February 24, 2021, were reviewed and the following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/04/03 *Guenther/Kidd

Be It Resolved, that the minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on February 24, 2021, be approved as presented.

The recorded vote was as follows:

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	x			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	x			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch			
Stuart Kidd	x						

“Carried”

6.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: June 23, 2021

Time: To be determined

Place: To be determined

7.0 BUSINESS ARISING

There was nothing under Business Arising.

8.0 REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

The Report of the Medical Officer of Health dated April 27, 2021, was presented to the Board of Health for information purposes.

An additional verbal update from the Medical Officer of Health and Andrea McLellan was provided. The report included the following:

- Globally, the case counts have been increasing, with the majority related to the current tragic outbreak in India
- The hope is to get vaccines to as many countries as possible
- Provincially, the case counts have somewhat stabilized over the past 7-14 days, however, the numbers are still not good; we are averaging 3,500 to 4,500 new cases daily
- This type of increase in case counts has caused significant changes for the health care system; particularly in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
- There are significant admission to ICUs with a large number of patients on ventilators in the GTA
- Many patients are having to be transferred out of the GTA due to capacity issues; North Bay has seen some patient transfers
- Locally, we have done exceptionally well
- The district's communities have stepped up to adhering to public health measures which has given us some of the lowest case numbers per 100,000
- It is important not to be complacent now because things can change very quickly
- Vaccination is not the answer to combat the drastic rise in cases; adhering to public health measures and ensuring essential trips only will make the difference in stopping the spread of the infection
- Immunization clinics are well underway and have been going very well
- There have been some frustrations with the booking system due to the high demand
- To date, the Health Unit has provided approximately 39,000 immunizations
- Clinics are very well attended and there has been no negative feedback with the operation
- The Health Unit staff and a large number of community partners have really stepped up to ensure the clinics run smoothly
- Community partners are assisting with homebound clients in Parry Sound and Nipissing districts
- Clinics are held in a number of communities throughout the Health Unit district
- Immunization of clients in low-barrier shelters in North Bay have been completed; a similar approach is planned for the homeless population in Parry Sound
- We are actively working with the Indigenous population on immunization
- Those people considered highest and high risk, including pregnant women, are now able to book appointments
- The current challenges are with the limitations of the COVax database and booking system; those challenges are being addressed and are being worked through as quickly as possible
- The tireless work by staff and volunteers at the clinics and behind the scene to make all of this happen is to be applauded

Questions and comments by Board members were addressed by both Dr. Chirico and Andrea McLellan.

Additionally, it was noted that the pandemic has brought out the best in the community for the most part. The many partnerships formed have made a significant impact on the pandemic response.

Vaccine allotment has been focused to the hotspots in the province in order to get those areas under control. This has impacted the Health Unit's supply, but the district has done very well with case numbers and with following public health measures.

The vaccine shortage is more than a local or provincial issue, it is a national issue. The Health Unit understands these limitations, and focuses on distributing our allocation as quickly and efficiently as possible across the entire district, following the provincial guidelines. Different areas of the province are at different stages within the provincial guidelines. Board members were assured that the Health Unit continues to strive to disperse the vaccine as evenly as possible to all of the priority groups. At this stage, the demand is greater than the supply, but with a little patience, we will definitely get there.

9.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

9.1 Finance and Property Committee

A Finance and Property Committee meeting was held immediately prior to the Board of Health meeting. The following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/04/04 *Butti/Kidd

Whereas, on June 25, 2008, the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit approved a municipal reserve fund be established; and

Whereas, on September 26, 2012, the Board of Health by resolution removed the cap from the municipal reserve; and

Whereas, on April 28, 2021, the Finance and Property Committee of the Board of Health reviewed the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit draft annual audited financial statements for the year-ended December 31, 2020.

***Now Therefore Be It Resolved,** that on the recommendation of the Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit approve the transfer of funds from the Health Unit general account to the municipal reserve in the amount of \$87,450 ; and*

Furthermore Be It Resolved, that on the recommendation of Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Health approve the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit audited financial statements for the year-ended December 31, 2020; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, that the annual audited financial statements for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, which includes a note outlining the transactions of the municipal reserve fund for the year-ended December 31, 2020, be forwarded for member municipalities.

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	x			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	x			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch			
Stuart Kidd	x						

“Carried”

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Board of Health correspondence listed for the April 28, 2021, meeting is made available for review by Board members in the Board of Health online portal.

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Internet Issues

Some concerns with the technology used for the Board of Health and Standing Committee agenda packages were brought forward.

Board members were thanked for bringing the issue forward and were assured that a solution will be sought prior to the next meeting.

11.2 Public Relations

Appreciation for the weekly press conferences and bi-weekly municipal touch-base meetings was expressed.

The technology currently used to conduct the Board’s virtual meetings was discussed.

Board members were advised that a solution to make the Board meetings more interactive will be addressed.

12.0 IN CAMERA

There was no in camera session.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the Board of Health Chairperson adjourned the Board of Health meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Original Signed by Nancy Jacko

2021-06-23

Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

Original Signed by Sheri Beaulieu

2021-06-23

Sheri Beaulieu, Recorder

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)