

A regular meeting of the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit was held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, via teleconference. Audio live streaming of the proceedings was provided for the public.

**PRESENT:**

**Nipissing District:**

Central Appointee

Stuart Kidd (*Vice-Chairperson*)

Central Appointee

Scott Robertson

**Parry Sound District:**

Northeastern Appointee

Blair Flowers

Southeastern Appointee

Marianne Stickland

Western Appointee

Jamie McGarvey

**Public Appointees:**

Gary Guenther

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer

Dr. Chirico

Public Health Physician

Dr. Carol Zimbalatti

Executive Director, Human Resources

Josée Goulet

**REGRETS:**

Central Appointee

Dave Butti

Central Appointee

Nancy Jacko (*Chairperson*)

Central Appointee

Tanya Vrebosch

Eastern Appointee

Dean Backer

Western Appointee

Dan Roveda

**RECORDER:**

Management Administrative Assistant

Sheri Beaulieu

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**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

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

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

**2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda for the May 25, 2022, Board of Health meeting was reviewed, and the following motion was read:

**Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2022/05/01 \*Robertson/Stickland**

***Be It Resolved***, that the Board of Health Agenda, dated May 25, 2022, be approved.

The recorded vote was as follows:

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	X		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	X		
Blair Flowers	X			Dan Roveda	R		
Gary Guenther	X			Marianne Stickland	X		
Nancy Jacko	R			Tanya Vrebosch	R		
Stuart Kidd	X						

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*“Carried”*

### **3.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

### **4.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

#### **4.1 Board of Health Minutes – April 27, 2022**

The minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on April 27, 2022, were reviewed and the following motion was read:

#### **Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2022/05/02 \* Guenther/Robertson**

***Be It Resolved***, that the minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on April 27, 2022, be approved as presented.

The recorded vote was as follows:

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	X		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	X		
Blair Flowers	X			Dan Roveda	R		
Gary Guenther	X			Marianne Stickland	X		
Nancy Jacko	R			Tanya Vrebosch	R		
Stuart Kidd	X						

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*“Carried”*

### **5.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Date: June 22, 2022

Time: to be determined

Place: to be determined

## 6.0 BUSINESS ARISING

There was nothing under Business Arising.

## 7.0 REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

The Report of the [Medical Officer of Health](#) for the May 25, 2022, meeting was presented to the Board of Health for information purposes.

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

- In terms of COVID-19 numbers there continues to be a downward trend across the province
- Of those eligible for testing there has been a 43% decrease in the seven-day average versus two weeks ago
- Hospitalization is down approximately 28% versus two weeks ago
- ICU admissions are down 11% versus two weeks ago
- Deaths are down 31% versus two weeks ago
- Percent positivity of testing, which is around 10%, represents a 23% decrease in the seven-day average versus two weeks ago
- Outbreaks have decreased
- Trends are down locally
- Locally, there are currently 16 in hospital with COVID-19, of which 5 are due to the virus
- Hospitals continue to feel the pressure with the backlogs to address and due to staff off ill or because they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19; resorting to extraordinary needs has not been necessary
- Immunization numbers provincially and locally are slow and steady, but remain low
- Locally, clinics, health equity clinics, collaboration with First Nations, and the mobile vaccination bus are all being utilized
- Most of the vaccinations happening currently are in the 18+ age group, and are typically fourth doses
- In terms of influenza, the increase in cases being seen currently is highly unusual for this time of year; the influenza season typically starts in the fall and ends in the spring with the peak usually sometime in January
- Influenza can be highly unpredictable, and the current vaccine is showing as only about 16% effective against this strain, however, for those that are high risk, it is still something to consider
- May has seen the largest increases

Additionally, at the time of writing the Report, Monkeypox was not an issue. The following update regarding Monkeypox was provided:

- Overall, the risk to the general population is very low
- The European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention has said that for persons with multiple sexual partners, that there is a moderate risk for infection
- In spread from person to person, while usually uncommon, it can spread by way of contact of bodily fluids, wounds on the skin, or internal mucosal surfaces, respiratory droplets, or contaminated objects
- Current evidence is that it is the West African strain, which has been around since 1958, and this strain is endemic in both Central and West Africa
- Evidence indicates that Monkeypox has not mutated, and they believe the current atypical clusters should be able to be brought under control with contact tracing and isolation
- Locally, the Health Unit is working with health care providers to provide updates; they are aware of what to watch for and how to test for the virus if they do identify Monkeypox in a patient
- It presents similar to flu-like symptoms, initially
- The defining sign would be if develop swollen lymph nodes beyond the other similar flu-like symptoms
- Approximately 1-3 days after the onset of symptoms, a rash may appear, which usually starts on the face and then spread to the body, extremities, hands, and feet in 75% of cases
- There is also the potential for spread of the virus due to close contact or consumption of animals that may have been infected
- Those at risk of transmission would be health care works, household members, or close contact of those infected
- The patients are communicable from symptom onset until scabs have fallen off and a new skin is present, which is about 2-4 weeks
- Most cases are self-limiting and spontaneously resolve on their own in 14-21 days
- Primary care providers are responsible for testing through a PCR test; results are typically back within 24-48 hours

Questions related to the report from Medical Officer of Health were asked and addressed.

## **8.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **8.1 Personnel Policy, Labour/Employee Relations Committee**

A Personnel Policy, Labour/Employee Relations Committee meeting was held prior to the Board of Health meeting. There was nothing to bring forward to the Board.

## **9.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **9.1 Signing Officer for 2022 - Revised**

The list of signing officers for 2022 was revised. The following motion was read:

**Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2022/05/03 \* Stickland/Robertson**

**Be It Resolved**, that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit approve the revised list of signing officers for the year 2022 as follows:

<i>Board of Health Chairperson</i>	<i>Nancy Jacko</i>
<i>Board of Health Vice-Chairperson</i>	<i>Stuart Kidd</i>
<i>Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer</i>	<i>Dr. Jim Chirico</i>
<i>Public Health Physician</i>	<i>Dr. Carol Zimbalatti</i>
<i>Executive Director, Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Officer</i>	<i>Shannon Mantha</i>
<i>Executive Director, Community Services</i>	<i>Louise Gagné</i>
<i>Executive Director, Corporate Services and Privacy Officer</i>	<i>Paul Massicotte</i>
<i>Executive Director, Finance</i>	<i>Isabel Churcher</i>
<i>Executive Director, Human Resources</i>	<i>Josée Goulet</i>

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The recorded vote was as follows:

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	X		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	X		
Blair Flowers	X			Dan Roveda	R		
Gary Guenther	X			Marianne Stickland	X		
Nancy Jacko	R			Tanya Vrebosch	R		
Stuart Kidd	X						

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“Carried”

**10.0 IN CAMERA**

There was no in camera session.

**11.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, the Board of Health Chairperson adjourned the Board of Health meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Minutes: Board of Health

Date: May 25, 2022

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*Original Signed by Nancy Jacko*

*2022/06/22*

Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

*Original Signed by Sheri Beaulieu*

*2022/06/22*

Sheri Beaulieu, Recorder

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)