



Board of Health Minutes

Date: Friday, April 25, 2025
Location: Electronic via Microsoft Teams & GBPH Boardroom
(101 17th Street East, Owen Sound ON N4K 0A5)
Time: 10:00 AM – 1:02 PM

Members Present: Mr. Chad Richards Mr. Kevin Eccles
Ms. Shirley Keaveney Mr. Don Murray
Mr. Jay Kirkland Mr. Kenneth Craig
Ms. Helen-Claire Tingling Ms. Beverly Wilkins

Regrets: Mr. Nick Saunders, Ms. Sue Carleton, Ms. Andrea Matrosovs
Also Present: Dr. Ian Arra, Kim Rutherford, Denis Langlois, Chimere Okoronkwo,
Andrew Barton

Special Guests: Kathryn Meehan, Jason Wepler

Recording Secretary: Ms. Kellisa Webb

1.0 Call to Order

Vice-Chair Richards called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2.0 Roll Call

The roll call was called by the recording secretary. Quorum was declared.

3.0 Amendments to Agenda

The Medical Officer of Health requested agenda item 7.3 be moved to open session under Other Business since it had been made public information.

4.0 Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Helen-Claire Tingling

Seconded by: Beverly Wilkins

“THAT, the agenda for Friday, April 25, 2025, be approved as amended.

Carried.

5.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were declared at this time.

6.0 Adoption of Minutes

6.1 Friday, March 28, 2025

Moved by: Kenneth Craig

Seconded by: Don Murray

“THAT, the minutes from Friday, March 28, 2025 be approved as presented.”

Carried.

7.0 In-Camera:

7.1 Adoption of In-Camera Minutes | Friday, December 20, 2024, Friday, January 24, 2025 (Orientation), and Friday, March 28, 2025 (3 items)

7.2 Adoption of Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual Including Municipal or Local Board Employees [s.239(2)(b)] (5 items)

Update and Advice from Lawyer on Letter Received

2025 Strategic Goals

2024 Public Sector Salary Disclosure (PSSD)

Salary Grid Assessment

Strengthening Public Health

Moved by: Jay Kirkland

Seconded by: Shirley Keaveney

“THAT, the Board of Health go into closed session at 10:04 AM to discuss the adoption of the in-camera minutes, and 5 items regarding personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees. FURTHER THAT, Dr. Arra, Kim Rutherford, Denis Langlois and Ms. Kellisa Webb shall remain present.”

Carried.

The meeting returned to open session at 11:25 AM with Vice-Chair Richards presiding. Vice-Chair Richards declared only the items stated in the motion to go in-camera were discussed

Moved by: Kenneth Craig

Seconded by: Kevin Eccles

“THAT, the Board of Health directs staff to proceed with the recommendation as per Board direction in the closed session.”

Carried.

8.0 Other Business

8.1 Recommendation from the Executive Committee on Policy V-514 Election of Officers and Auditors

The Board decided to amend Policy V-514 at the January 24, 2025 meeting and directed the Executive Committee to review the clause requiring the Chair to be from Bruce or Grey Counties and to extend the term length of the Chair beyond one year.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the February 12, 2025 Executive Committee meeting on amending Policy V-514. The Executive Committee had disagreement on its role and direction from the Board. The removal of clause 1.3 on the selection of the Chair from Bruce or Grey Counties and removal of cause 2.0 on provincial nominees were mentioned but not discussed further.

The Board discussed the disagreement in opinions from the Executive Committee between extending the term length of the Chair and keeping it as one year but allowing a Chair to serve consecutive terms. It was strongly recommended by the Medical Officer of Health that the Board be consistent with their decision from the

January 24, 2025 meeting to increase the term length. Extending the term length was noted multiple times over the past 2 years as an important step in improving Board performance and stability.

Concerns were shared on the optics of not changing the term length after previously stating it would be changed. A Board member stated concern why the Board decided it was a good idea to extend the term for the former chair but not for the new chair. The only difference from a reasonable person objective point of the view is that the new chair is Indigenous. Two members refuted this statement and stated they are making their decision based on the Executive Committee's recommendation.

The Board then reviewed the minutes from the January 24, 2025 where the Board's direction was given to extend the length beyond one year. The Executive Committee was tasked with reviewing the policy at the direction of the Board because some members thought the Board was having difficulty coming to a consensus.

A member of the Executive Committee stated that their recommendation was made after much discussion and that it is a way to allow the Chair to serve multiple terms but also uphold the annual elections in the policy. The Medical Officer of Health stated that maintaining yearly elections is inconsistent with extending the term length of the Chair.

Several members felt that the direction of the Board was followed by involving the Executive Committee and that the direction of extending the term length of the Chair would be achieved by the recommendation from the Executive Committee.

A roll-call vote was requested for the motion on the floor.

Moved by: Kenneth Craig

Seconded by: Don Murray

"THAT, the Board of Health accept the recommendations from the Executive Committee as presented in the minutes dated February 12, 2025."

Vote: Roll-Call

Results:

Kevin Eccles – In Favour

Shirley Keaveney – Opposed

Kenneth Craig – In Favour

Don Murray – In Favour

Jay Kirkland – In Favour

Beverly Wilkins – In Favour

Helen-Clair Tingling – Opposed

Chad Richards – Abstained

Outcome: 5 voted in favour and 3 opposed, the motion carried.

Carried.

8.2 2024-25 One-Time Funding for Public Health Programs

The Medical Officer of Health provided an over of correspondence received from the Ministry of Health regarding one-time funding for public health programs.

9.0 Correspondence and Media Releases

9.1 Correspondence

- 9.1.1 Letter regarding Bill 231 2024 from the Chair of the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts
- 9.1.2 Letter regarding the Endorsement of the Walport Report, and for Continued Focus on Public Health Emergency and Pandemic Preparedness from the Chair of the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts
- 9.1.3 Letter regarding Support for a Provincial Immunization Registry from the Chair of the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts
- 9.1.4 Correspondence from the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit Board of Health which contains the Board's Recommendation/Resolution Report – Intimate Partner/Gender-Based Violence.
- 9.1.5 Correspondence from the Windsor-Essex County Board of Health which contains the Board's Resolution Report – Addressing Household Food Insecurity
- 9.1.6 Correspondence from the Windsor-Essex County Board of Health which contains the Board's Recommendation/Resolution Report – Rabies Prevention in Windsor and Essex County.
- 9.1.7 Correspondence from the Windsor-Essex County Board of Health which contains the Board's Recommendation/Resolution Report – Animal Bite Prevention Strategies in Windsor and Essex County.

The Medical Officer of Health provided a summary of the correspondence.

Moved by: Ken Craig

Seconded by: Kevin Eccles

“THAT correspondence items 9.1.1, 9.1.2, and 9.1.3 be endorsed and items 9.1.4, 9.1.5, 9.1.6, and 9.1.7 be received for information by the Board of Health”

Carried.

9.2 Media Releases

- 9.2.1 Public Assistance Request – Dog Bite – Owen Sound

- 9.2.2 Grey Bruce Public Health encouraging residents to test their well water this spring
- 9.2.3 Grey Bruce Public Health confirms local measles case
- 9.2.4 For Oral Health Month, GBPH is reminding residents of programs available to help with cost of dental care
- 9.2.5 GBPH reminds residents to avoid handling wild birds; take steps to protect against avian flu
- 9.2.6 GBPH advising public of possible measles exposure location in Grey-Bruce

The Communications Co-ordinator provided a summary of the Media Releases.

Moved by: Helen-Claire Tingling

Seconded by: Don Murray

“THAT, the media releases be received by the Board of Health for information.”

Carried.

The Communication Coordinator left the meeting at 12:06

Jason Wepler, Andrew Barton and Chimere Okoronkwo joined the meeting at 12:07 PM

10.0 Medical Officer of Health Update

10.1 Opioid Situation Grey Bruce (STANDING ITEM)

The Medical Officer of Health shared that the health unit and Indigenous Community provided an impact statement in a criminal case that resulted in a conviction.

10.2 Strengthening Public Health (STANDING ITEM)

The updated Ontario Public Health Standards will be released in the fall with implementation in January 2026.

10.3 Staff Presentation – Ontario Seniors Dental Program

The Oral Health and Health Promotion Manager presented on the Ontario Seniors Dental Program and answered questions from Board Members.

10.4 Oral Health – Healthy Smiles Ontario

The Senior Manager of Health Promotion provided an overview of the Health Smiles Ontario program.

Jason Wepler left the meeting at 12:25pm

10.5 Vaccine Coverage & Immunization School Pupils Act Update

The Senior Manager for Environmental Health provided an overview of vaccine coverage and an update on the Immunization for School Pupils Act (ISPA). He answered questions from Board Members on ISPA.

The Medical Officer of Health recommended the remaining agenda items under Medical Officer of Health Updates be deferred due to time limitations.

Moved by: Kenneth Craig

Seconded by: Helen-Claire Tingling

“THAT, the Board defer agenda items 10.6, 10.7, 10.8 and 10.9 to the next meeting and proceed to agenda item 11.0 Corporate Services.”

Carried.

Andrew Barton and Chimere Okoronkwo left the meeting at 12:35pm

11.0 Corporate Services

11.1 Financial Report | December 2024

The Senior Manager of Finance provided an update on the December 2024 Financial Report.

Moved by: Shirley Keaveney

Seconded by: Beverly Wilkins

“THAT, the Financial Report for December 2024 be received by the Board of Health for information.”

Carried.

11.2 Financial Report | February 2025

The Senior Manager of Finance provided an update on the February 2025 Financial Report.

Moved by: Shirley Keaveney

Seconded by: Don Murray

“THAT, the Financial Report for February 2025 be received by the Board of Health for information.”

Carried.

11.3 2025 DRAFT Budget Presentation

The Senior Manager of Finance presented the 2025 Draft Budget and answered questions from Board members.

Moved by: Beverly Wilkins

Seconded by: Kenneth Craig

“THAT, the Board of Health approved the 2025 Draft Budget on April 25, 2025, as presented.”

Carried.

Kevin Eccles left the meeting at 12:53pm

11.4 2024 Audit Service Plan

The Senior Finance Manager reviewed the standard audit letter which outlines the auditor’s responsibilities and its independence from the organization.

Moved by: Don Murray

Seconded by: Jay Kirkland

“THAT, the Board of Health receive the 2024 Audit Service Plan on March 28, 2025, as presented.”

Carried.

12.0 Adjournment

Moved by: Don Murray

Seconded by: Jay Kirkland

“THAT, the Board of Health meeting be adjourned.”

Carried.

Vice-Chair Richards declared the Board of Health meeting adjourned at 1:02PM on Friday, April 25, 2025.

Next Meeting:

Friday, May 23, 2025, 10:00 AM



X

Chad Richards
Vice-Chair



X

Dr. Ian Arra
Medical Officer of Health



X

Kellisa Webb
Recording Secretary