

Minutes of the Reorganizational & Regular Meeting of the Board of Health January 8, 2026

The Reorganizational Meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 7:32pm by The President, Mr. Bob Dorsi, in conformance with the Sunshine Law.

Upon roll call Mr. Bob Dorsi, Mr. Ed Sorge, Dr. Komal Naik, Mrs. Ellen Guritzky, Mrs. Carolyn Sayre, Mrs. Valerie Simon, Mr. Alvaro Medeiros, Mr. Bill Machado along with Mrs. Sandra Cortes and Ms. Jessica Mindo from Union County were present.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ellen Guritzky; seconded by Dr. Komal Naik to elect Mr. Bob Dorsi as President for 2026, Mr. Ed Sorge as Vice President for 2026 and Mrs. Linda Palumbo as Secretary for 2026. By unanimous vote all members were in favor.

Regular Meeting:

Upon roll call Mr. Bob Dorsi, Mr. Ed Sorge, Dr. Komal Naik, Mrs. Ellen Guritzky, Mrs. Carolyn Sayre, Mrs. Valerie Simon, Mr. Alvaro Medeiros, Mr. Bill Machado along with Mrs. Sandra Cortes and Ms. Jessica Mindo from Union County.

A motion was made by Mr. Bob Dorsi to approve the minutes of November 19, 2025 Board of Health Meeting and seconded by Mr. Ed Sorge. By unanimous vote all members were in favor.

Presidents Report: Welcome Mr. Alvaro Medeiros as the Township Council Board of Health liaison.

Health Officer's Report:

Public Health

Communicable Disease Investigation

Berkeley Heights Cases 11/20/25 - 1/7/2026	
Cases	Number of Cases
Ehrlichiosis/ Anaplasmosis	1
Lyme Disease	1
Varicella	1
Salmonellosis	1
Novel Coronavirus	19

Total:	23
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All communicable diseases cases have been closed and approved by DHSS.

Currently, our nurse is monitoring a possible influenza outbreak at the Autumn Lake long-term care facility. There are currently four reported cases; however, the NJDOH has not classified this as an outbreak, as the cases are not located on the same unit and are not epidemiologically linked.

A line list has been initiated, and the situation continues to be actively monitored.

Retail Food Inspections/Nuisance Complaints

Inspection	Total
Reinspections	1
Routine inspections	11
Special Events	4
Temporary food app reviews	3

Lead

There are no lead cases.

Health Education

Our health education team did a holiday safety session with the pre-k students at Berkeley Heights YMCA on Dec. 19. They set up a board with a bear character that had to avoid different hazards (Christmas lights, fireplace, stove, knife, batteries, touching food without washing hands, etc.). The kids had to say “Wait, Beary, wait!” if he was getting close to a hazard and explain why it was unsafe.

Vaccination

Union County residents can access free immunization services and tuberculosis (TB) testing. Wellness visits are also available for uninsured children under the age of five residing in Berkeley Heights, Cranford, Hillside, Roselle, and Scotch Plains.

Union County Family Clinic

40 Parker Road

Elizabeth NJ

Basement Level

Monday – Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm

908-965-3687

908-965-386

Email: ucclinic@ucnj.org

Website: <https://ucnj.org/dhs/immunization-clinic/>

We had one vaccine event in Berkeley Heights.

12/16/25 - Runnells Rehabilitation - 40 Watchung Way, Berkeley Heights - 87 Influenza vaccines were administered

New Business: The free rabies clinic will be held on Sat, January 24 at BH Fire Department, 411 Hamilton Ave from 9am-10am (snow date January 31).

A brief discussion about a high school student interested in joining the BOH as a teen liaison. Union County will be offering a free food handlers’ course, dates TBD.

Old Business: Received many 2026 food licenses but have approximately 25 still outstanding and have been following up.

A brief discussion on Tuberculosis 2025 payment. Linda will reach out to the TB contact at Rutgers for more information.

Citizens Hearing: no report

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Bob Dorsi asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:15pm. A motion was made by Mr. Bob Dorsi; seconded by Mrs. Valerie Simon to adjourn to March 18, 2026 at 7:30pm.

Submitted by Linda Palumbo