



The meeting of the Board of Health for Oxford Elgin St. Thomas Health Unit was held on Thursday, April 27, 2023, in-person at 1230 Talbot Street, ON, with virtual participation commencing at 1:02 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Mr. J. Couckuyt	Board Member
Mr. J. Herbert	Board Member
Mr. G. Jones	Board Member
Mr. M. Peterson	Board Member
Mr. J. Preston	Board Member (Chair)
Mr. L. Rowden	Board Member
Mr. M. Ryan	Board Member
Mr. D. Warden	Board Member
Ms. B. Wheaton	Board Member (Vice Chair)
Ms. C. St. John	Chief Executive Officer
Dr. N. Tran	Medical Officer of Health
Ms. W. Lee	Executive Assistant

**GUESTS:**

Mr. P. Heywood	Program Director*
Mr. D. McDonald	Director, Corporate Services and Human Resources*
Mr. D. Smith	Program Director*
Ms. M. Cornwell	Manager, Communications*
Ms. C. Richards	Program Manager*
Mr. I. Santos	Manager, Information Technology
Ms. M. Nusink	Director, Finance
Mr. R. Perry	The Aylmer Express*
Mr. I. McCallum	My FM 94.1*
Ms. J. Buchanan	Graham Scott Ens (Partner)
Mr. S. Westelaken	Graham Scott Ens (Manager)

*\*Represents virtual participation*

**REGRETS:**

Mr. D. Mayberry	Board Member
Ms. S. Isaac	Program Director

## **1.1 CALL TO ORDER, RECOGNITION OF QUORUM**

J. Preston welcomed G. Jones to the Board of Health.

## **1.2 AGENDA**

### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-1.2)**

Moved by J. Herbert

Seconded by M. Peterson

That the agenda for the Southwestern Public Health Board of Health meeting for April 27, 2023, be approved.

Carried.

**1.3** Reminder to disclose Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof when Item Arises.

**1.4** Reminder that Meetings are Recorded for minute-taking purposes.

## **2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-2.1)**

Moved by M. Peterson

Seconded by J. Herbert

That the minutes for the Southwestern Public Health Board of Health meeting for March 20, 2023, be approved.

Carried.

## **3.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-3.0)**

Moved by D. Warden

Seconded by G. Jones

That the Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health receive and file consent agenda items 3.1 – 3.2.

Carried.

## **4.0 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REQUIRING ACTION**

### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-4.0)**

Moved by D. Warden

Seconded by M. Peterson

That the Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health support 4.1 Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, March 15, 2023, correspondence endorsing Bill S-254, which calls for implementing health warning labels on alcoholic beverages.

Carried.

## **5.0 AGENDA ITEMS FOR INFORMATION.DISCUSSION.DECISION**

### **5.1 Graham Scott Ens Presentation**

Ms. J. Buchanan, partner at Graham Scott Ens, reviewed Southwestern Public Health's Audited Financial Statements ending December 31, 2022.

J. Buchanan noted the independent auditor's report provides a clean audited opinion with no qualifications.

J. Buchanan noted the report is in accordance with PSAS: Public Sector Accounting Standards statements and are slightly different from reports that are prepared for the ministry and internal budgets (for instance, capital assets are capitalized and amortized into income).

J. Buchanan noted the total revenue ending December 31, 2022, was \$25,937,000.

J. Buchanan completed her review of the statements, confirming there were no issues as noted in the auditor's Findings letter.

C. St. John clarified to the Board that SWPH is obligated to return monies at the end of the calendar year to the Ministry of Health. She noted that, with respect to municipalities, it is the board's decision regarding surplus monies, although it has been the practice of the board since 2019 to return unspent monies to the municipalities.

C. St. John noted the excellence and support provided by Graham Scott Ens.

M. Peterson left the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

### **5.2 Chief Executive Officers Report**

C. St. John reviewed her report.

C. St. John highlighted programs and services from her report, calling attention to the recent partnership declaration with SWPH, Middlesex London Health Unit and the Thames Valley District Schoolboard.

C. St. John called attention to the video done by the Communications team titled "Who is Southwestern Public Health." She encouraged board members to share on their social media accounts.

C. St. John noted that D. Warden and L. Rowden have confirmed their interest in serving another term as Order in Council Board appointees and staff will begin the application process.

C. St. John noted the upcoming Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) annual conference the week of June 12<sup>th</sup> and encouraged Board members to participate. J. Preston indicated his interest in attending.

D. Warden asked if the School Nutrition Program has been cancelled. C. St. John clarified that SWPH is no longer the administrator of the program in Oxford County. In Elgin County, the former Elgin St. Thomas health unit divested from that work. The Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) now runs the program in the region; SWPH remains an active supporter of the program.

B. Wheaton noted that she joined C. St. John and M. Nusink at the Oxford County and Elgin County council meetings as a delegation to present the approved budget. B. Wheaton noted that the presentations have been exceptional and well-received and useful in building relationships as well as informing the community.

L. Rowden sought clarification regarding multiple booster shot promotions.

Dr. N. Tran replied with an overview of Covid vaccinations and its appropriate application. Dr. Tran noted that after the primary series of two shots, the third dose (the first recommended booster) was widely recommended. Dr. Tran noted that immunity does wane over time, while additional boosters address the virus's mutations in order to be more effective. Dr. Tran noted that the population targeted for Fall and Spring boosters has become more nuanced, but that science continues to identify the elderly and immuno-compromised as populations that would benefit from additional boosters to prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death. Dr. Tran noted that Covid vaccination recommendations have evolved from the initial premise that the primary series would be sufficient.

#### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-5.2A)**

Moved by D. Warden

Seconded by M. Peterson

That the Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health approve the audited financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2022.

Carried.

#### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-5.2B)**

Moved by G. Jones

Seconded by L. Rowden

That the Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health appoint Graham Scott Enns as the auditing firm for the year ending December 31, 2023.

Carried.

#### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-5.2C)**

Moved by D. Warden

Seconded by M. Peterson

That the Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health ratify the signing of the Annual Service Plan for 2023.

Carried.

### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-5.2)**

Moved by D. Warden

Seconded by M. Ryan

That Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health accept the Chief Executive Officer's report for April 27, 2023.

Carried.

### **5.3 Medical Officer of Health Report for April 27, 2023**

Dr. N. Tran reviewed his report and that of the Chief Medical Officer of Health's 2022 Annual Report.

Dr. Tran highlighted the need for continued sustained investment and outbreak preparedness and the need for community and system readiness.

Dr. Tran noted the likelihood of another emergency or pandemic based on what we have learned from the past, acknowledging the significant costs to economies and all levels of society, emphasizing that populations that already face health inequities are further and disproportionately impacted by such events.

M. Ryan asked if there would be opportunities for SWPH to give input to future reports about pandemic response and population readiness and preparedness. Dr. Tran replied in the affirmative, noting there would be more opportunities to provide input.

L. Rowden noted he hopes that the lessons learned from Covid carry more weight in our future responses.

Dr. Tran reviewed the second part of his report involving other diseases of public health significance: pertussis, avian influenza, and multi-drug resistant gonorrhea.

### **Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-5.3)**

Moved by M. Ryan

Seconded by B. Wheaton

That Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health accept the Medical Officer of Health's report for April 27, 2023.

Carried.

## 7.0 TO CLOSED SESSION

### Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-C7)

Moved by M. Ryan  
Seconded by G. Jones

That the Board of Health moves to closed session in order to consider one or more the following as outlined in the Ontario Municipal Act:

- (a) the security of the property of the municipality or local board;
- (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
- (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
- (d) labour relations or employee negotiations;
- (e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board;
- (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (g) a matter in respect of which a council, board, committee or other body may hold a closed meeting under another Act;
- (h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- (i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- (j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- (k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. 2001, c. 25, s. 239 (2); 2017, c. 10, Sched. 1, s. 26.

Other Criteria:

- (a) a request under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, if the council, board, commission or other body is the head of an institution for the purposes of that Act; or
- (b) an ongoing investigation respecting the municipality, a local board or a municipally-controlled corporation by the Ombudsman appointed under the *Ombudsman Act*, an Ombudsman referred to in subsection 223.13 (1) of this Act, or the investigator referred to in subsection 239.2 (1). 2014, c. 13, Sched. 9, s. 22.

Carried.

## 8.0 RISING AND REPORTING OF CLOSED SESSION

### Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-C8)

Moved by M. Ryan  
Seconded by D. Warden

That the Board of Health rise with a report.

Carried.

### Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-C3.1)

Moved by L. Rowden  
Seconded by B. Wheaton

That the Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health approve the Chief Executive Officer's Report for April 27, 2023.

Carried.

**Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-C3.1B)**

Moved by D. Warden  
Seconded by J. Herbert

That the Board of Health for Southwestern Public Health accept the Special Ad Hoc Building Committee Report for April 27, 2023.

Carried.

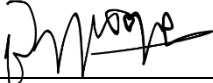
**10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution # (2023-BOH-0427-10)**

Moved by J. Couckuyt  
Seconded by J. Herbert

That the meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Carried.

Confirmed:  \_\_\_\_\_