

Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD)

Member Towns: Old Saybrook, Clinton, Deep River, Haddam, Chester, Killingworth, Durham

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Dunne, M.D., Chairman, Old Saybrook
Alan Schwarz, M.D., Old Saybrook
Rita Foster, RN MSN, V. Chairman, Clinton
Michelle Benivegna, Clinton
Carol Jones, Deep River
Vacant, Haddam
Cynthia Lignar, Chester
Eric Couture, Killingworth
William Kohlhepp, DHSc, PA-C, Durham



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MINUTES

Tuesday November 18, 2025 - CRAHD Office

2:00 PM Regular Board Meeting

VIDEO ZOOM MEETING OPTION

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82533976182?pwd=mNIE0kIhmMaLWshDRb2aefwS3cGFLq>

1. Call to Order.

Meeting called to order at 2:05 PM.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Michael Dunne, William Kohlhepp, Rita Foster,

Michelle Benivegna, Carol Jones, Eric Couture

Absent: Robert McGarry, Cindy Lignar, Alan Schwarz

Others Present: Scott Martinson, DOH, Sherry Carlson, PHN

Melissa Neri, RS

3. Approval of Minutes dated: 5/13/2025.

Minutes Approved – Kohlhepp - 2nd Dunne

Approved 6-0

4. CRAHD/BOARD – Updates.

Martinson presented a power point presentation. Martinson referenced the Governors Official Statement, naming Friday November 7th, 2025, as Environmental Health Professionals Day. Melissa Neri discussed the Morgan High School career training program that she and Rebecca drew presented to High School Seniors. Martinson discussed the distribution of food safety posters developed for all the food vendors at the Durham Fair and discussed Melissa Neri obtaining certification to be the Food Inspector Training Officer for CRAHD. Martinson discussed the success of CRAHDs food drive to support local food pantries and is nearly completed with CRAHDs mobile website. Martinson discussed his first year of being on Middlesex Health's Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) advisory committee. Martinson discussed CRAHDs per capita rates with neighboring Health Districts and area Towns served by their own Health Departments. CRAHD by far has the lowest per capita rate in our surrounding area while still providing exceptional public health services to our 7 member Towns. Carlson discussed the year 1 vaccination partnership with Stop and Shop Pharmacies. It turned out to be an excellent partnership for both sides and we were able to offer a wider variety of immunizations to our residents at our numerous clinics. We look forward to next year's partnership. Carlson discussed some emergency preparedness activities and said that she has been participating in drills and training meetings. Foster, Couture & Carlson are finishing up a CRAHD vision/mission survey.

5. Adjournment.

The meeting ended at 2:50 PM.