

Advisory Board

Joan Taverna, Cohasset
Susan Sarni, Hingham
Drew Scheele, Scituate



Advisory Board Alternate Members

Erica Souris, Scituate

South Shore Public Health Collaborative Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2026 at 10am

Attendees:

Voting members:

Susan Sarni, Hingham
Joan Taverna, Cohasset
Andrew Scheele, Scituate

Non-voting members:

Ally Gittens Dias, BME Strategies
Cynthia Baker, BME Strategies
Michelle Leary, Cohasset Town Manager

10:06am Welcome & Roll Call

Susan Sarni motioned to open the meeting. Joan Taverna seconded.
Roll Call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham)

Role Clarification: Nicole Balaschi

The committee discussed three potential staffing scenarios for the Shared Services Coordinator (SSC) role and the Cohasset Health Agent role. Discussion focused on clarifying the role of SSC at a part-time vs full-time level. The group discussed the benefits, drawbacks, and need for the SSC role at each level. The Coalition also evaluated how grant funding, salary, and benefits might be affected for FY27. It was determined that additional information would be needed prior to taking a vote. The committee will postpone the decision until further details regarding budget deadlines and role structures are finalized. BME Strategies plans to set up a meeting with Bethany Griles from OLRH to ensure plans align with OLRH expectations and standards. The Coalition will also plan to ask for an extension on the FY Budget and FY26 Budget Modification.

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Meeting Minutes

- 1) Andrew Scheele motioned to approve the June 11th Meeting Minutes. Joan Taverna seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham), Andrew Scheele (Scituate)

- 2) Andrew Scheele motioned to approve the June 15th Meeting Minutes. Joan Taverna seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham), Andrew Scheele (Scituate)

Hiring Updates

BME Strategies provided an update on hiring for the regional registered sanitarian (RS) position and the regional public health nurse (PHN) position. The hiring subcommittee identified two strong candidates for the PHN role, and the coalition is at a point where they can extend an offer to one of these candidates. It is also beneficial for the Coalition to provide a structured schedule with clear expectations to candidates. The committee will review the resumes of the final two candidates and continue the discussion in an upcoming meeting.

For the RS role, the hiring Subcommittee decided to evaluate additional candidates. Cohasset HR has identified an additional candidate to interview. This interview is in the process of being scheduled.

FY26 Budget Modification

BME Strategies outlined FY26 Expenditures to date in the Spending Tracker Spreadsheet, including details about how the proposed FY26 budget modification reflects spending and final expected expenditures. The motion to approve the proposed FY26 Budget Modification was tabled pending further review by the Coalition.

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11:04 AM Adjournment

The next coalition meeting will be on July 9, 2026 at 2pm.

Andrew Scheele (Scituate) motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Susan Sarni (Hingham).

Roll call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham), Andrew Scheele (Scituate)

Motion carried: 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 AM

Documents used and referenced during the public meeting:

- South Shore Public Health Collaborative June 29, 2026 Meeting Presentation
- FY26 Proposed Budget Modification

Please Note: *There will be no public participation in speaking at this meeting unless recognized by the chair.*

Please note that the Advisory Board may act on items in a different order than they appear on this agenda. If it so votes, the Board may go into Executive Session during the meeting. Persons interested are advised that, in the event any matter taken up at this meeting remains unfinished at the close of the meeting, it may be put off to a continued session of this meeting without further notice.

This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.