

**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Minutes for Wednesday, March 23, 2022, 7:00 PM**  
**Remote Participation**

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- 7:00 Community Input
- 7:05 COVID-19 - community status
- 7:15 Town Meeting COVID Planning – Wayne Davis, Moderator
- 7:30 Ferns Country Store – Public Water Supply update (Herweck)

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Financials

- 53E Revolving Cap
- FY23 Operating Budget – staffing
- FY21 Year End Memo

Minutes: 3/9/23

Administrative Reports

**NEW BUSINESS**

*The meeting agenda lists all topics reasonably anticipated by the Board of Health at the time of posting. Additional topics not anticipated may be discussed at the meeting under the agenda item New Business.*

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Attendance members: Tony Mariano Chairman, Jean Barry, Patrick Collins, David Erickson, Catherine Galligan  
Attendance nonmembers: Linda Fantasia Health Agent, Wanda Avril (Carlisle Mosquito), Wayne Davis, Matt Herweck, Michael Joseph

**1. Community Input**

At 19:03 Mariano opened the meeting. There was no community input.

**2. COVID-19 community status**

There were 288 cases in January 2022, 27 cases in February, and 11 cases through March 23rd--there were 4 new cases this week. Fantasia said that McGean's analysis showed that 2 of the recent cases were the BA.2 variant. Over the last 7 days Lincoln had 7 cases, Carlisle had 2 cases and Concord had 38 cases (possibly because of a community event). The BA.2 variant is similar to the original Omicron variant but even more contagious. CDC is now tracking hospitalizations rather than number of cases to inform prevention measures. The State has not produced good guidance on contact tracing. School cases should be reported to the BOH but we can no longer do contact questioning, it is up to individual to notify close contacts. There is a template that the CDC prepared to help individuals decide who they should notify. The template will be added to the town's website.

**3. Town Meeting Planning**

Wayne Davis, Moderator, is looking for advice on dealing with Covid. The Town Meeting date is late April and unfortunately, we do not know how BA.2 will evolve. Town meeting is a little different from other meetings in that it is important for running our town government and we cannot provide the option of using Zoom and voting remotely. Davis is particularly concerned with ensuring that immunocompromised individuals can safely participate. He is thinking of designating a portion of the auditorium where people can maintain social distance. He will not order people to wear masks. The cafeteria is set up for people with young kids but might also have a section for people to maintain social distance. The use of the cafeteria tends to vary with what is on the warrant and without the pickleball issue he expects there will not be that many families present. Barry suggested that we

might have a larger number of HEPA filters set up. There was some concern that noise could be an issue with HEPA filters, but Galligan said that at least on low speed they are unobtrusive. Davis will check with the new school facilities person about what is available through the school. Barry noted that we should follow CDC guidelines regarding masking. Mariano asked about staggered seating in the auditorium unless the house is packed. Davis does not think it will be too large a crowd because most of the remaining issues are relatively uncontroversial. Davis would not open the divider to the upper level unless there is an uptick in cases. Davis noted that it is important to get information to people before the meeting so they can make an informed decision about participation and protection. The BOH will be meeting on April 6 and probably April 20 so if Covid worsens we can revise plans before the Town Meeting.

#### **4. Fern's Country Store Public Water Supply Update**

There has been a concern with water quality. DEP issued a Boil Water Order last summer when e. Coli was detected. At that time Skilling's examined the well and discovered a crack, unfortunately, sealing the crack stopped the flow to the well so a new well is needed--either drilling in place or at a new location. There was a meeting with Matt Herweck, the BOH and DEP to discuss options and to take interim actions to ensure safe operations with weekly testing. Unfortunately, testing has stopped because SWSS has not been paid and no action has occurred in developing a new water source or in properly treating the water. Fantasia spoke with the DEP, and they are concerned that the water supply does not meet public drinking water standards and the lack of effort in addressing the problem. Fantasia reported that Fern's had not properly renewed their permit in January and was operating the deli without a permit. For a food permit, there must be an approved water source. Fantasia spoke with the Town Counsel, and they recommended not issuing a food permit until the water supply is corrected. Since the call to Town Counsel Fern's has submitted an application to renew their food permit and paid SWSS who will resume testing. The latest testing for the store shows no coliform and it has been a while since they detected e. coli, which is why the state lifted the Boil Water Order in December. These problems have been exacerbated because Fern's is leasing the property and the owner had not been paying the bills. Fern's has since paid SWSS directly and they will resume testing and Fern's has made an offer to buy the property, which would mean they could have complete responsibility. Fern's has also reached out to several engineers about designing a water system but have not yet found an engineer willing to take it on.

After some additional discussion Collins moved to not approve the permit since there is not an approved water source. Galligan seconded the motion, which was then approved by Mariano, Barry, Collins, and Galligan with Erickson abstaining. The Board noted that the Food Service Permit only applies to the Deli. The retail market which only provides commercially prepackaged products can remain open as well as the wine and beer store. The Board is willing to remove the temporary closure as soon as the drinking water source is approved by DEP.

#### **5. 53E revolving Cap**

We had a very busy year; our revolving account has been capped at \$70,000 and as of last week we only had \$2,500 to last until June 30. We have submitted a letter to temporarily raise the cap to \$100,000 for the remainder of FY22. Expenses were high because Frado had to spend a significant amount of time on Benfield and 15 SDS applications that came in for the Still Meadows development. Gines and Fantasia have been tracking engineering and it has been increasing by about 30%/year. Fantasia spoke with Kimberly Kane, Finance Director, and she suggested a warrant item to raise the cap to \$100,000 for FY23. Galligan moved that we seek to raise the cap to \$100,000 which was then approved unanimously.

#### **6. Year-end memo**

Fantasia sent a memo detailing FY21 activity.

#### **7. Minutes 3/9/22**

Galligan moved to approve the 3/9/22 minutes as amended. Collins seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

#### **8. Administrative Reports**

Clean Harbors is increasing their rates by 8-15% but they are cutting back and cannot commit to a date for hazardous waste collection. Costs have increased significantly for transporting waste. Mariano asked about

alternatives and Galligan said that Sudbury uses a different company, Fantasia and Gines are looking into options. There is also the possibility that we could rejoin the Minuteman regional group.

**Woodward Village (WV)** held a preconstruction meeting with the project manager and installer, Collins has volunteered to be the BOH representative. WV hoped to start next week but needs to pay a second deposit to cover the town's engineering costs for the field work.

See full report below.

## 9. Adjourn

Collins moved to adjourn, seconded, and approved unanimously. Adjourned at 20:31. Next meetings are set for 4/06/22 and 4/20/22

Respectfully submitted,

David Erickson,  
Recorder

Meeting Materials

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

March 23, 2022

**Hazardous Waste Collection** – notice from Clean Harbors on rate increase as of 4/1/22 by 8 – 15%, date of collection TBD

**Woodward Village** – septic system pre-installation meeting was held 3/16/22; WV invoiced deposit for field work (\$4000); hope to start in another week; expected 15-18 build out. Two building permits issued. Additional permits require Fire Dept. approval of the cistern. Inspections will be done on Tues and Th, if possible, to keep Wed open for other Town engineering work.

**Public Health Excellence (PHE) Grant** - PHE: 0.5 FTE Shared Services Coordinator (Kelli Caeli), 1 FTE Regional Public Health Nurse, 1 FTE Regional Health Inspector, 0.5 FTE PHN, and 1 FTE Community Health Coordinator. CT/CI (Wayland's grant): 0.2 FTE Shared Services Coordinator, 1 FTE Public Health Nurse, 1 FTE Epidemiologist

**Benfield Farms** – fees paid through January 2022 (\$21,225.75); formalizing agreement with CAQ Engineering Associates, Inc. (Carolos Quintal) for FAST System start-up and operations

**Garrison Place** – Certificate of Compliance released 3/21/22. All conditions satisfied. O&M updated and submitted (hard copy and pdf). Latest testing by SWSS noted high levels of sludge in bioreactor which may be a concern. They will continue to monitor. Monitoring well results could also use BOH review.

**Private Well Legislation** – statewide code for private wells. Currently the state only has guidelines. Local authorities could have supplementary regulations similar to Title 5. MHOA looking for support.

[S.2667, "An Act Promoting Drinking Water Quality for All"](#)

## Ongoing Projects

Carlisle Board of Health Minutes  
Meeting Date: March 23, 2022  
Approved: April 6, 2022

Page 3 of 4

Large Development Compliance  
Operations and Maintenance Template  
Presentation on PFAs