

BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes for Monday, August 22, 2022, 7:00 PM
Remote Participation

- 7:00 Community Input
- 7:05 Public Health Nurse Report (Tricia McGean)
- COVID-19 Community Updates
 - Flu Clinic Planning
- 7:20 Great Meadows Public Health Coalition
- Introduction and appointment of Sanitarian (Ann Loree)
- 7:30 Fern's Country Store –
- Food Establishment Permit Modification
 - Public Water Supply Status

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MA Drought Alert – Level 3
Large Development Work Group – recommendations
Benfield Farms – FAST system update
Woodward Village – septic system progress
Technical Assistant Grant - TBD
Minutes 7/13/22
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.

Attendance members: Tony Mariano Chairman, Patrick Collins, Jean Barry, David Erickson, Cathy Galligan

Attendance nonmembers: Fantasia Health Agent, Tricia McGean RN, Barney Arnold, Amy R. Etherington, Kris Gines, Michael Joseph, Ann Loree, David Model select board

1. Community Input

Tony Mariano called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. There was no community input.

2. COVID-19 community status

McGean said that Carlisle has had a good month with the State testing reporting only 5 positive cases with 2 from the same household; the age range was 20-60 years old. Households can now obtain 3 rounds of testing from <https://www.covid.gov/tests> (as of now, September 11, 2022, this directs you to local resources but does not seem to offer free test kits). The Omicron specific booster may be available next month (BA.4 and BA.5 variants). The BOH can obtain

vaccine from the State for a Covid booster/vaccine clinic if interested. Carlisle has booked Walgreens for a Senior Flu Clinic on Friday October 7, from 10-3. We will need volunteers to help with the clinic.

McGean will handle homebound immunizations (typically have about 20). Homebound residents can also call the State to come out for COVID vaccines and boosters.

School will open on August 31. The State is no longer offering free rapid test kits for schools. DESE recommends that schools only test symptomatic kids. McGean is seeing an uptick on wastewater numbers and expects Covid to increase with school and cold weather.

When asked about current Covid symptoms, McGean said she doesn't know for Carlisle, since we are no longer tracking cases. Most people she has seen from other towns at Emerson Hospital have a comorbidity; she doesn't have a good grasp on what the symptoms are currently. Galligan said she has heard about scratchy throats and has heard stories of people who have Covid but continue to test negative. The CDC recommends using a rapid test twice 48 hours apart. Some people feel that they may have Covid even though the test was negative. McGean recommends a PCR test, but you should stay home and get a PCR test if you are symptomatic. McGean has also just seen a case of flu so that may become more common as well.

3. Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative, introduction, and appointment of Sanitarian (Ann Loree)

The Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative (GMPHC) was created by a grant of the State to 7 towns (Bedford, Carlisle, Concord, Lincoln, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston). Its purpose is to build capacity, providing additional assistance and surge capacity. They have hired a full-time coordinator and full and part time Public Health nurses, as well a full-time inspector. The Towns meet every other Friday via Zoom. Each community has been provided an iPad with ACCESS TO Food Code Pro, a software inspection application. GMPHC also has its own web site under construction (coming soon). Ann Loree has been hired as the Sanitary Inspector and she has helped with Ferns in her first week on the job. Fantasia gave a brief introduction of Loree who was previously the Health Director in Westminster. She is experienced in food, water, pool, and septic inspections. The GMPHC will be able to help if we have too many inspections to handle.

The GMPHC also hired an epidemiologist, Dr. Ann Bauer who has been tracking masking data from each of the communities and is doing a report on monkey pox. There are actually 2 grants, one of \$300000 for the GMPHC and the other \$476000 to Wayland for Covid follow-up/tracing. Galligan asked whether we should we resume contact tracing using these resources. Fantasia said the grant is supposed to supplement, not replace, local resources and we can't use grant resources until we use our own resources.

The BOH has been asked to authorize Ann Loree to act as our agent when carrying out her duties in Carlisle.

Galligan moved that we approve the authorization for Ann Loree of the GMPHC to act as the Carlisle BOH Agent for the purpose of carrying out inspections within the Town of Carlisle. Collins seconded the motion which was approved unanimously

4. Fern's Country Store

Ferns has opted out for tonight and wants to meet with us next time.

Fantasia said that they will be meeting about their application to serve ice cream and they have hired a consultant. The other issue they need to address is water and in July the DEP realized

they had not received the weekly sampling results. The filter was installed and there is still coliform but below the level that would prevent effective food service. SWSS says their invoices are not being paid, and at one point they were not going to take Ferns back as a client, but they came back on August 3rd so that issue has been resolved currently.

When the well failed in March/April, Ferns indicated they would be putting in a deeper well but the DEP and BOH have not seen any plans. Mariano asked about the current system and Fantasia said it's temporary so he does need to proceed with a new well; anything could happen with the weekly samples.

5. Benfield – CAQ report

Quintal sent an update; they continue to sample but the system is not getting sufficient flow to stabilize treatment. The Equalization tank is 4000gal. and is getting on average 2000gal. Quintal believes it is on the right track but needs more time. Mariano has noticed Quintal has some outstanding invoices (one since May). Fantasia was curious about that because she hasn't seen any new invoices and believes he was paid for the initial 2 invoices. Mariano said there should be one from May and one from July.

There has been no further contact with residents on air quality problems.

6. Woodward Village

There has been no field work by Frado, the BOH engineer, in July except for 1 visit of 1 hour. Installation is going well, and they are sending Frado photos. Everything is moving along but they are not currently doing much work on the actual septic system. The force main has been laid out and Frado has approved the final pressure test. Things will pick up when they install the components, FAST system, etc., at which point Frado will be on site more often.

7. Technical Assistant Grant

Fantasia said we could qualify for a grant of up to \$20,000 which we might use to hire a consultant to review and oversee the cleanup at Ferns. Mariano asked Fantasia to reach out to a consultant about the grant.

8. Drought

Mariano said that a lot of people in town are concerned about the drought, and it is important to discuss the situation. Mariano noted that while the BOH regulates local private wells the State has overriding authority and public water systems are under state guidance. There was considerable discussion of the drought and Mariano gave an overview of aquifers vs shallow wells. There have been no reports of wells going dry, but the Select Board is concerned about drought conditions. In the end we decided that while the BOH would not issue any formal water use restrictions, it would encourage people to conserve water.

9. Large development work group

The Large Development Work group has provided proposed new regulations for large developments as well as a new fee schedule (see below). Collins thought these would currently be policies.

Galligan moved that we accept the new language suggested by the Large Development Group, Barry seconded the motion which was then approved unanimously

10. Minutes 7/13/22

Galligan moved that we accept amended minutes of 7/13/22, Barry seconded and approved unanimously

11. Miscellaneous

Administrative reports have been covered.

Fantasia attended a meeting today where she learned the 4A Medical Reserve Corps will be re-formed into 3 subregional medical corps, Middlesex, MetroWest, and Central Middlesex. Carlisle will fall into the Central Middlesex group, which includes Woburn, Winchester, and Concord. The initial regional medical Corp was too large and some of the requirements will be lifted. Individual towns can still have their own volunteers. Barry moved that we write a letter to acknowledge the reorganization, Galligan seconded, approved unanimously.

Mariano emphasized the importance of the PFAS discussion. There have been big changes in the EPA proposed action levels with limits going down from parts per trillion (PPT) to parts per quadrillion (PPQ). There are strong health concerns about the compounds, and it is important that we get the word out.

Galligan is looking into the ARPA funds we received for the vaccination clinic. When we originally put in the request, we were funded for the vaccination clinic, Galligan would like to ask about expanding the scope to prevention and preparedness.

12. Adjourn

Next meetings 9/14/22 and 9/27/22.

Collins moves to adjourn, Barry seconds which was approved. Meeting adjourned at 21:14.

Respectfully submitted,
David Erickson,
Recorder

Additional Regulations for Multi-Family Developments

Owner Representative

In addition to the Licensed Installer and Project Manager, Owner shall designate an Owner Representative to coordinate the overall progress of the development with the Board's Agent(s).

Local Authority

The Board's engineering consultant, acting as the Agent for the Board of Health, will be the sole judge of the acceptability of the field work under state and local codes.

Dispute Resolution

Disputes and disagreements relating to the Permit requirements and/or acceptability of the field work shall be referred to the Health Department in writing with a request for a decision. No further field work will be done by the Board's engineering consultant until the matter is resolved. The Health Department will render a decision promptly in writing after consultation with the engineering consultant and the Board of Health or other entity as deemed necessary. A request for a hearing before the full Board of Health shall be made to the Health Department in writing within 10 days of receipt of the dispute decision.

Requests for Special Engineering Services

Additional Inspectional Services (Field work) – \$145 per hour (or as amended)

There are times during the construction of a large development when additional Board of Health Inspectional Services may become necessary for the work to continue. Requests for these additional services must be submitted by the Owner Representative and pre-approved by the Health Department. Scheduling of services will reflect the consulting engineer's availability and Health Department work in queue. These services will be billed at the engineering hourly rate at the time of services plus \$10/hr to cover administrative costs (currently \$135/hr plus \$10/hr).

Additional Technical Assistance - \$273.00 per hour (or as amended)

Emergency circumstances or unexpected conditions may result in a property owner or developer requesting additional technical assistance from the Board of Health's engineering consultant, such as design meetings with engineers, construction meetings (on or off site) or permit amendments. Requests for these additional services must be submitted by the Owner Representative and pre-approved by the Health Department. Scheduling of services will reflect the consulting engineer's availability and Health Department work in queue. These services will be billed at the Board of Health's rate at the time of services (currently \$273.00 per hour).