



Town of West Boylston
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

The Board of Health (BOH) Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting:	04-19-2023/ 6:00PM / Room 120 (Land Use Meeting Room)
Members Present	John Sullivan, Robert Barrell, Thomas Mullins, Christopher Whelan, Tracy Gagnon
Members NOT Present	N/A
Invited Guests	Soloe Dennis, Director of Public Health CMRPHA
Welcome – Call to Order	Time: 6:00PM by Chair Dr. Sullivan
Approval of Previous Minutes	Minutes for meeting 03-15-2023, were approved and signed by those present. Minutes for meeting 02-08-2023 were re-signed after the typo correction.

On a motion by Mr. Barrell, seconded by Mr. Whelan, the Board voted to approve the minutes of 03/15/2023. On a motion by Mr. Barrell, second by Ms. Gagnon the Board voted to approve the minutes of 02/08/2023 (after typo was corrected).

All in favor.

- **COVID-19 updates:**

Dr. Sullivan stated that we are in a stable position regarding COVID-19. The most recent information from the Biobot reports sewerage showing RNA counts of 200 to 300 copies per milliliter. Dr. Sullivan mentioned that the XBB variant accounts for 99 percent of the infections found in the United States. There are no new variants to report at this time. UMass and St. Vincent's Hospital reported approximately 30 to 40 patients per day test positive for COVID-19. Those patients are not being admitted for COVID-19, but rather for other medical reasons. Dr. Sullivan stated that members of the scientific community believe fully immunized persons with one booster do not need to receive an additional bivalent booster. However, if persons are high risk, immunosuppressed or have underlying medical conditions, it is recommended to get the bivalent booster.

- **Central MA Regional Health Alliance**

Soloe Dennis, Worcester's Director of Public Health, reported on behalf of Micah Blondeau, the Regional Environmental Health Specialist. There were fifteen completed inspections, two mobile food permits issued (Mortar and Pestle, West Boylston Little

League Snack Shack), two body art permits issued, (Mario Jorge Penedo Barros @ ZAZA Ink, Brandi Daugherty at The Heritage Rose) and six complaints.

- **Public Health Emergency Preparedness**

The PHEP Equipment Trailer is still in need of repair. Alissa Errede, Chief Office of Health & Emergency Preparedness, has been in contact with the Board of Health Administrative Assistant on the progress of repairs regarding the PHEP trailer. Board member, Mr. Barrell, mentioned the possibility of housing the PHEP trailer in a new garage at the West Boylston Municipal Light Plant . Still awaiting an update.

- **Office Report**

Administrative Assistant Margret Lee gave her final office report. There are a total of 5 cases of COVID-19 reported in town. Ms. Lee stated there have been 135 Permits approved in 2023 to date, with three pending. There have been no significant changes made in the financial report. Board member, Mr. Barrell, had questions regarding the Board of Health's budget for the upcoming fiscal year (FY2024). Dr. Sullivan asks Ms. Prichard to report back with information from the drafted Board of Health budget for FY2024 at the next meeting.

Next Proposed BOH Meeting Date

Proposed for 05-10-2023 by Dr. Sullivan. Ms. Prichard will email Board members for confirmation.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Dr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Whelan. All in favor

Meeting Adjourned at 6:43PM

Signatures

John Sullivan, MD , Chair

Christopher Whelan, MEd

Tracy Gagnon, MEd, Vice Chair

Thomas F. Mullins, MD

Robert J. Barrell, MPA

Submitted by: Jessica Prichard
Date Submitted: 05-05-2023

