



Town of West Boylston

140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

The Board of Health (BOH) Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting:

05-10-2023/ 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

Micah Blondeau, Regional Environmental Health Coordinator

Welcome – Call to Order

Time: 6:00PM by Chair Dr. Sullivan

Approval of Previous Minutes

Meeting minutes for 04-18-2023: Mr. Mullins asks Ms. Prichard to please correct the area in which the PHEP trailer potentially will be stored to West Boylston's Municipal Light Plant. Ms. Prichard will fix it before submitting it to post.

On a motion by Ms. Gagnon, seconded by Mr. Whelan, the Board voted to approve the minutes of 04/18/2023.

All in favor.

- **COVID-19 updates:**

Dr. Sullivan stated that we are currently seeing the lowest levels of the COVID-19 virus and UMASS has stopped reporting COVID positive patients at the hospital. Dr. Sullivan introduced an experimental collaborated wastewater scan dashboard that shows the levels of Sars-CoV-2, Influenza/Influenza A, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Monkey Pox (MPox), Human Metapneumovirus and Norovirus in our community. Dr. Sullivan believes these types of scans are the future of monitoring viral activity due to the wastewater scans ability to monitor and track a number of different pathogens throughout our communities.

- **Central MA Regional Health Alliance**

Soloe Dennis, Worcester's Director of Public Health, reported that the first health alliance meeting was held at the beginning of May to discuss the proposed IMA between West Boylston and the Central MA Regional Health Alliance's government structure, funding into the IMA for the scope of services around data, nursing and environmental health. Mr. Barrell asks the question if there will be funding from the state that will be put into the alliance as well. Mr. Dennis assures Mr. Barrell there will be state funding. The IMA for West Boylston's collaboration with the

Central MA Regional Health Alliance is currently in a draft form and is awaiting approval from the Selectboard and the Board of Health of West Boylston. The new IMA is set to begin on July 1st 2023, (Fiscal Year 2024- FY2024).

Micah Blondeau, CMRHA's Regional Environmental Health Coordinator reports one housing complaint; issue has been resolved and routine food inspections. Mr. Blondeau stated there has been no recent food borne illness complaints. Mr. Barrell asked if there was an awareness of the newly implemented State Sanitary Code that was re-written as of May 2023. Mr. Blondeau is unsure if they have adopted the new changes. Mr. Dennis mentions that the new codes have not yet been adopted yet.

- **Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)**

The PHEP Equipment Trailer is still in need of repair. Mr. Dennis stated that there has been a third party contracted to fix the PHEP trailer. The company is located in Charlton, Massachusetts. Mr. Dennis mentioned that the Board of Health's administrative assistant will be contacted directly by the company to schedule an official date of repair for the PHEP trailer. Mr. Barrell asks what has been outlined for trailer repairs. Mr. Dennis responds that the consultant will look at the exterior of the trailer, fix what is necessary and possibly replenish the interior supplies if they are out of date.

- **Office Report**

Administrative Assistant Ms. Prichard reports that the Board of Health FY2024 budget will not have the \$9,000 tax levy it once had in previous years. The new administrative assistant salary will be paid for out of the Building Department budget. Ms. Prichard reports 137 approved permits with two still pending. Title 5 status has had changes. NHB Construction applied for a septic abandonment permit for 104 Shrine Ave, and will be in touch with Phil Leger. 114 Lee St was completed and signed off by Mr. Leger. There has been no additional progress to report on other Title 5 projects. Through the chair, the draft form for the Environmental Tobacco Smoke Regulations will be put on the agenda for June 2023.

Next Proposed BOH Meeting Date

Proposed for 06-14-2023 by Dr. Sullivan. Ms. Prichard will email Board members for confirmation.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Ms. Gagnon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Whelan. All in favor

Meeting Adjourned at 6:18PM

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: 06-09-2023