

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at 6:00pm

Via Zoom # 288 065 7034 or in person

Present: Board Members: Herb Butzke, Chair, Dan Poplawski, Board Member, Joanne Semanie, Board Member, Rachel Lewis, RN and Christine Bailey, Health Clerk. **Joining the meeting:** Bill Knittle, Principal and Lydia Brisson, RN – Rowe Elementary School and Lisa Danek Burke and Randy Crochier - FRCOG

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Herb Butzke at the Rowe Town Hall

Rowe Elementary School Discussion: Principal Knittle and Lydia Brisson, RN read the CDC guidelines requesting the children/staff of the school return unmasked come the new school year. Herb read the current COVID statistics commenting the threat remains low. Lydia said the school would continue to COVID test and follow the CDC guidelines. The group all agreed with returning to unmasked if the statistics remain low and the school continues to follow CDC guidelines along with testing when needed. Lydia will submit to the group some guidelines for approval to send to all families. Lisa Danek Burke of FRCOG said they monitor all the schools within Franklin County and are always available for questions/guidance. Bill Knittle, Lydia Brisson left the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

FRCOG: The board discussed the Septic Pumping report at 169 Ford Hill Road. Also, discussed was the Sewage Disposal System and Well Water system at 72 Brittingham Hill Road. Lisa Danek Burke of FRCOG ask the BOH to forward copies of both reports to her and Randy. Herb asked Randy to review restrictions on Tight Tanks in relation to pumping requirements and seasonal use. Lisa Danek Burke and Randy Crochier left the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

General Business:

- The minutes for the July 20, 2022, and July 27, 2022, meetings were reviewed and approved.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve all invoices.

Transfer Station

- The Transfer Station logs were reviewed and read by Dan Poplawski.
- Christine reported 186 dump tags (out of 204) were purchased to date. She will send a postcard following up with the residents who have not purchased to date. September 1, 2022, the cost will increase from \$25.00 to \$50.00.
- Herb met with Russ Donelson to discuss the Dump compost roof. Russ will get back with Herb on a possible quote. Christine will contact J.S. Rae to see if their quote still stands. She will also check with more contractors to possibly secure another quote.
- An FYI email from Jan Ameen was read concerning fuel charges for hauls.

Nurse Updates:

- Rachel said the COA decided at their August 3, 2022, meeting to begin hosting foot clinics beginning in October. The clinics will be held monthly at the town hall from 9:00am-3:30pm. They have a \$6,000 budget for medical attention/awareness to the aging in the Community.
Rachel is working on setting up the town employees CPR course for September. It should run around 2-1/2 to 3 hours.
- Monkey Pox and Covid updates: There has been reported 157 cases and no deaths of Monkey Pox in Massachusetts. It is said not to be contagious. The new Covid vaccine

(Novavax) should be ready in possibly fall. There has been a recent up-tick in cases, but deaths and hospitalization are controlled.

- Home visits and in-house patients have increased the past two weeks. Rachel has seen 72 patients or approximately 10 a day. She said it is around 50% regulars and mostly legitimate visits. Rachel said at the time being, there is no VNA or home care services in the area.
- Rachel said she will be on vacation the week of August 22, 2022. She will have Janice put out a robo call informing the residents. Rachel will also need to rearrange some of her days/hours the following week due to doctor appointments but will leave a note on her office door.

Water Testing: Herb reviewed the Housatonic Basin Sampling Testing and the Eurofins Environment Analytical Report. All were at safe levels.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was reviewed:

- Cooperative Public Health Service Report

New Business: *(Unforeseen matters not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours of the meeting)*

Resident Comments/Questions: *It is requested that residents wait for comments during a meeting until recognized by the Chairperson.*

Meeting Adjourned: 7:17 pm unanimously

Next meeting August 24, 2022 at 6:00 pm

Approved:

Herb Butzke, Chair

Daniel Poplawski

Joanne Semanie