

# Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Via Zoom # 288 065 7034 or in person

**Present: Board Members:** Herb Butzke, Chair; Dan Poplawski and Joanne Semanie, Board Members; Christine Bailey, Health Clerk and Rachel Lewis, RN

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

## General Business:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the February 15, 2023, meeting.

**FY23 Budget/Payables:** No invoices submitted.

## Transfer Station

- The Transfer Station logs were reviewed and read by Dan Poplawski.
- Jan Ameen submitted the CY21 vs CY22 tonnage comparison. Herb noted that the Town is doing much better on recycling.
- Jan Ameen emailed the increases for the FY24 hauling prices. The Board felt the budgeted 5% increase should be ample funds for FY24.
- Jan Ameen emailed the FY24 Transfer Station hauling cost estimates. Initially, Waste Management submitted price increases ranging from 10-25% higher, which she said was unacceptable. With negotiation, Rowe renewal would have an average increase of 5% except tandem hauls. Jan suggested doubling up on the hauls even if the haul is half full.
- Herb has been attending the OSHA Safety Plan zoom meetings. The last presentation was on "Spills". A template was provided if the Town needed to produce a plan.

**FRCOG's Annual Report:** FRCOG's 2022 annual report will be coming out soon. Christine will submit it to Brook Shulda, Administrative Assistant for the Annual Report.

**Title 5: John Hillier/Coastline Property Renovations:** Christine will send to Herb all Title 5/Septic information on properties owned by Coastline Property Renovations. Christine will email Randy Crochier at FRCOG for any updates on his end.

## Nursing Updates:

- Individual Statistics: February-10 days worked, 86 patients, avg 8.6pts/day....a few totally new patients over the last 2 weeks, a few hospitalizations recently, I will expect to have a month or two of increased home visits once people are back at home.
- Lifepath Seminar: March 23rd 1-230pm, food, drink and raffle (2 Avery's gift cards), sent out EDDM to everyone in Rowe, put in Goal post and will do Robo-call prior to event.
- Covid updates: Past 7 days: 3,850 new cases in Mass, positivity rate 6.7% (down from 4,591 cases and 7.6%, 2 weeks ago). Franklin County: 42 cases in past 2 weeks with 4.3% positivity (down from 2 weeks ago). 0 Reported cases in Rowe
- \*Total hospitalizations in Mass in past 7 days: 618 people hospitalized with Covid and 183 primarily for Covid (down slightly from 2 weeks ago).
- \*Total deaths in Mass in past 7 days: 85 deaths in Mass (down slightly from 2 weeks ago). 2 deaths in Franklin County over last 2 weeks
- Flu updates: ILI is 1.85% (similar to 2 weeks ago), hospitalizations 0.25% (similar to 2 weeks ago) and overall flu activity is 'Low' (and is 'minimal' in Western Mass) for 4th week in a row

**DEP: Model BOH Regulations for Private Wells:** Christine received an email dated 3/1/2022 on DEP Model Regulations for Private Wells. She will forward to the BOH for review.

**OPIOID Settlement Regional Project - Updates:** Christine will complete the OPIOID online survey noting the three areas the Board felt would best benefit the Town: School Prevention Curriculum; Narcan Training and Back Prevention Training. She will also send Dave an email in setting up a Stabilization Fund. Joanne said the BOS will be discussing the funds at their next meeting.


**NEW BUSINESS:** N/A

*Meeting Adjourned: 6:39 pm unanimously*

*Next meeting: March 15, 2023, at 6:00 pm*

*Approved:*

  
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Herb Butzke, Chair

  
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Daniel Poplawski

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Joanne Semanie