



Town of Boxford

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

June 22, 2021

NO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE - REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

6:30PM

Virtual Participation Only

**This meeting will be audio and video recorded
To View: FIOS #39; Comcast #22; BCATv website
For Directions to Participate via Zoom Click Here**

ZOOM Meeting ID: 977 4704 5762

Passcode: 478630

Present: Richard Taylor, Richard Fahrner, Alex Constan, Hans Jeppesen, Kendell Longo, Kristin Kwiatek, Lance Cluster, Dan Johnson, Kimberly Foss, Kelsey Evans, Kate King, Tim Kenney, Jim Nocella, Roy Boyer, Rich Cowdell

Absent: Heather Forand

Meeting opened at 6:30 PM by D. Taylor

Roll call indicated that the following members of the Board of Health were present remotely: **D. Taylor, R. Fahrner, A. Constan, Hans Jeppesen**

Announcements

Town meeting is Saturday June 26, 2021 10:00am at Masconomet High School. The Health Board has Article 15 on the agenda which is the fee for the garbage bags. The board agreed on providing a short announcement on the proper way to prepare cardboard for curbside recycling. **D. Taylor** discussed with the Board about giving a Covid update at Town meeting.

Bills

D. Taylor reviewed with the Board the current bills payable totaling \$14,553.52. A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to accept the total bills of \$14,553.52 **seconded** by **A. Constan**. **Approved** unanimously with a roll call vote.

Variance 63 Pyebrook Lane

Dan Johnson of Domestic Septic Design was present to request a variance for 63 Pyebrook Lane. The Board of Health voted at their meeting on June 22, 2021 to grant the following requested variances to the Individual Sewage Disposal System Plan for 63 Pyebrook Lane, dated 5/18/21 and submitted to this office on May 25, 2021.

Boxford Board of Health Regulation 201-9D. No leaching facility in those cases where the percolation rate is less than five (5) minutes per inch shall be installed within 150 feet of a well used as a potable water supply. Specifically, the Board of Health voted that the leaching facility shall be located no less than 115 from the well serving the property.

Boxford Board of Health Regulation 201-9E. No leaching facility in those cases where the percolation rate is less than five (5) minutes per inch shall be installed within 150 feet of a wetland resource area. Specifically, the Board of Health voted that the leach facility shall be located no less than 101 feet to a wetland resource area.

A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to approve the variance for 63 Pyebrook Lane from local regulations to 101 foot distance to the wetlands and 115 foot distance to the well be granted based on the conditions that 1) the wetlands are delineated and 2) that the leaching facility shall be located no less than 115 feet from the well. The variance is approved based on the fact that it is the best solution given the conditions of the lot and on condition of a Nitrogen reduction system such as a Presby, **seconded** by **A. Constan**. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

NEMMCD

Entomologist Kimberly Foss, Kelsey Evans BOH liaison, and Kate King Wetlands Coordinator from the NEMMCD were present at the meeting for a discussion with the Health Board. **R. Fahrner** inquired on risk vs. previous years on West Nile and EEE. It was discussed that last Fall and Spring have been dry but the mosquito population can change within one week. The Culiseta Melanura mosquitos that are responsible for EEE are extremely low in the Northern part of Massachusetts but there has been a spike in the Culex mosquito populations that attribute to the West Nile Virus. The opt out spraying program on the State site was discussed as well as the exclusion plan on aerial spraying. The opt out has to be done annually. In the state of an emergency aerial spraying would override opt out also in a risk situation, a knock down of a species can be performed in a district. **D. Taylor** asked about larviciding and what will be done in Boxford. Nine site inspections were done for Spring larviciding and only one area was treated, 713 catch basins were treated on June 7th for West Nile and summer treatments will be ongoing soon. **D. Taylor** asked if they have been in touch with the Chris Olbrot, the Director of the DPW and the importance of reaching out to him. **A. Constan** mentioned the number of trap sites in town and asked if more should be added. It was explained that all the surrounding towns have traps and if there is a hit on West Nile or EEE in the district, supplementals that are moveable will be set up in high-risk areas to look for bridge vectors. The historic traps are not moveable but they draw in mosquitoes up to 5 miles which encircle the radius of the surrounding towns. Kimberly Foss, the Entomologist spoke on the Polyfluoroalkyl substances and that it is an ongoing issue and that all their pesticide containers are PFAS free. **R. Fahrner** stated that PFAS is a plasticizer in plastics that can leach through soils and ground water and is listed as a carcinogen and does not breakdown. **R. Fahrner** mentioned that there was no

larviciding in the crypts during the winter because there was not enough water. Kimberly Foss said that the Melanura population keeps decreasing because of this and hopefully that will prevent a third year of EEE. **R. Fahrner** said a benefit of being a part of NEMMC is having access to the tracking data and disease movement through the State. **R. Fahrner** asked about Zenivex and there is also a new product, Suspend Polyzone that lasts three months for barrier treatments. The Safety Data Sheet will be sent to **K. Longo**. **A. Constan** mentioned the benefit of the treatment could prevent the fields from being closed when treated. It was said that it is a barrier treatment but not an adulticide so it would be used as a preventative but not a reactive.

Waste Management Discussion

A series of slides were presented and the Board started a discussion among only Board members with comments from the floor to follow. **D. Taylor** stated a few of the trash issues that continuously occurring such as streets being skipped and pick ups for missed residents being over 24 hours. **A. Constan** also called in 8 missed streets over the Memorial Day week. **D. Taylor** stated that Thursday missed pick ups that should be collected on Friday by Groveland does not happen and does not get collected until Monday. **A. Constan** mentioned that one of the likely sources is that the split trucks are loading out faster. **R. Fahrner** said that when the contract was initiated that Waste Management requested to be in Town for more days during the week to be able to service the Town. **D. Taylor** addressed the contract and liquidation. The Board focused on Batchelder Road. **D. Taylor** proposed to invoke Article IV of the contract with Waste Management and assess liquidation damages of \$1,600.00 for breach of contract. The Board also discussed equipment issues and missing entire streets. **D. Taylor** proposed making a formal request that additional equipment be assigned to Boxford by Waste Management. **A. Constan** added that even though there have been good conversations with Waste Management, the issues are still happening where as the right equipment is probably not resourced for the Town. Memorial Day week was bad and the Board is responsible to make sure the residents get better service. **D. Taylor** opened the discussion to the floor. Tim Kenney, the Senior District Manager for the Londonderry hauling company spoke about the Pandemic and the national driver shortage that is greatly impacting the municipal service. He said the missed streets are due to new drivers that are not familiar with the routes. Roy Boyer, Accounting Manager for Waste Management spoke about the missed pick up rate and how its very low. **A. Constan** stated that it is easier for residents to message him and **D. Taylor** said that residents gave up on the call center. **R. Fahrner** stated that the Board's responsibility is to ensure that trash is being picked up in the Town and that a healthy environment is maintained. One of the continuously missed houses is a Selectman's house so there is visibility at the highest level in Boxford and this has been going on since before Covid. **H. Jeppesen** asked if there is software out there that could alert a driver that a street was missed. Jim Nocella, Director of Public Sector of New England asked the Board to allow Waste Management to develop a plan on how to address the missing street issue. **A. Constan** mentioned Lockwood Lane bridge issue to Waste Management. **D. Taylor** suggested that the Board should pass the approval of the fine but to not currently apply the fine until it is revisited at the next meeting. A motion was made by **A. Constan** to approve liquidation damages against Waste Management of \$1600.00 for breach of contract said liquidation damages to be reviewed for in statement at the next meeting and pending the review of the performance improvement plan **seconded** by **R. Fahrner**. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

A **motion** was made by **A. Constan** to pass and hold off on the formal request to Waste Management to add additional equipment for Boxford collections to meet the contract until the next meeting **seconded** by **R. Fahrner**. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

D. Taylor said there is a real problem with people complaining about missed pick-ups and that part of the contract is not being upheld and that the control the Board has is after 24 hours of missed pick up fines need to added.

Director's Report

Rich Cowdell, the Director of Camp Rotary was present to answer questions from the Board regarding their proposed policy on handling unvaccinated campers. The camp's doctor followed the DPH advisable best practices with a slight variation and added it to the healthcare policies. The parents main concern was that the unvaccinated children were going to stand out because they have to adhere to stricter regulations. All of the Junior campers who are ages 7-11 are unvaccinated. The older kids who are vaccinated would wear a bracelet. The camp initially was going to have all campers wear masks while indoors but parents responded asking to please not make their vaccinated children wear masks. The Boxford Health Board is the camps licensing Board and that Camp Rotary wanted to make known their policy. The Board agreed that Camp Rotary seems to be following what the CDC and DPH recommends for indoor guidelines.

Wells at Willows: **D. Taylor** stated that the Toll Bros. are asking for 5 wells that will be irrigations wells. They will be in Zone 2 of their public water supply and will it affect the Zone of influence around their public water supply? The wells will be private wells which are under the Boards jurisdiction. The Board discussed putting a restriction on the wells in which they cannot be potable water supplies except in the event of a declared emergency. A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to approve the well permits with the restriction that it is for agricultural use only except for the case of a declared Board of Health emergency **seconded** by **H. Jeppesen**. Roll call vote R. Fahrner yes, H. Jeppesen yes, D. Taylor yes, A. Constan abstain.

K. Longo stated when she would be inspecting the camps and Stiles Pond Beach.

Covid Update and Discussion

D. Taylor stated that the last two reporting periods, Boxford and the surrounding towns were all zero new Covid cases.

A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to accept the Waste Management invoice due July 1, 2021 for \$53,255.36 **seconded** by **A. Constan**. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

Adjourn 8:45pm

With no further business, on a **motion** made by **A. Constan**, **seconded** by **R. Fahrner**, the Board of Health voted **unanimously** with a roll call vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Kwiatek
Minutes Secretary

