

Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2011

Present: Rebecca Allen, Elizabeth Nichols, John Doherty, and Karen Brooks.

Town Nurse: Claire Rabbitt, 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm.

Public: Shawn Monroe, 6:01 pm – 6:15 pm.

Meeting convened 6:01.

1. Minutes for the November 2nd meeting were approved with revisions by a vote of two, with two members abstaining.
2. The Board approved a warrant for FY12 MABH dues.
3. Shawn Monroe presented the Board with a letter summarizing the repairs to his septic system at 3 Shawnee Drive and a pumping report for 2010. Betty explained that she had contacted DEP and found that his 2009 Title 5 inspection has expired, since the tank was not pumped between June 2010 and October 14, 2011. The Board has accepted Mr. Monroe's repairs to the septic system, but if the property is sold a new Title 5 inspection will be required.
4. Claire Rabbitt discussed the effects on regionalization on the Town Nurse position. If the town were to join the region, the town nurse would be eliminated and nursing services would be provided by the region. Claire felt that a regional nurse would lack local knowledge, so that some seniors might be as well served. There is no guarantee that the regional nurse would be able to coordinate her schedule to be present at the Senior Meals offered at the Community Hall. It is expected that the cost of a regional nurse would be considerably higher than the service that Claire is providing. Claire does not recommend a regional nursing service.
5. The Board continued to discuss the prospect of regionalization in preparation for a meeting with the select board. The following disadvantages were noted:
 - Lack of local control in selecting a health agent
 - Lack of local control regarding how the inspection program is run
 - Lack of town control over the expense of health services
 - Increased expense
 - Lack of control over scheduling and response time
 - Lack of direct communication with the Board regarding inspection results.

Advantages of regionalization may include continuity of service and availability of a trained, experienced health agent.

Betty discussed the current arrangement with Glen and it seems likely that his services will no longer be offered after July 1st. If the town doesn't join the region, we will need to employ a new health agent in Fiscal Year 2013. Nicole Zabco will be meeting with the Board in December to discuss services that Greenfield is offering. The possibility of employing an independent health agent was also discussed.

6. Inspector reappointments were signed by the chair.
7. Betty reported that she and John Doherty had conducted a follow up inspection at 159 Number Nine Road on November 8th. An inspection report has been mailed to the owner and occupant. The

occupant had corrected a few items, but many of the repairs had not been completed. The tenant is moving and promised that the landlord would have access to the apartment shortly. An inspection is scheduled for December 2nd at 4:00 pm.

8. Discussion of the Medicare provider number was tabled to the next meeting.
9. Betty reported attending the final inspection for the septic system installed as a repair at 96 Taylor Brook Road. A sieve analysis was received for Title 5 sand from Earl Gleason's pit that was used to construct this system. The Board discussed the policy on sieve analyses. It was decided that in 2012, the Board would send it's own samples for analysis and re-evaluate the policy at the end of the year. Testing will be financed by fees collected for plan reviews.
10. Becky and John will inspect the properties involved in the Cascade Drive complaint. The Board discussed jurisdiction over burning complaints and reviewed Chapter 111, Section 31C and 310 CMR 7.07 and 7.52.
11. The Board approved a letter to Steven Rogers regarding monitoring requirements for the MEPOA tight tanks.
12. Karen discussed rabies responses with Bob Tanner .She reported that rabies policy is as follows: Bob is notified of dog bites by the hospital or physician, he notifies the Board of Health and contacts the victim, the victim fills out a complaint form and Bob provides copies of this form to the Select Board and Board of Health. All dogs are quarantined at Bob's residence. The Board could not remember receiving copies of complaint forms in the past.
13. Betty has not completed a list of new wells that have failed to submit water test reports.
14. The Board discussed the Camper/Trailer Temporary Occupancy program. Concerns were raised about the amount of time and money necessary to achieve results. The Board considered using some of the fee money to finance the removal of derelict trailers. It was decided to continue the program, but to make the Occupancy stickers good for a five year period. Becky will edit the letter and application form and Betty will mail them with the next tax bills. Betty will create letter to the priority list with check boxes for violations. Karen and John will check the boxes and sign the letters. Betty will also prepare a list of trailers that lack current occupancy sticker. Becky will contact unpermitted owners and encourage them to purchase occupancy permits.
15. The Board received a letter & fact sheet from the DPH concerning the effects of high sodium levels in drinking water.
16. Septic pumping reports were received from Bostleys.
17. The Board received a cancer report from DPH showing the incidence of cancer in Heath as compared to expected frequencies during the period from 2004 -2008.
18. The state has requested that the beach permitting indicate the actual dates of operation so that these dates can be correlated with water testing dates.

DOCUMENTS

Minutes for 11/02/11.

Bill Schedule for MABH dues.

Inspection reappointments.

Shawn Monroe,pumping report and letter.

Regionalization plan provided by FRCOG.

Letter to Steven Rogers regarding MEPOA tight tanks.

Chapter 111, Section 31C and 310 CMR 7.07 and 7.52

Septic pumping reports: 71 Sadoga Rd, 37 Sherman Dr., 5 Long Hill Rd.

Letter RE: Sodium Analysis Results – PWS# 1130002 & Sodium in Drinking Water Fact Sheet
Cancer Incidence in Massachusetts, 2004 – 2008, City & Town Supplement

Email from Michael Beattie, DPH, regarding beach permit.

A Franklin County Cooperative Public Health Service & Frequently Asked Questions about the proposed
Franklin County Cooperative Public Health Service at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments.