

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Via Zoom # 288 065 7034 or in person

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Herb Butzke at the Rowe Town Hall.

General Business:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the March 1, 2023, meeting.

FY23 Budget/Payables: A motion was made and seconded to approve the following invoices:

- Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District, Invoice FY23, dated 12/13/2022; \$5,000.00
- Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing, Invoice H2302-128, dated 2/28/2023; \$155.00
- Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing, Invoice H2302-130, dated 2/28/2023; \$180.00
- Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing, Invoice H2302-131, dated 2/28/2023; \$155.00
- McKesson Medical, Invoice 20387875, dated 3/6/2023; \$334.50
- FCSWMD, Invoice 23306, dated 3/3/2022; \$50.00
- FCSWMD, Invoice 23307, dated 3/3/2023; \$1,020.14
- FCSWMD, Invoice 23308, dated 3/3/2023; \$324.75
- FCSWMD, Invoice 23380, dated 3/9/2023; \$2,080.75
- Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Invoice 6223424353, dated 2/6/2023; \$100.00
- National Grid, Invoice 2/2/23-3/7/2023, dated 3/7/2023; \$290.64

Transfer Station

- The Transfer Station logs were reviewed and read by Dan Poplawski.
- Per Rob Beaumier, a Rowe resident brought a large truck load from a house renovation, filling the bulky bin dumpster. Christine will send a letter to the resident suggesting a dumpster rental when doing major house renovations. She will also post a general reminder in the Goal Post.
- The Town's recycling fee for the month of February was \$0.
- The deadline for submitting invoices to the Risk Management Grant is 5/12/2023. Christine will follow up with Jan Ameen on the scheduling of these safety fixes.

Title 5: Christine will send John Hillier/Coastline Property Renovations a letter to get the updates on his outstanding Title 5's on Ford Hill Road and Davenport Branch Road. There is a Title 5 scheduled at 194 Leshure for May 2, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Herb will attend.

FRCOG: FRCOG submitted a Spring Cleaning Article for the Rowe GoalPost. Christine will submit. Randy Crochier from FRCOG sent an email/link on the upcoming mandatory Racial Equity 101 Training for all Board of Health members and staff.

Nursing Updates:

- **Individual Statistics:** between 7-8 patients/day during March so far
- **Lifepath Event** Thursday March 23rd from 1-230 (hopefully this will be well-attended and will update next meeting.
- Covid and Flu are both very minimal right now...but will continue to track for now as there was a significant uptick during late March until May of last year.

- **Covid:** Past 7 days: 2,612 new cases in Mass, positivity rate 4.5% (down from 3,850 cases and 6.7%, 3 weeks ago). Franklin County: 39 cases in past 2 weeks with 4.5% positivity (similar from 3 weeks ago). 0 Reported cases in Rowe in past 2 weeks.
 - *Total hospitalizations in Mass in past 7 days: 423 people hospitalized with Covid and 128 primarily for Covid (down from 3 weeks ago).
 - *Total deaths in Mass in past 7 days: 49 deaths in Mass (down from 3 weeks ago). 6 deaths in Franklin County over last 2 weeks (increased).
- **Flu updates:** ILI is 1.56% (down slightly from 3 weeks ago), hospitalizations 0.19% (down slightly from 3 weeks ago) and overall flu activity is 'Low' (and is 'minimal' in Western Mass) for 7th week in a row.
- **Vacation:** April 5th-April 19th (returning the 19th)...will have Janice send out Robocall in addition to voicemail, website, and bulletin on door

OPIOID Settlement Regional Project

- Christine asked Dave Fierro, Town Accountant to set up a Stabilization Fund Account with both Revenue & Expense Accounts. She also mentioned the Annual Town Meeting needs two Articles for deposit and expenditure of the OPIOID Settlement monies. Herb will ask Joanne if the BOS will be handling the Articles.

Mosquito Control District – Christine spoke with the local representative of the Mosquito Control District requesting the Town receive all testing reports and the annual surveillance report.

Housatonic Basin Water Testing:

- Christine submitted contact and scheduling information to Housatonic Basin.
- Herb reviewed the Housatonic Basin Sampling Testing reports. All levels remain safe.
- An email was sent from Adam Kinney, MassDEP confirming the 2023-2025 testing schedules.
- The BOH received an email on the Annual Statistical Report due March 31, 2023. Herb will be submitting before the due date.

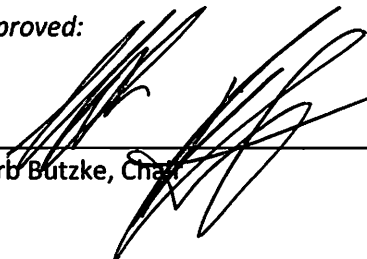
Correspondence: N/A

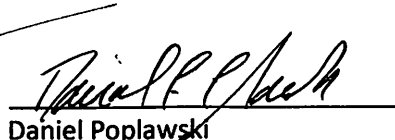
NEW BUSINESS: N/A

Meeting Adjourned: 6:41 pm unanimously

Next meeting: April 5, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Approved:


Herb Butzke, Chair


Daniel Poplawski

Joanne Semanie