

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Board Members: Herb Butzke, Chair; Dan Poplawski and Kathleen Atwood, Board Members; Rachel Lewis, Town Nurse and Christine Bailey, BOH Clerk.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Herb Butzke at the Rowe Town Hall. A motion was made and seconded to continue to utilize Zoom for all meetings.

General Business:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the August 16, 2023, meeting.

FY24 Budget/Payables: A motion was made and seconded to approve the following FY24 invoices:

- **Kathy Atwood** – Inv August, dtd 8/30/2023; \$90.00
- **Herb Butzke** - Inv August, dtd 8/30/2023; \$45.00
- **Lodge Tire** – Inv G1-233876, Dtd 8/23/23; \$42.00
- **Housatonic Basin** – Inv H2308-184, dtd 8/30/23; \$155.00
- **Housatonic Basin** – Inv H2308-186, dtd 8/30/23; \$365.00
- **Housatonic Basin** – Inv H2308-187, dtd 8/30/23; \$980.00
- **Housatonic Basin** – Inv H2308-188, dtd 8/30/23; \$155.00
- **McKesson** – Inv 21029650, dtd 8/29/2023; \$94.80
- **FRCOG** – FY24 Q2 Coop Public Health Services, Inv. #2069, dtd 9/1/2023; \$1,439.00

Transfer Station:

- Christine spoke to Ben Niles, Arborist to remove two large pine trees in front of the Refuse Gardens. Mr. Niles said late September, early October timeframe.
- Due to rain, Josh Jones could not fix the concrete crack. Rob and Josh will be in contact to set up another date.
- Hastie Fence met with Herb to discuss the damage of the chain link fence. Hastie will send an estimate to the office for repair.

FRCOG:

- **The following inspections were conducted via FRCOG:**
 - 23 Cross Road – Perk Test – August 30, 2023 @ 8:00 a.m. – Herb attended the perk test, in which the test failed. FRCOG will send soil samples to the State for the engineer to design the system needed.
- **BOH Concerns:**
 - Chair Herb contacted Randy in reference to a 1965 Soils Map. Randy said it was an old map that is old school and obsolete. The map is referenced in the Rowe by-laws concerning septic. Christine will work with Kevin on the steps to delete that section in the bylaws.
 - Chair Herb spoke with Randy in reference to a trailer parked at 285 Zoar Road. Randy visited the house lot and did not see habitation there. He will be writing a “friendly” letter to the home owner outlining trailers and Rowe zoning laws.

Water Testing:

- Herb reviewed the Housatonic Basin Sampling Testing reports. All levels remain safe.

Mosquito Surveillance: PVMCD sent an update and surveillance summary. All levels are safe.

Nursing Updates:

- Individual statistics: August- 10 days worked, 86 patients seen, 73 of those patients were 65+ years old.
- Arbovirus: 82 case of West Nile Virus (WNV) found in mosquito sample in Mass- 4 cases in Pittsfield (is still at moderate risk), no cases found in Rowe, the first 2 cases in humans in Massachusetts detected. No EEE in mosquito or human.
- Waiting to hear back from FRCOG, but as of now, Flu Vax (and hopefully Covid booster too) clinic to be held October 12th from 12-4pm at the Rowe School. We are booked in for that date, but waiting for state funding to be approved.

Correspondence: N/A

New Business:


- Chair Herb asked for the OPIOID discussion to be put on the September 20, 2023 agenda. Rachel will invite Phoebe Walker from FRCOG to talk on options. Herb would like to present to the Board of Selectmen some concrete ideas. If Rowe is unable to spend the entire grant monies, Herb would like to discuss in pooling the funds back to the High School, etc.
- Kathy inquired about resident Dennis May in relation to a perk test done on his property. Herb said he spoke with Randy at FRCOG and it is mandatory to have four holes tested. If Mr. May can locate where the other two holes are he will only need to have two more tested.
- Resident Becky Bradley notified the Board of a boarder at her Inn who had developed COVID. Mrs. Bradley asked the gentlemen to leave but in doing so, he still attended his Conference center seminars at the Rowe Camp. Employees and attendees contracted the virus. Herb will contact the Conference Center to discuss setting up guidelines concerning COVID in relation to attendance.
- Kathy inquired about the \$500 yearly Physician stipend. Rachel said it was yearly payment for standing orders and any questions that needed MD advice.

Resident Comments/Questions: N/A

Meeting Adjourned: 6:38 pm unanimously

Next meeting: September 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Approved:



Herb Butzke, Chair



Daniel Poplawski



Kathleen Atwood