

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Herb Butzke, BOH Chair; Dan Poplawski and Kathleen Atwood, Board Members; Christine Bailey, Admin Ass't and Rachel Lewis, RN

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Herb Butzke at 6:02 p.m.

General Business: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for January 17, 2024.

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

• FCSWMD	Invoice 24390	1/19/2024	\$ 413.30
• FCSWMD	Invoice 24394	1/22/2024	\$ 97.20
• FCSWMD	Invoice 24401	2/5/2024	\$ 417.84
• FCSWMD	Invoice 24402	2/5/2024	\$1,394.85
• FCSWMD	Invoice 24403	2/5/2024	\$ 155.00
• FCSWMD	Invoice 24404	2/5/2024	\$ 105.00
• Amazon -3 Transponders	Invoice 113-6393801-9325848	1/3/2024	\$ 59.84
• Waste Management	Invoice IAC5158475	2/6/2024	\$ 60.89
• National Grid	Invoice 1/4/24-2/2/24	2/2/2024	\$ 178.23
• W.B.Mason-2024 Calendar	Invoice 244205797	1/25/2024	\$ 5.99
• Housatonic Basin	Invoice H2401-127	1/31/2024	\$ 155.00
• Housatonic Basin	Invoice H2401-129	1/31/2024	\$ 180.00
• Housatonic Basin	Invoice H2401-130	1/31/2024	\$ 155.00
• McKesson Medical-Surgical	Invoice 21642864	1/29/2024	\$ 374.10
• Amazon - RN supplies	Invoice 111-8305127-8667404	1/31/2024	\$ 46.67
• Rachel Lewis Nov Mileage	Invoice November '23	12/7/23	\$ 58.06
• Rachel Lewis Dec Mileage	Invoice December '23	1/7/23	\$ 34.92
• Rachel Lewis Jan Mileage	Invoice January '24	2/7/24	\$ 54.54

FY24 Acct	Account #	7-1-23 Approp	Curr Bal (01-19-24)	Payroll/Payables	Amount	New Bal
Transfer Station Att	01-512-5140	\$16,607.00	\$ 7,522.76			
BOH Stipends	01-512-5141	\$ 4,938.00	\$ 2,469.00			
Clerk Wages	01-512-5142	\$12,880.00	\$ 5,651.90			
Town Nurse	01-512-5143	\$43,997.00	\$19,539.27			
Physician Stipend	01-512-5144	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
Snow Removal	01-512-5145	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
Hazardous Waste	01-512-5290	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
FCSWMD Assess	01-512-5300	\$ 8,417.00	\$ 2,104.25			
Mosquito Control	01-512-5382	\$ 5,000.00	\$.00			
BOH Operations	01-512-5701	\$13,500.00	\$ 6,459.74	WB Mason, #244205797; dtd 1/25/24 HBST, H2401-127; dtd 1/31/24 HBST, H2401-129; dtd 1/31/24 HBST, H2401-130; dtd 1/31/24	\$ 5.99 \$ 155.00 \$ 180.00 \$ 155.00	\$ 5,963.75
Health Sv Ops	01-512-5703	\$ 7,390.00	\$ 5,220.33	McKesson, #21642864, dtd 1/29/24 Amazon #111-8305127-8667404; 1/31/24 Rachel Lewis - Nov & Dec, Jan Mileage	\$ 374.10 \$ 46.67 \$ 147.52	\$ 4,652.04
Refuse Gardens Ops	01-512-5708	\$35,050.00	\$ 19,300.00	FCSWMD, Inv. 24390, dtd 1/19/24 FCSWMD, Inv. 24394, dtd 1/22/24 FCSWMD, Inv. 24401, dtd 2/5/24 FCSWMD, Inv. 24402, dtd 2/5/24 FCSWMD, Inv. 24403, dtd 2/5/24 FCSWMD, Inv. 24404, dtd 2/5/24 Amazon #113-6393801-9325848; 1/3/24 Waste Mngt #IAC515475; dtd 2/6/24 National Grid #1/4/24-2/2/24; dtd 2/2/24	\$ 413.30 \$ 97.20 \$ 417.84 \$ 1,394.85 \$ 155.00 \$ 105.00 \$ 59.84 \$ 60.89 \$ 178.23	\$ 16,417.85

FRCOG Health Svcs	01-512-5788	\$ 5,797.00	\$ 1,480.00		
OPIOID FUNDS	83-512-4540-83139	\$90,000.00	\$.00	Next disbursement - July 2024	

Transfer Station:

- The Transfer Station logs were reviewed and read by Dan Poplawski.
- Jan Ameen emailed the January Recycling expense of \$60.89.
- The Board of Health received \$1,229.28 from FCSWMD for the FY24 2nd Qtr Scrap Metal pick-up. Christine deposited the funds into the Refuse Garden Revolving Account 26-433-4800-26104.
- Hastie fence visited the Refuse Gardens and submitted quotes for the propane tank enclosure and fence fixes. The total quote was \$10,005.00. Christine will see what the maximum limit is before needing to secure a contract with three bids.

RN Updates: Rachel reported the following RESPIRATORY DASHBOARD INFO for *Week of 1/21-1/27/24: 13.8% of ER visits were for a Respiratory Illness (trending down- highest was 22.5% after Christmas) Covid: There were 3,992 confirmed cases of Covid and 29 deaths in the week of 1/21-1/27/24 (decreased number of cases) in Massachusetts.*

In Franklin County there have been 23 positive tests during week of 1/21-1/27/24 (There were 143 TOTAL positive tests in the whole month of January 2024). The wastewater surveillance of Covid has continued to decrease to near pre-Christmas levels. Rowe: 0 positive tests in the past month

Flu: In Massachusetts week of 1/21-1/27/24: there were 3,280 confirmed cases of Flu and an 'Influenza Like Illness' (ILI) visit rate to health care providers was 3.94%. This is much higher than the past 2 years, but on trend from the pre-covid year 2019/2020. Severity of Influenza is considered HIGH right now in many parts of Mass, including Franklin County.

- Individual Stats: January 2024- 10 days worked, 92 patients seen, 78 were 65+ years.
- Opioid Task Force (OTF)- they can give us 1-2 **INDOOR ONLY** Narcan Boxes (free)- see attached 'agreement'- BOH will need to sign and then give to Selectboard to sign. Once OTF gets the agreement then they will distribute the Narcan boxes to us.
- Maureen O'Reilly is trying to organize a time/date (maybe prior to next Oversight Board meeting) to speak with Rowe BOH AND Charlemont BOH at same time to get the okay to use some of Rowe's Opioid \$\$ (when received) to put a Narcan box in the Trailer Park in Charlemont. She will be sending out an email in the future.
- I am planning concurrent Narcan Trainings with Maureen for Town Employees, School Employees and for interested residents. I am tying this all in with my Goal post articles in Feb and March. The Narcan training will most likely be mid to end of March.
- I am doing a 'March Madness- Mobility NOT Morbidity' training program with Deb Lively. This is a collaboration between Health Services, COA, and the Park. It is a 4-week course with 2 sessions/week (hour long) and will have a focus on flexibility, movement, strength, etc. Programs will be tailored to fit the individual client needs.
- April 18th will be a Lifepath Info session during the COA 3rd Thursday Coffee morning. COA is trying to get more info out there to get more clients on board for these services.
- January 25th- handed out red/green cards for use to place in people's windows in case of another severe weather event. The most vulnerable residents already will be checked on if there is no phone/means of communication which is with COA and police/fire.
- Vacation Requests: Requesting 2 days at end of March/beginning of April and 1-day mid-April (school vacation).

FY25 Budget:

- Herb attended the FY25 Budget Meeting and spoke to the Finance Committee in reference to expanding the Pay Scale to include the nurse salary and to bring Rachel more in line with RN salaries within Western Mass. Herb also discussed the sink hole at the Refuse Gardens. FCSWMD sited this as a potential hazard. Herb was quoted \$150,000 from Lance Larned, DPW, to repave the entire Gardens. Finance will discuss and bring it to vote at the Town meeting.

BOH Updates:

- 1) Rachel began her mandatory "TRAIN" foundational course with the State of Massachusetts. The Foundations course is required per the [Workforce Standards](#) for all Public Health Nurses. She printed out the outline of the various modules. She said a lot of the modules seems more relevant for board members not RNs.

OPIOID Updates:

- Christine submitted a Warrant Article to Brook Shulda, Town Administrator for review at the BOS meeting. This article will enable the Town to receive and disburse OPIOID funds as the Boards seem fit to benefit the residents. The article is to be voted on by the Town at the Annual Town Meeting.
- Rachel presented a Letter of Commitment from the OPIOID Task Force (OTF) to be signed by the BOH and BOS as a Naloxbox Partner. Once the agreement is fully signed, the OTF will distribute 1-2 free indoor Narcan boxes to be placed in accessible areas (Town Hall/Park). Rachel is working with Maureen O'Reilly of FRCOG to obtain an outside box to be placed in the Charlemont area.
- The next bi-weekly OPIOID "Office Hours" meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2024 from 2-3pm. This is an informational question and answer zoom meeting, open to all.

Septic Pumping and Permits: The following permit and pumping record was received:

- 58 Tatro Road – Williams (Permit)
- 370 River Road – Bear Swamp Fife Brook (Pumping)

Correspondence: The BOH received a return receipt certified letter from Brookfield Renewable Energy outlining their 2024 Yearly Operational Plan for work along the power line rights-of-way.

Water Testing: N/A

Meeting Adjourned: 6:44 pm unanimously

Next meeting: February 21, 2024, at 6:00 pm

Approved:


Herb Butzke, Chair


Daniel Poplawski


Kathleen Atwood