

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
Rowe Town Hall, Conference Room 1

Present: Herb Butzke, Chair; Kathy Atwood, Member; Rachel Lewis, Nurse and Christine Bailey, Admin Assistant.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Herb Butzke at 6:03 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve February 5, 2025, minutes.

FY25 Budget/Payables: A motion was made and seconded to approve the following FY25 invoices.

Vendor	Invoice#	Date	Amount
National Grid	250204	2/4/25	\$186.16
Wired West	3817599	2/12/25	\$90.00
FCSWMD	25609	2/7/25	\$1,019.00
FCSWMD	25610	2/7/25	\$155.00
FCSWMD	25608	2/7/25	\$574.66
FCSWMD	25654	2/10/25	\$1,623.75
Waste Management	IAC6430376	2/6/25	\$58.08
HBST	H2502-134	2/28/25	\$156.00
HBST	H2502-137	2/28/25	\$156.00
Rachel Lewis – February Mileage	250228	2/28/25	\$48.04

FY25 Acct	Account #	7-31-24 Approp	Curr Bal (1/31/25)	Payroll/Payables	Amount	New Bal
Transfer Station Att	01-512-5140	\$17,663.00	\$ 7,013.91			
TS Att. Training	01-512-5800	\$ 425.00	\$ 425.00			
BOH Stipends	01-512-5141	\$ 4,938.00	\$ 2,469.00			
Clerk Wages	01-512-5142	\$13,364.00	\$ 5,641.15			
BOH Clerk Training	01-512-5711	\$ 514.00	\$ 179.90			
Town Nurse	01-512-5143	\$52,391.00	\$ 22,198.99			
Physician Stipend	01-512-5144	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
Snow Removal	01-512-5145	\$ 500.00	\$ 478.76			
Hazardous Waste	01-512-5290	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
FCSWMD Assess	01-512-5300	\$ 8,846.00	\$ 2,209.10			
Mosquito Control	01-512-5382	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 0			
BOH Operations	01-512-5701	\$13,500.00	\$ 8,216.26	HBST, #2411-134, 2/28/25 HBST, #2411-137, 2/28/25 Subtract OPIOID Monies until ATM	\$ 156.00 \$ 156.00 -\$ 746.00	\$ 7,904.26 \$ 7,158.26
Health Sv Ops	01-512-5703	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 3,499.73	Rachel Lewis – Feb Mileage	\$ 48.04	\$ 3,451.69
Refuse Gardens	01-512-5708	\$37,503.00	\$ 13,826.61	Nat'l Grid, #250204 Wired West, #3817599 FCSWMD, #25609 FCSWMD, #25610 FCSWMD, #25608 FCSWMD, #25654 Waste Mngt, #IAC6430376	\$ 186.16 \$ 90.00 \$ 1,019.00 \$ 155.00 \$ 574.66 \$ 1,623.75 \$ 58.08	\$10,119.96
FRCOG Health Svs	01-512-5788	\$ 5,797.00	\$ 1,480.00			
OPIOID FUNDS \$90,000	83-512- 4540-83139	\$10,286.29	\$ 9,540.29	Add OPIOID Monies until ATM	\$ 746.00	\$10,286.29

Transfer Station:

- Rachel Lewis read the Transfer Station Logs.
- Jan Ameen reported that the FY25 Monthly Recycling Fund (MRF) for February loads was down \$8 per ton to \$28.26. This was due to the cost of plastics and corrugated cardboard. The average market value (AMV) for Rowe in February was \$74.95.

- Jan Ameen submitted for each Town calendar year 2024 DEPs annual tonage data. She comprised mostly common data (trash, recycling, bulky waste and scrap metal) into tables for comparison to CY23. Rowe's recycling rate has decreased by 1.7%; with trash, bulky waste and scrap metal was up 3.2% and recycling down 13.2%. The Board agreed to encourage residents to recycle more. Christine will put a post in the GoalPost.
- Jan submitted the FY26 Town Hauling Costs. Per Waste Management, DPW driver wage rate (including insurance) increased 30% over the past last 5 years. She negotiated with them a decrease from 15% increase for all hauls down to 9%. Jan was able to secure a 3-year trash disposal contract at \$98/ton. The current rate is \$102/ton, so trash disposal costs will decrease next year. The bulky waste tip fee level remains at \$120/ton with mattresses being disposed will be charged as a pass-through so the facility rate will be our charge. The MRF base tonage fee will be almost \$106/ton and that is used to calculate "worst case" charges for recycling processing. However, the FY25 actual net cost has been an average of \$29/ton. She said steel and aluminum tariffs typically make recycled product more valuable so it is likely that the market value will increase and the net cost will decrease.

BOH Concerns & Updates:

- Mass.gov emailed to all Municipal Boards of Health their MassDEP Well Driller Program/Regulations and the role of Town and the MA certified Driller.
- BOH Emergency Plan – A meeting is scheduled for **Thursday March 20th at 1pm** to have a Recap Meeting of our recent power outage and response. Herb will be attending.
- Herb attended the Finance Committee budget meeting presenting the BOH budget for approval.

Nursing Updates:

- Individual Stats: February 6.5 days worked, 64 patients seen and 54 of these were 65 years+
- The Walking Club continues weather permitting.
- Exercise class with Deb Lively started Monday, 6/3/25. It will be held every Mondays and Wednesdays during February and March from 2:30pm – 4:00 pm. There are approximately 2 to 5 people in attendance. Rachel said she assisted Deb when needed.
- Emergency preparedness survey: To date, Rachel received back 49 household surveys. She has added and compiled the data to the last survey (1.5 years ago). In total she has information collected for 76 households. (About half the households in Rowe).
- CPR class is being held on Thursday March 13th from 12:00p-3:00p. To date there are 6 employees, 3 committee members and 1 resident participating.
- I will be doing a Health Care Proxy and MOLST form (Medical orders for life-sustaining treatment) presentation at the March third Thursday coffee morning.
- Herb approved Rachel's vacation request on April 9th – April 16th.

OPIOID Updates: N/A

WATER TESTING:


- Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing – All samples were in proper condition

Resident Comments/Questions: *It is requested that residents wait for comments during a meeting until recognized by the Chairperson.*


Meeting Adjourned: 6:37 pm Unanimously

Next meeting: **March 19, 2025**

Approved:


Herb Butzke, Chair

Daniel Poplawski


Kathleen Atwood