

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Rowe Town Hall, Conference Room 1

Present: Herb Butzke, Chair; Dan Poplawski and Kathy Atwood, Members; Christine Bailey, Admin Assistant.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Herb Butzke at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion of the bears at 35 Newell Cross Road: The Board received a letter from the resident at 35 Newell Cross Road claiming he is not feeding the bears and only has a bird feeder for the birds. He says he does sit down with "Mama" bear to share a donut every morning. He also expressed that he would end his life if he were made to stop. The Board asked the office to forward the letter to the BOS, BOH, Town Nurse, Police Chief, Randy Crochier at FRCOG, Safety Complex Admin and Fire Chief out of concern for his safety. Rachel and the Town Social Worker have already been working with Mr. Scrivens on this matter.

Meeting Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to approve June 4, 2025 minutes.

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

Vendor	Invoice#	Date	Amount
WB Mason- Office supplies (toner,envelopes,file folders)	S153624018	6/12/2025	\$498.39
McKesson	23850634	6/2/2025	\$408.95
McKesson	23850677	6/2/2025	\$23.58
Amazon-Nurse Supplies	111-8531815-9473820	5/28/2025	\$48.16
Rachel Lewis – Nurse (UPS Shipping)	1Z1R11W80352721710	6/14/25	\$15.80
FCSWD	25985	6/6/2025	\$30.00
FCSWD	25982	6/6/2025	\$50.00
FCSWD	25983	6/6/2025	\$1,893.90
FCSWD	25984	6/6/2025	\$730.20
Lodge Tire	G1-248943	6/5/2025	\$60.00
National Grid	250604	6/4/25	\$89.72

FY25 Acct	Account #	7-31-24 Approp	Curr Bal (5/30/25)	Payroll/Payables	Amount	New Bal
Transfer St Att	01-512-5140	\$17,663.00	\$ 3,517.18			
TS Att. Training	01-512-5800	\$ 425.00	\$ 425.00			
BOH Stipends	01-512-5141	\$ 4,938.00	\$ 1,234.52			
Clerk Wages	01-512-5142	\$13,364.00	\$ 2,557.15			
BOH Clerk Training	01-512-5711	\$ 514.00	\$ 102.80			
Town Nurse	01-512-5143	\$52,391.00	\$ 9,406.18			
Physician Stipend	01-512-5144	\$ 500.00	\$ 0			
Snow Removal	01-512-5145	\$ 500.00	\$ 452.22			
Hazardous Waste	01-512-5290	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
FCSWMD Assess	01-512-5300	\$ 8,846.00	\$ -3.20			
Mosquito Control	01-512-5382	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 0			
BOH Operations	01-512-5701	\$13,500.00	\$ 5,773.02	WB Mason, S153624018, 6/12/25	\$ 498.39	\$ 5,274.63
Health Sv Ops	01-512-5703	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 1,603.12	McKesson, 23850634, 6/2/25 McKesson, 23850677, 6/2/25 Amazon,9473820, 5/28/25 Rachel Lewis, UPS Mailing, 6/14/25	\$ 408.95 \$ 23.58 \$ 48.16 \$ 15.80	\$ 1,106.63
Refuse Gardens	01-512-5708	\$37,503.00	\$ 2,420.76	FCSWD, 25985, 6/6/2025 FCSWD, 25982, 6/6/2025 FCSWD, 25983, 6/6/2025 FCSWD, 25984, 6/6/2025	\$ 30.00 \$ 50.00 \$ 1,893.90 \$ 730.20	

				Lodge Tire, G1-248943, 6/5/2025	\$ 60.00	
					\$ 89.72	-\$ 433.06
FRCOG Health Svs	01-512-5788	\$ 5,797.00	\$ 41.00			
OPIOID FUNDS \$90,000	27-512- 5400-83139	\$10,286.29	\$ 8,654.26			

Transfer Station:

- Dan Poplawski read the Transfer Station Logs.
- Herb said a certified letter went out to the resident that threatened Rob Beaumier at the Refuse Gardens. Christine worked with Justine Krumm on purchasing 2 cameras to be installed and monitored through a phone app with the police chief. **A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to approve the purchase of two Reolink Home Hub cameras for the Refuse Gardens in the amount of \$209.00.** Christine will order and have Gerry/Maintenance install with Justine's help to program the cameras, hub and app.
- Barlow Paving will be at the Rowe Refuse Gardens to mill and repave beginning July 7th through the 9th. Christine has sent a notice to be posted in the Goal Post that the Gardens will be closed on Wednesday, July 9, 2025. It is also posted at the Town Hall and Dump. Rob will be on site to open the gate and assist Jan Ameen in witnessing the milling process for DEP.
- Jan Ameen, FCSWMD reported that the 2025 May monthly recycling cost was priced at \$25.32 a ton.
- DEP granted Rowe \$6,000 for the yearly RDP Account funding. The Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) grant funds must be expended on designated goods, services and programs that support waste reduction and/or sustainable purchasing. Some examples are: recycling products (compost bins and buckets), education and training of recycling staff, recycable costs (copy paper, confidential shredding), safety and handicapped features.

BOH Concerns & Updates:

- **MassDEP** sent a Public Notice Tier 1 letter to all Massachusetts Town Board of Health departments on reporting procedures of drinking water. Housatonic Basin reports all statistics to them.
- **FRCOG – Coop Public Health Service Oversight Board:** The yearly contract was sent and Herb will continue to serve on the Oversight Board with Dan as alternative.
- **Brookfield Renewables:** Brookfield sent their yearly notification letter for the 21 day herbicide application along power lines and rights-of-way. National Grid followed up confirming the application.
- **FY26 Salary Compensation:** The Administrative offices missed one FY26 salary compensation packet for a per diem employee at the Refuse Gardens. The Board reviewed and signed.
- **Cliff Swallows:** Town employee letters were shared with the Board voicing their concern on issues related to the cliff swallows and the nests on the building. Per Herb, Christine forwarded the letters to the Board of Selectmen. Dan asked if the office would draft a generic letter in response to the staff. The Board agreed to continue to research potential health risks concerning the cliff swallows. Chair Herb and Kathy said they will be attending the Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for June 26, 2025 to hear Selectboard and resident concerns.
- **BOH Emergency Plan:** Tabled

SYSTEM PUMPING RECORD: The following businesses/residences were pumped.

- Kings Highway – RC&CC (2)
- 4 Hill Road - Quist

OPIOID Updates: The FlyFive Program was approved by the CareMass.gov for the Rowe Elementary School for \$6,472.01. Carly Bridden, JSI Org said the program would be allowable but community input is required when determining how to spend the funds. If prevention in youth is a priority of those who have been directly impacted by opioids then yes the opioid abatement funds could be used.

WATER TESTING:

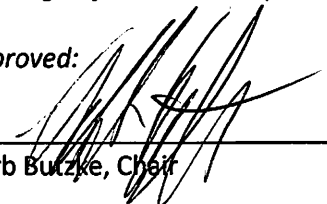
- Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing - All samples in proper condition

New Business: Kathy said she attended the inspections for the School and RC&CC which both passed.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:47 pm unanimously.

Next meeting: July 2, 2025

Approved:



Herb Burzke, Chair



Daniel Poplawski



Kathleen Atwood