

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday August 20, 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, Rowe Resident Loretta Dionne and John Friedman, Principal (Zoom) & Lydia Brisson, RN (Zoom) - Rowe Elementary School.

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

Rowe Elementary School: John Friedman, Principal and Lydia Brisson, RN joined the meeting via Zoom. John introduced himself as the new principal and is very excited to be joining Rowe Elementary. He thanked the Board for funding the FlyFive program for the School through the OPIOID program. Chair Herb asked for the school to provide quarterly updates on the program. The Board agreed the program would need to be reviewed each school year for renewal. John is working with the Company to "downsize" the material/dollar amount as the program is equipped for 250 students, whereas Rowe has approximately 57 enrolled. John said he will be sending the BOH office the invoice for payment. Lydia has sent the FY26 basic protocol and procedures for the Health Services portion of the Handbook. She said there are no changes from last year. She discussed the protocol the school was following for WNV and EEE and asked if the Board had further recommendations. The Board felt she was following proper guidelines to keep the students safe. She also said that individual teachers are aware of asthma students and how the school uses judgement if air quality is poor. John and Lyndia left the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to approve August 6, 2025, minutes.

FY26 Budget/Payables: A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to approve the following FY26 invoices:

Vendor	Invoice#	Date	Amount
Rachel Lewis – July Mileage	250731	7/31/25	\$107.13
Amazon – RN Office Supplies (debit card)	111-2819373-8781064	7/7/25	\$5.94
Amazon	111-2106027-6837065	8/7/25	208.04
Waste Management	IAC7091836	8/6/25	\$47.48
FCSWMD	26175	8/5/25	\$407.89
FCSWMD	26176	8/5/25	\$1,592.83
FCSWMD	26177	8/5/25	\$2,029.10
FCSWMD	26178	8/5/25	\$361.69
FCSWMD	26236	8/12/25	\$694.04
Wired West, - AUGUST	4039958	8/12/25	\$90.00
Lodge Tire	G1-250935	8/12/25	\$75.00
National Grid	250703 250805	8/5/25	66.77

FY26 Acct	Account #	7-1-25 Approp	Curr Bal (7/31/25)	Payroll/Payables	Amount	New Bal
Transfer St Att	01-512-5140	\$ 18,416	\$ 16,712			
TS Att. Training	01-512-5800		\$ 687			
Clerk Wages	01-512-5142	\$ 13,930	\$ 12,859			
BOH Clerk Training	01-512-5711		\$ 526			
Town Nurse	01-512-5143	\$ 54,644	\$ 50,871			
Physician Stipend	01-512-5144	\$ 500	\$ 500			
Snow Removal	01-512-5145	\$ 500	\$ 500			
Hazardous Waste	01-512-5290	\$ 500	\$ 500			
FCSWMD Assess	01-512-5300	\$ 9,314	\$ 6,985.48			
Mosquito Control	01-512-5382	\$ 5,000	-\$ 250.00			
BOH Operations	01-512-5701	\$ 13,500	\$11,833.50			

Health Services	01-512-5803	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,306.18	Rachel July Mileage Amazon, #111-2819373-8781064 Amazon, #111-2106027-6837065	\$ 107.13 \$ 5.94 \$ 208.04	\$ 6,985.07
Refuse Gardens	01-512-5708	\$ 41,870	\$41,170.34	Waste Mngt, IAC7091836 FCSWMD, 26175 FCSWMD, 26176 FCSWMD, 26177 FCSWMD, 26178 FCSWMD, 26236 Wired West Lodge Tire, G1-250935 National Grid, 250703-250805	\$ 47.48 \$ 407.89 \$ 1,592.83 \$ 2,029.10 \$ 361.69 \$ 694.04 \$ 90.00 \$ 75.00 \$ 66.77	\$ 35,805.54
FRCOG Health Svs	01-512-5788	\$ 6,040	\$ 4,562.50			
OPIOID FUNDS \$90,000	27-512- 5400-83139	\$10,286.29	\$ 7,908.26	Deposit CVS Payment 3 Deposit Teva Payment 3 Deposit Allergan Payment 3 Deposit General Purpose Payment 5	\$ 1,189.23 \$ 669.62 \$ 680.78 \$ 1,746.97	\$ 12,194.86

Transfer Station:

- Dan Poplawski read the Transfer Station Logs.
- FY26 July Monthly Recycling Process Cost: \$74.19 per ton. Rowe July processing fee: \$47.48
- FY26 August Monthly Recycling Processing Cost has increased to \$79.85 per ton. This was an increase of \$5.66 per ton which is due to rising prices/inflation.
- FCSWMD Health Ins. Increase: 20%/\$7,500.00 (no increase this year– but a possible increase to FY27 budget)
- Herb inquired why Bosley is not cleaning the porta-potty. Christine said the Town owns it and Bosley empties it only. Christine will email Rob to purchase some cleaning/chemicals to spray it regularly.
- Rob has been working with Waste Management on switching out the bins as to not damage the new repaving. It was also suggested to lay down plywood when the DPW crushes the bulky bin.

BOH Concerns & Updates:

- **BOH Emergency Plan:** Herb said Julie is working with Emergency Personnel in Charlemont. It is basically updating the current information on their computers.
- **Cliff Swallows:** Loretta Dionne said her and an area Biologist handed out a pamphlet at the Refuse Gardens this past Saturday, stating that there are no health risks in exposure to bird feces. Kathy said the Board of Health and Selectmen both conducted thorough research on human health risks from bird feces and found there can be exposure to harmful bacteria and viruses. Herb said Ms. Silver would need to dismantle the nests after the mating season and power wash the outside of the building. This was a promise by her committee to be completed weekly, but it has not happened yet. Loretta said Ms. Silver is looking into structures on the Town Common Area, who has already received approval from the Park. Herb said the Park does not own Lot 204 0 016 and is owned by the Town of Rowe solely which would be a Board of Selectmen decision.
- **Bears:** Herb said that he has no reports on bear sitings of late.

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

- 202 Leshure Road – Sutherland
- 54 Old Cyrus Road – Grieco
- 201 Ford Hill Road – Johnson
- 203 Zoar Road – Shulda
- 29 Brittingham Hill Road – Bailey J.
- 245 Zoar Road - Crowningshield

OPIOID Updates:

- Christine said the FY25 Annual Expenditure Report is due to the State by November 1, 2025. She also said that several deposits totaling \$4,302,93 were received and deposited into the revenue account with a total of \$ 12,211.19 OPIOID funds available. The State is offering two additional settlements to towns to participate

in. Rowe's additional amount would be \$9,713.75. Christine will attend the September 4th seminar to learn more about the grants and how to apply for them when offered.

WATER TESTING:

- Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing - All samples were in proper condition
- Kathy Atwood said Tom Lussier of HBST performed the inspection at Avery Fountain. He told Kathy the State is requiring pictures of the pump located in the basement of the Church. Mr. Lussier will contact Reed Brown, a member of the Church, to obtain access. The Board asked Christine if she would contact Reed for an additional key to be kept at the Town Hall for access when needed since the Town maintains the Fountain.

New Business: Herb will be emailing Randy Crochier of FRCOG to receive updates on the following properties:

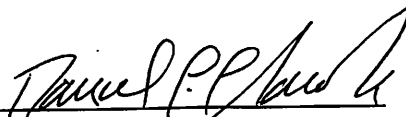
- John Hillier, 19 Ford Hill Road (Septic)
- Dohn Sherman, 77 Hazelton Road (Another inspection)
- Levitre, 96 Ford Hill Road (Status)
- Shantigar, 60 Davenport Road (Yearly Inspection)
- Boutwell, 7 Potter Road (Property Sold-Title V?)

Meeting Adjourned: A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to *adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm.*
The next Board of Health meeting will be held on September 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Approved:



Herb Butzke, Chair



Daniel Poplawski



Kathleen Atwood