Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
December 23, 1997

Present: Ellen Foberg, Leonard Laffond, James Brown, Melissa Quinn

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM.

Chairman Foberg reported that a Title V inspection of the septic system at the Kenney property on Zoar Road (Map 3, Lot 44) failed on Friday, December 19. The inspection was conducted by Mike Beausoleil, and the observers were E. Foberg, L. Laffond, J. Brown, Rose & Keeley Kenney, real estate agent Wanda Mooney and Jim Williams. The system was overloaded with water up to the riser (the system was placed in ground water.) The 1000 gallon tank was sound, but the weep hole was not plugged and there was substantial infiltration. The weep hole must be plugged. A sewer pipe in the basement had a Fernco connection, which Mike said was illegal (must be stainless instead of rubber). The sewer pipe must be replaced with an intact length of pipe (no extraneous fittings). An old pipe draining toward the brook must be removed or permanently plugged. Chairman Foberg contacted DEP due to the fact that the proposed property transfer is a cash sale, and will not be required to meet any bank requirements (escrow, etc.) for repairs to the system. Mr. Bumgarden (DEP) said the Board should "keep on top of it," and recommended that the time frame be shortened for repairing/replacing the system. It was voted unanimously to require that the septic system (including the interior piping) be brought up to code no later than December 19, 1998, one year from the inspection date.

It was voted unanimously to enter into a contract for professional services with a Regional Health Agent (Sharon White) through the auspices of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. The contract entitles the Board to two free days of service from the Health Agent between October 1997 and June 1998 and thereafter the charge for service will be $98.00 per day.

Water sample test results were received from Berkshire Enviro-Labs for the Town Hall well, the Avery fountain, the pitcher pump at the Park, the beach area and the Rowe School for the period July through October. All results were within allowable parameters. (See file.)

Information was received from DEP relative to changes in inspection/testing requirements for public water supplies. New policies require quarterly water sample testing instead of monthly testing. However, the policy requires monthly inspections of the wells. Ms. Quinn was directed to contact Bill Enser of Berkshire Enviro-Labs regarding these changes, and to confirm that he will do the monthly testing.

In receipt of check in the sum of $25.00, it was voted to grant a license to pump/haul septage to Greg's Wastewater Removal of South Deerfield.

In receipt of a check in the sum of $25.00, it was voted to grant a license to pump/haul septage to Houghton Sanitary Service of Guilford, Vt.

New forms were received from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for reporting fetal deaths. (See file.)

A letter was received from the Franklin County Solid Waste Disposal District regarding attendance at the Household Hazardous Waste day in October 1997. Four households participated from Rowe, a 50% drop from last year.

A letter was received from FRCOG soliciting Rowe's participation for a Water Quality Management Planning Grant application. A sample letter of support was included, and it was the consensus to add Rowe's support to the application.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn, Administrative Assistant

Approved:

Ellen L. Foberg

Ellen L. Foberg, Chairman

Leonard J. Laffond

Leonard J. Laffond

James D. Brown

James D. Brown