Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2001

Present: Mary Jo Phelps, Geoffrey N. Bagley, and Melissa S. Quinn
Absent: James Brown

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 pm.

Chairman Phelps reported that a percolation test had been conducted by Peter Franz, PE at 162 Zoar Road (Corarito, Map 4, Lot 26)) on May 30 for a septic system repair. One deep hole and one percolation hole were dug. Land will be acquired from the Rowe Land Trust to accommodate placement of the system. The test was successful with a percolation rate of 7.7minutes/inch. Two variances will be required. It was voted grant a variance to allow the septic tank to be located no less than 30 (thirty) feet from the present well. It should be noted that the well water has been tested and results showed total coliform to be –0- and fecal coliform to be –0-. (Test result on file.) It was also voted to grant a second variance to allow the leach field to be located no less than 30 (thirty) feet from the property line abutting land belonging to the Town of Rowe. It should be noted that the distance from the property line abutting land owned by the Rowe Land Trust is yet to be determined and may require a variance. Observers for the Board of Health were Chairman Phelps, James Brown and Sharon White.

Mr. Franz conducted a second percolation test on May 30 at 208 Hazelton Road (Laffond, Map 13, Lot 13). Mr. Franz explained that the test was needed because he needed some criteria on which to base his report on the suitability of the system for the addition of a bedroom to the dwelling. A Title 5 inspection conducted previously by Ronald Lavigne was improperly reported, and leach chambers were installed by a former owner without the approval or knowledge of the Board of Health. One deep hole and one percolation hole were dug. The test was successful with a percolation rate was 32 minutes/inch. The current system is sufficient for the one additional bedroom. If the property owner wishes to make any further additions, they will probably have to add another leaching chamber. It was noted that a deed restriction is required as per Title v (310 CMR 15.203). Observers for the Board of Health were Chairman Phelps, James Brown and Sharon White.

Mike Bostley conducted a Title 5 inspection at 31 Steele Brook Road (Veber, Map 10, Lot 24) on June 5. The system passed inspections. It was noted that one minor repair was needed (the outlet baffle). The repair will be done with a T and a filter to keep solids out of the leach field. He will also install levelers to keep liquids evenly distributed. The exact location of the well could not be determined but it is believed to be about 90 feet. A bladder tank and a shallow well pump were observed in the basement. The Board asked the property owner to have a water test done and submit a copy of the result to be filed. Observers for the Board of Health were Chairman Phelps and Geoffrey Bagley.

Chairman Phelps discussed the Rowe Camp & Conference plans for a new septic system for the farmhouse and dining hall addition with Andrew Juskalian of DEP. She was told that Mickey Spokas submitted several drafts of plans for the system to DEP for approval. DEP sent the drafts back with recommendations until a final plan (basically DEP designed) was approved by DEP. Septic tanks are to be installed in parallel, but because of the high water table, Mr. Juskalian advised Chairman Phelps to make certain during the final inspection that finished grades are as designed and that there is sufficient fill over the tanks to prevent their being heaved out of the ground during periods of high ground water. Chairman Phelps talked to Building Inspector Bill Foster regarding the RC&C building permit and indicated that the Board could sign off on their

portion of it. It was noted that the old system shall be abandoned as indicated on the plans. It was the consensus to approve the application for construction of the system and Chairman Phelps signed the permit.

Chairman Phelps reported that she has talked to Health Agent Sharon White about inspections relative to issuance of temporary food establishment licenses for Old Home Day food booths. Each booth must have three containers for washing utensils and water available at 130 degrees F. Refrigerator temperatures must also be checked. Ms. White will send the Board some information on the criteria for inspection.

Ms. Quinn reported that she is still trying to get "No Swimming" signs for posting at the Pelham Lake beach in the event of a closing. Custom-made signs on aluminum would cost in excess of $100 each. Adams Printing is going to provide a price for signs printed on heavy stock, which could be laminated to make them weatherproof. She will report at the next meeting on the price.

A copy of the water test result for the Lance Larned property (Map 1, Lot 50) was received from Berkshire Enviro-Labs. Both total coliform and fecal coliform were –0-. It was voted to grant a variance to allow the septic tank to be located no less than 38 (thirty-eight) feet from the present well. (Test result on file.)

The Board received information and posters from the Department of Public Health (Mercury Task Force) regarding the hazards of mercury. Posters will be distributed to the town nurse, school, garage, fire station and the transfer station.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn, Administrative Assistant

Approved:

Mary Jo Phelps, Chairman

Geoffrey N. Bagley

James D. Brown