



## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

7 MAIN STREET, Unit #2  
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01452  
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December 12, 2023 Minutes for Hubbardston Board of Health  
Meeting time: 700 pm  
Meeting location: Slade Building, 7 Main St., Hubbardston, MA

- 1) Call to order at 7:10 pm - This meeting is being recorded
  - a. Attendees:
    - i. Cathy Hansgate, Chair
    - ii. Laurie DeMalia, Assistant Chair
    - iii. Judie O'Donnell
    - iv. Liz Putelis
    - v. Nancy Perron (for minutes)
- 2) Review and approval of 11/14/2023 meeting minutes
  - a. Cathy motioned to approve
  - b. Laurie seconded
  - c. All in favor
  - d. Note: Cathy will check to see how much detail is required for minutes. Emphasize bullet points to be recorded.
- 3) Covid 19/Flu/Maven update with Covid/Flu clinic review
  - a. Maven report – No report per Judie. Judie states Covid is highly infectious. If one person in a family gets it, Covid seems to run through the entire family. People need to be testing and need to get Covid boosters. CHC has clinics for Covid shots on Wednesdays from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the South Gardner site. Walk ins accepted. You do not have to be a patient.
  - b. Laurie spoke with Rya today and she requested more Covid kits. Nancy brought a box to the meeting for Laurie to take over to the school. The school has one staff and two students with Covid. There are five new strep cases and two RSV cases. Judie states the RSV vaccinations are very hard to get.
  - c. Laurie attended the MPH virtual emergency meeting. They had the meeting because six cases of Hep A are reported in the Boston area. In greater Boston Area, five of the cases were homeless people, four of the cases were injection drug users. They are the high-risk group. They had an outbreak of Hep A with 563 cases from 2018-2020. They are coming up with some clinics in the Greater Boston area for this. They are targeting syringe service programs, homeless shelters, substance abuse treatment centers, urgent care centers and correctional facilities for the Hep A vaccines.
  - d. Laurie attended the MPH meeting on 12/6. Victoria Selzer said they are done for the year doing Covid and flu clinics. They may be involved in the Hep A shelter vaccinates for Fitchburg and Leominster. They were talking about a lead poisoning pilot program for children. They were going to find children who were identified through primary care offices and follow their home care and their lead numbers. It is a pilot program in the state. They were talking about the Public Health Excellence Grant. Cathy states it goes to a regional health group. It is one of their main sources of funding. They were also talking revising the IMA's. To specify regional services, insurance coverage.
  - e. Laurie attended the local BOH meeting at 3:00 pm today. They spoke about:
    - i. Mosquito information
    - ii. Work force standards for all BOH members. Laurie can forward slides
    - iii. Health at Home/Mass.gov web page. It is brand new from AG's office. AG's office wants all the towns to post on their pages so people have access. This page has information on environmental health issues including lead, asbestos, noise, drinking water, mold & water damage, legal assistance, odors, etc. Very informational. Also, will have a resource page.
- 4) Title V Reports/Perc Tests

- a. 23 Geordie Lane – passes - Reviewed
- b. 28 Abenaki Street – Conditionally passes - Reviewed
- c. 26 Natty Pond Drive – Perc Reviewed
- d. 193 Williamsville Road – Fails plus Perc - Reviewed
- 5) Water Tests/Well completion forms
  - a. 5 Navajo Street – water test - Reviewed
- 6) Waste Water Tests
  - a. 48 Gardner Road – FAST system update – Reviewed and ongoing
  - b. Hubbardston Elderly Housing Wastewater reports – 7/28/23, 8/22/23 & 9/28/23 - Reviewed
- 7) Permits to be voted on/signed
  - a. Scotty's Potties, Inc. – Septic Hauler - Approved
  - b. American Sewerage & Septic – Residential & Commercial Refuse Collection - Approved
  - c. Allain Sitework, Inc. – Installer Permit - Approved
  - d. Integrity Site Development – Installer Permit - Approved
  - e. JPC Septic – Installer Permit - Approved
- 8) Open septic plans/Engineering plans review
  - a. 53 Barre Road – Not signed off through BOH from 2021 – Hold to check where it is in the building process. Will do a post construction review. Cathy will drive to 53 Barre Road.
  - b. 4 Elm Street – repair - reviewed
- 9) Old Business:
  - a. Nursing position – Judie presented the job description at the Selectboard meeting last week. Today, in a meeting with Nate, he asked how it is going to be funded. Selectboard has also asked how the position will be funded. Cathy wrote up the first draft this afternoon and forwarded to Nate and Judie, who was also at the meeting. If it looks ok to Nate, or if he has comments, Cathy will be at the Selectboard next week to move forward in presenting it to them for their approval. We can then begin advertising for the position. The Selectboard was comfortable with the job description.
  - b. Section 1 of the Community Septic Program (Betterment Loan for approval)
    - a. Cathy makes a motion to adopt the current Betterment Loan forms
    - b. Judie seconded
    - c. All in favor
  - c. Food inspections – Cathy's report – Rich Stevens is coming next week to do Cathy's residential kitchen. Cathy will inspect one on Kruse Road. Everyone has been inspected except for the second inspection for Rietta Ranch. In the letter going to them, they will get a credit for one inspection. The same thing goes for the two campgrounds as they were closed before Cathy could inspect.
- 10) New Business
  - a. EDS Set Up Drill – Cathy asks members to come up with a date in January, February and March. Judie suggests a drive through in March. Judie will contact Jamie.
  - b. Dog bite notification - Reviewed
  - c. MDPH Color Inactive Status – Reviewed – Staying inactive
  - d. NIMS/ICS status – Laurie finished ICS.
  - e. 2024 Trash Refuse Hauler Permits - 4 applications mailed on 11/30/23 - Reviewed
  - f. 2024 Septic Installer Permits – 19 applications mailed on 12/6/23 - Reviewed
  - g. New Massachusetts Behavioral Health Helpline – Laurie says the state has started a new program. It is a help line with referrals to 25 CSO clinics. They are manned with a 24/7 hotline and will connect people with available resources.
  - h. Unexpected subjects
    - i. HCS Sanitary Survey Report email received on 12/12/23 – Nate wanted to bring it to the BOH's attention to see if there was anything in it that the BOH needed to be concerned about. HCS has not been keeping up with the reporting. It is all water related per Cathy. Cathy looked over the list. There is nothing that the BOH would be involved with at this time. Nate will meet with Quabbin this week.
    - ii. Cathy received the quarterly report from the accountant. The Recycling revolving, Septic and BOH Revolving balances are not correct. The numbers do not match from the report of Dec. 31, 2022. The balances have decreased dramatically. Cathy spoke with Kelli via email. This issue may come up under an executive session at the next meeting as to why the numbers are as low as they are.
- 11) Complaints - no
- 12) Turnovers/Warrants for approval/Financial Reports

- a. Turnover – no turnover. Nancy showed members the check from Templeton Salvage which is \$1,106.00 to go into Recycling fund. Metal recycling was very successful. Cathy thanked all the people in town for bringing their metal. Nate has been working with Rutland and Princeton to develop a regional recycling site for metals and other recyclables. We could be a part of this so that, as a town, we would not have to have our own entire site. Hopefully there will be a grant to develop this. Rutland would be the host location.
  - b. Warrant 13 for 12/21/2023, payment in the amount of \$338.68 for Robert Meagher and monthly fee for Republic Service – All members signed warrant
- 13) Next meeting date (Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm meeting in Slade Building). Cathy mentioned the board is still short one board member. If members know of anyone that would like to become a board member, please ask them if they would be interested.
- 14) Adjournment is at 8:31 pm

*Chansgate 1/11/2024  
approved w/ 2 corrections*