



## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

7 MAIN STREET, Unit #2  
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01452  
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November 14, 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 7:06 pm. This meeting is being recorded
  - a. Attendees:
    - i. Cathy Hansgate, Chair
    - ii. Laurie DeMalia
    - iii. Liz Putelis
    - iv. Judie O'Donnell
    - v. Nancy Perron (for minutes)
- 2) Review and approval of corrected 10/10/2023 meeting minutes
  - a. Laurie motioned to approve
  - b. All in Favor
- 3) Review and approval of 10/24/2023 meeting minutes
  - a. Laurie motioned to approve
  - b. Liz seconded
  - c. All in favor
- 4) Covid 19/Flu/Maven update –
  - a. Laurie reported the clinic went very well. There was a total of 131 vaccinations given. Some people got both Covid and Flu vaccines. The clinic was very steady with people coming in. MPH N did a good job. MPH N is doing two clinics per day. Everything was done on paper for our clinic. Laurie mentioned about using color and they said it would be too time consuming. Victoria contacted Laurie about doing another clinic and doing it during the day. Laurie told Victoria she would talk to the members of BOH and possibly do it on a Thursday. Laurie said she would go to see Claudia at the Sr. Center on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and focus on the senior population.
  - b. Laurie stated Rya reported zero cases of Covid from October 22 through today, one flu case on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 17 strep throat cases from October 22 through today, concentrated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades. Rya thinks there are high cases because they restarted the bubblers. She did get cups donated to her and have put the cups next to the bubblers to encourage the kids to use the cups.
  - c. Laurie spoke about the Quabbin and Hubbardston Emergency Evacuation Plan. The plan is to bring the school children to the Country Hen on Williamsville Road which is .4 miles away. Laurie questioned why the Country Hen. She asked why not use the church across the street. Laurie stated she believes the Chief of Police was concerned about the kids crossing the road and that would block the emergency

vehicles from getting into the school. Laurie suggested to Rya to take the kids up past the entrance and walk them around and they would not be near any vehicles turning in to the school. Laurie stated the CAPS kids will go to Mr. Mike's. Laurie mentioned many concerns about the children walking that far away from the school with no coats on, it could be freezing cold, snowing, raining, lightning could have hit the building. Judie states they need to bring this up to Emergency Management Committee, the town committee. Judie was just in a meeting with the Fire Chief, Police Chief and this was brought up. Judie was not sure they are aware. Rya stated they were there and they came up with the Country Hen. If they needed to be bused, they would bring them to Ron Burton's. Judie states Ron Burton's is not accessible in the winter with the snows. She said "you can't go up the hill". Laurie asked Erin if someone from the BOH could be invited. That they should contact Cathy, Laurie or someone from the Board. Laurie stated this is a Quabbin thing and the BOH never got invited. Laurie states Quabbin is making all the Quabbin Regional Schools do this plan. According to Rya, Hubbardston Police and everyone were involved in the plan. They are doing the drills. They did one today. They let the kids put on their coats today but sometimes they would not be able to. Judie states there are a number of problems here. First of all, each classroom should have an evacuation bag. Laurie states they do have Go Bags. Judie said once upon a time, the bags were provided and stocked by Emergency Management of the town. The question is are they using the jump ropes? So, the kids know enough to hold onto the jump ropes? Judie has a problem with why the BOH was not invited. We are the ones that are handling the sheltering, we are responsible for public health and yet we have no input? The second thing is you've got Emergency Management. Those kids have to go through the town Emergency Management. It does not matter which town you are talking about; Emergency Management needs to be involved. Even if it is a telephone call. Laurie states BOH should have at least received a copy of the plan. Cathy asked if this was approved or proposed? Laurie stated she understands it was approved because they were doing a drill today. They did not walk them, they just got them out of the building. Judie states when she was a kid, they all learned to evacuate the building and walk down the street, a good distance away from the school. Liz suggests it is about space. (Country Hen). It is a big enough area for all the kids to congregate. Judie states there are 300 plus kids. Judie asks if they are tagging the kids as well? They should be using color coded bracelets. That is all part of a good evacuation plan. Nancy and Judie asked if they were sending them in with the chickens. Laurie states they will not be in with the chickens. There is a building on the left they will use. Cathy asks Laurie to request a copy for review with BOH and Emergency Management. Laurie asks who is on Emergency Management? Judie states it is herself, Cathy, Chief of fire, Chief of Police, Travis from DPW and Nate the Town Administrator.

- d. Judie said there was not much to report from Maven since June. There were 9 cases: 7 Covid and 2 tick cases. Judie could not get in today to update as they were doing maintenance. Laurie questioned Lyme disease? Judie stated the tick cases were anaplasmosis.

5) Title V Reports/Perc Tests

- a. 107 Old Westminster Road – pass
- b. 56 Dogwood Road North – pass
- c. 4 Rollingwoods Road – pass
- d. 28 Hale Road – pass

- e. 173 Gardner Road explanation from installer regarding question on perc test – reviewed
- f. 86 Old Boston Turnpike – pass
- g. 52 Barre Road - repair
- 6) Water Tests/Well completion forms
  - a. Ron Burton Training Village water test report – reviewed
  - b. Ron Burton Training Village pool water test report - reviewed
- 7) Waste Water Tests
  - a. 48 Gardner Road – FAST system report – reviewed – send notice to 48 Gardner regarding pumping and proof of pumping
- 8) Permits to be voted on/signed
  - Tim Gearin – Installer Permit - signed
- 9) Open septic plans/Engineering plans review
- 10) Old Business:
  - a. Nursing position – Cathy proposed to make noted changes and send out to all BOH members. BOH members will review and confirm approval by email then it will go to the Select Board.
  - b. Recycling metals day was held on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Cathy and Laurie were present. Bella and her friend were there as volunteers. The dumpster was filled in 1 ½ hours. There were extra things that would not fit so those were loaded in on Thursday along with metal roofing that Travis and one worker put into the dumpster with a bucket loader. Cathy received a text from Templeton Salvage Company stating that overall, the dumpster was filled three times and they will be issuing a check to the office. Cathy stated that one resident asked why we have not had a recycling day. Other people stated they would like it in the summer. Cathy explained that she is a farmer and cannot do it in the summer time. The goal is to do it twice per year; Spring and Fall. Bella had done the recycling for a number of years so she had knowledge as to how to handle all the people. Overall, everything went really well. The money collected is used to keep the special dumpster at the DPW. DPW requested we keep it at DPW. Cathy thanks Bella and her friend. Liz suggests coordinating with the town wide yard sale. Cathy likes that idea.
- 11) New Business
  - a. Inspection report for the closed landfill – report completed on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cathy asked if he included a bill. Nancy states no. Laurie asked where we are with the state paying the bill? Cathy was not sure where we are with that. Cathy had asked Nate to help. It is almost \$10,000/year. It was the town dump. The land was leased to us. Cathy sent Nate an email a week ago for an update.
  - b. Letter to MPHVN regarding Maven – reviewed
  - c. Section 1 of the Community Septic Program (Betterment Loan) for approval – email to BOH members for review (emailed on 12/5/2023)
  - d. Betterment Loan approval – 31 Cross Road
    - i. Judie motions to accept the application to loan program
    - ii. Cathy seconds – does ask for a page for property owner to sign with what the interest rate will be
    - iii. All in favor
  - e. Unexpected subjects –
    - i. Cathy states she has 1 residential kitchen and the school to do and then she will contact an inspector from another town to do Cathy's. Then all food inspections will be complete for the year. Cathy did not do Rietta as they

closed a week early. Application letters for 2024 will need to be send out. Rietta will only pay for one inspection next year as Cathy did not get to do the second inspection for this year.

- ii. EDS drill sent November 7<sup>th</sup> went to Cathy. Jamie Terry is looking to start to put plan together. Laurie will forward to Nancy to send to everyone (Nancy sent on 11/15/2023 @ 8:25 am). Cathy suggests tabling until the next meeting for a decision. Laurie questioned the Conflict-of-Interest training. This needs to be done every two years. If anyone is not sure if they are due for the training, they can contact the Town Clerk to find out if they are up to date.
- iii. Laurie states she received an email to do a Local Public Health Survey. Cathy replied that she did the survey.
- iv. Laurie states she received a second email for a FEMA Elevation Certification. Cathy states she replied to the email.

12) Complaints – no complaints. Judie states we are doing a fabulous job.

13) Turnovers/Warrants for approval/Financial Reports

- a. Turnover FY24-5, dated 10/30/23, in the amount of \$2,060.00 – reviewed
- b. Warrant 11 for 11/23/23 payment in the amount of \$2,303.68 – reviewed and signed

14) Next meeting date (Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 7:00 pm meeting in Slade Building)

15) Adjournment is at 8:40 pm

*Minutes approved  
by Board on 12/12/2023  
Chansgate, Chair*