

## MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING & HEARING

Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – 5:00 PM  
Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room and ZOOM

### Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Melanie Ames-Zamojski, Rachel Stoler

**Staff:** Ashley Gough, Health Director and Geneva Bickford, Board of Health Clerk

**Other:** Erin Leigh-Hoffman (Zoom), Kathleen Burek (in person)

**Melanie Ames-Zamojski opened the meeting at 5:02 PM**

#### **Announce 2026 Board of Health Election Results:**

- Board to announce the election of Michael Nelson to the Board for the term of June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2029.
  - The Board announced the re-election of Michael Nelson to the Montague Board of Health from June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2029.

#### **Reorganization of Board of Health: - votes will be taken.**

- Board to discuss and vote on annual organization of Board of Health
  - Michael Nelson was absent from the meeting. Ames-Zamojski will be stepping down as chair. Stoler nominates Michael Nelson as Chair, Melanie Ames-Zamojski as Vice Chair and Rachel Stoler as Clerk.

*Rachel Stoler **Nominates** Michael Nelson as Chair, Melanie Ames-Zamojski as Vice Chair and Rachel Stoler as Clerk. Seconded by Melanie Ames-Zamojski. **Motion passes.***

*Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye*

#### **Minutes:**

- The Board of Health (“BOH”) Members reviewed and approved the May 27, 2026 minutes.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the May 27, 2026 Minutes. Seconded by Melanie Ames-Zamojski. **Motion passes.***

*Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye*

#### **Director’s Report:**

- Board to Review the Director’s May 2026 Report
  - The board unanimously voted to accept the April 2026 Director’s Report as written.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Director’s Report. Seconded by Melanie Ames-Zamojski. **Motion passes.***

*Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye*

#### **Nurse Report:**

- Board to Review the Nurse’s May 2026 Report
  - The board unanimously voted to accept the May 2026 Nurse’s Report as written.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Nurse’s Report. Seconded by Melanie Ames-Zamojski. **Motion passes.***

*Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye*

#### **Animal/Barn Inspector Report:**

- Board to Review the Animal/Barn Inspector's May 2026 Report
  - The board unanimously voted to accept the May 2026 Animal/Barn Inspector's Report as written.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Animal/Barn Inspector's Report. Seconded by Melanie Ames-Zamojski. **Motion passes.***

*Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye*

#### **Discussion: Kathy Burek Request for increased mileage**

- Kathy Burek, Animal/Barn Inspector to request an increase to her mileage stipend for the Town of Montague.
  - Burek discussed her request for mileage. The board will look more into seeing if Burek qualifies for mileage, if not they will discuss a stipend increase that would help cover the cost of mileage. Burek has calculated that she does about 30-40 miles and there are at least 48 barns that she inspects. The current rate for mileage is .72/per mile. Adding mileage will also make this position more attractive for anyone that may come in after Burek retires. Ames-Zamojski did indicate that no increase would be able to happen this year as the budget has just been approved.

#### **Discussion: Update on FY27 Tobacco Permit Renewal and Commercial Trash Hauler Renewals**

- Update on FY27 Renewals expiring June 31, 2026.
  - Bickford discussed the remaining tobacco renewals and trash hauler renewals. All tobacco and trash haulers must be renewed by July 1 or they risk losing their permitting/licensing. Gough will check with the tobacco coalition to see what fines may be applicable and how to go about reporting that an establishment is not licensed properly.

#### **Discussion: Update on Opiate Abatement Funds**

- Director to present current funds balance and discussion on planning for use of funds.
  - Gough discussed with the board the \$100,000 that will be received over 17 years and what they would like to see that money go towards. The board and Gough also discussed pooling funds with another community. Greenfield is not pooling their money as they have chosen to work independently. There is a possibility that Deerfield may be willing to pool money. Stoler, Gough and Ames-Zamojski discussed how important infrastructure is and what a benefit that would be to the community. Gough will be seeing if Deerfield would be interested in pooling money and working together and she will also be working on having the money moved to an interest bearing account so that money that is sitting is gaining interest.

#### **Unanticipated Discussions:**

- **July Board of Health Meeting Date:**
  - Ames-Zamojski and Stoler have discussed moving the July meeting from July 22, 2026 to July 29, 2026 due to scheduling conflicts. Bickford will follow up with the Board in email to confirm all members are available.

**Meeting adjourned: 6:06 PM**

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to adjourn the Board of Health Meeting. Seconded by Melanie Ames-Zamojski. **Motion passes.***

*Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye*

Approved by: Rachel Stoler

Date: 7/29/26

**Documents:**

May 27, 2026 Minutes;

Director's May 2026 Report;

Nurse's May 2026 Report;

Animal/Barn Inspector's May 2026 Report;

Opioid Settlement Funds Data Dashboard Annualized Settlement Funds (2 pgs)

