

# MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, July 20, 2022 – 5:00 pm  
Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room and Zoom

## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Melanie Ames Zamojski, Rachel Stoler, Cheryl Volpe RN BSN, Robin Neipp RN

**Absent:** Michael Nelson

**Staff:** Health Director- Daniel Wasiuk, Health Clerk – Anne E. H. Stuart

**Guests:** Al Cummings and Julian Mendoza – Greenfield Recorder

Melanie Ames Zamojski opened the meeting at 5:00 PM

### **June 22, 2022 Board of Health Minutes:**

- Board members reviewed the minutes as presented.

Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the May 18, 2022 minutes. *Seconded by Melanie Ames Zamojski* **Motion passes.**

*Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye*

### **Director's Report:**

- Septic system inspections are beginning to slow down a bit now.
- Focus is on annual food inspections
- Housing complaints are down
- The Whistle Stop Café lacks a fire suppression system and conversations by both the Building Department and Turners Falls Fire Department have happen with possible closure if compliance is not met. The business has till noon on July 21, 2022 to comply. The Health Department has no food safety issues with the restaurant at this time but if closure happens the food permit will be pulled until there is compliance. The restaurant was allowed to open under the previous Director/Department without this system in place.
- Mobile food units have increased, and Daniel has been inspecting them. The units are able to operate on private and public land.

Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Director's report. *Seconded by Melanie Ames Zamojski* **Motion passes.**

*Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye*

### **Nurse's Report:**

- Cheryl Volpe RN, BSN reported that there are 9 infectious disease cases currently and provided a breakdown to the BOH members and the Health Department.
- Discussion ensued regarding reaching out to Dr. Singer, MD and Catherine Dodds, MD to take on the role of Medical Director for the Town of Montague.
- Commonwealth Medicine is all set for the vaccine program along with Cheryl
- Cheryl & Anne have put in a call and the needed paperwork for our reimbursement for the flu vaccine
- The Lyme Disease protocol (along with Flu and Hepatitis) in MA is that cases have to be reported and goes into the que in MAVEN for the Town of Montague where Cheryl acknowledges the cases but does not do investigation.

- In MAVEN any Food Bourne illness there is investigation needed and done by Cheryl.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Nurse's report. Seconded by Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motion passes.***

*Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye*

**Animal Inspector/Barn Inspector Report:**

- The Board members reviewed the report and thanked Kathy Burek for keeping them in the loop.

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

*Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye*

**Old Business:**

- **COVID report:**
  - As requested, Anne Stuart put up a link on the BOH website regarding therapeutic/medication availability for our residents.
  - There have been talks regarding testing the wastewater for COVID-19 with the WWTP and Chelsey Little. Melanie announced that there will be free testing by the state in the future.

**New Business:**

- **Jack Sullivan, Epidemiologist – Intermunicipal Grant**
  - Gave an extensive report on the metrics associated with the COVID-19 virus in the town of Montague and their surrounding towns.
  - There has been an extension for COVID-19 home test kits and their expiration dates according to the state.
- **Cheryl Volpe RN, BSN Public Health Nurse Town of Montague**
  - Cheryl gave an overview of the collaboration with the Health Department regarding meeting the educational/outreach requirements of the opt-out of mosquito spraying plan.
    - Anne designed a flier last year to be used again featuring Marvin the mosquito which gives information surrounding summertime and mosquito safety.
    - A postcard with the top 7 tips to stay safe and “avoid the bite”.
    - State clearing house two-sided Mosquito and Tick information brochure.
    - Channing L Bete Company - Mosquito booklet
    - Town website listing link for various information on mosquitos and tick prevention.
    - PSA Montague Reporter – run 2 times

**Roin Neipp, RN Contact Tracing Nurse – Collaborative Grant**

- Robin handed out a gun safety sheet from BeSmart.org and will discuss more gun safety at the next BOH meeting in August.

**Other items not anticipated:**

- A request for Daniel to work with the Emergency Management team in doing an after action COVID-19 report.
- Melanie will speak to MCTV about posting Jack Sullivan’s presentation
- Melanie requests another meeting with the schools and nurses to discuss back to school and COVID-19 related issues in August.
- Melanie announced that we received another inter-municipal collaborative grant with the towns of: Greenfield – lead, Montague, Deerfield, Sunderland, Leverett, and Shutesbury) for \$300,000

**Meeting adjourned: 6:59 PM**

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

*Zamojski – Aye Stoler – Aye*

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Documents:**

BOH Minutes

Directors Report

Nurse Report

Animal & Barn Inspector Report

Jack Sullivan – Intermunicipal Grant