

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Thursday, September 1, 2022 – 5:00 pm
Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room and Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Present: Melanie Ames Zamojski, Rachel Stoler, Michael Nelson (zoom)

Staff: Health Director- Daniel Wasiuk, Health Clerk – Anne E. H. Stuart, Robin Neipp, RN - Contract Tracing Nurse(zoom), Jack Sullivan – Epidemiologist (zoom)

Melanie Ames Zamojski opened the meeting at 5:00 PM

Discussion: Wastewater Treatment Report findings from Biobot Analytics:

- Melanie shared that the reports that she has gotten have fluctuated weekly but that recently it was reported at 98% which caused her to call a meeting to discuss.
- The BOH office reached out to Chelsey Little at the Clean Water Plant to get a further understanding on processes.
 - The town of Montague does take wastewater in from other towns that are permitted through the Montague Health Department on an annual basis.
 - COVID RNA in septic systems could be more inert as people usually do not pump annually thus giving an inflated reading on the reports
 - According to Chelsey there is not an area to take samples from before septage mixes.
 - Daniel looked at CDC and at Biobots and no specifics have been given to possible report accurately COVID-19 cases in town.
 - Jack suggested that we try to use the data to see long term trends and get a statistical average from the Biobot reports.
 - Rachel would like to see continued sampling done.
 - Robin said that her and some of the other nurses had been talking about how to inform the public regarding the Biobot results and had suggested a color chart.
 - Jack stated that color codes and numbers tend to alarm folks and that looking at trends over time would be a better way to go. He also stated that getting the reports there is a lag time so dissemination of results would be not up to date or accurate.
 - Michael feels given all the information presented we should continue to monitor for trends but not to take any action or advisory recommendations at this time.

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to continue to monitor for trends at this time with no advisories issued. *Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Meeting adjourned: 5:27 PM

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to adjourn the Board of Health meeting. *Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Documents:

Biobot Report

Chelsey Little Information