

**Town of Heath - Board of Health (BoH)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**September 2, 2020**

1. The teleconference meeting was **called to order** at 5:01 pm.

**Roll Call: PRESENT:** Betsy Kovacs, Susan Gruen, Henry Godek, John Palmer, Armand Clavette.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mary Sumner—BoH Clerk; Randy Crochier—FRCOG Health Director; Jenny Hamilton—President, Mohawk Estates , Gene Garland

2. **Reviewed agenda.** Added flu clinic.

3. Reviewed **minutes** of July 9, 2020 AG Abandoned Housing meeting. On a motion by John to accept minutes as amended (fix typo), seconded by Armand; Kovacs-Aye, Palmer- Aye, Clavette-Aye, Gruen-Aye. Godek-Abstained as he was not at that meeting.

Reviewed **minutes** of August 12, 2020 meeting; motion by Armand to accept minutes as amended, seconded by Susan; Kovacs-Aye, Clavette-Aye, Gruen-Aye. Godek-Aye, Palmer- Abstained.

4. **Chairman's Update:** Betsy briefly noted information from recent meetings:

MDPH: noted Covid cases in eastern MA are still higher then desired, travel advisory still in effect, limits on for gatherings, including private gatherings

EMT: has not resumed meeting.

MAPHCO: reviewed that MAPHCO true focus is on emergency planning, and they are shifting away from all the work they have done around the Covid pandemic. To that end member towns will meet every other week to discuss Covid issues allowing emergency prep. to become separate from Covid management. The Covid round table discussions begin September 14.

EDS: brief update for the outdoor flu clinic drills on September 26 at the Charlemont Fairgrounds and indoors at 18 Jacobs Rd on October 3. Will discuss further later on agenda

PVMCD: Heath's mosquito tests have continued to be negative.

5. **Clerk update:** Mary noted an uptick in septic related records request. Briefly discussed concerns and possible avenues for solutions to the BoH records software issues.

6. **Budget:** All is in order. Mary noted the upcoming FRGOG bill.

**Old Business:**

1. Susan reviewed **nurse reports** and reviewed coverage while Claire has been away. All is well otherwise.

5:22 pm Gene Garland joined the meeting.

2. **Health Agent Update:**

Randy reviewed MAPHCO Covid round table and invited all BoH members to attend, virtual meetings planned. Also noted his involvement with the schools and their reopening plans and the work being done on creating criteria for both the reopening in a hybrid model and closing if needed. Noted concerns for learning pods and hubs that parents are creating , and child care centers, both existing and groups coming together as remote school begins.

Reviewed the status of **3 Ledge Road**. Housing Court set a court date (virtual with Covid) for September 15, 2020 where Randy will ask the Court to uphold and enforce the Order to Vacate.

**4 Apache Drive:** no changes, part of septic and lot still dug up. Randy will work with building inspector to determine next steps.

**612 Route 8A:** Mary reviewed \_\_\_need to add date \_\_\_email from Julie Sidon noting no change. Discussed how to move issue forward and concern that waiting till October BoH meeting puts us near colder weather. Betsy asked that in the next 10 days for Randy to visit the camper, meet with Bruce Herzig (occupant of camper) and/or Julie Sidon (property owner) to review issues and options and to report those findings back to BoH.

**153 Sumner Stetson Road:** Mary and Randy noted the history on this property. A LUA was approved in 2018 for a composting toilet/septic system; the owner has decided to go conventional and did necessary perc and design work. The existing LUA will be withdrawn once the new plan is approved.

Betsy asked for an **update on 25 West Branch Rd**. A perc was applied for in March as mandated by the BoH and was done on July 14. Engineer is designing system; Randy will follow up on the timing.

### 3. Covid-19 Issues:

Betsy noted that ME will not be holding their annual meeting or fireworks on Labor Day weekend.

Reviewed mask order that was posted for Town buildings. There have been several questions from Select Board asking for clarification for highway buildings. Susan noted individuals still ignore mandate. Reviewed wording on sign and noted need to be clearer. New, clearer signs will be made and posted by Betsy.

### 4. Whittemore Spring sign:

Current warning sign is in bad shape, A new sign needs to be created. Reviewed draft wording. Mary will finalize wording with Randy. She reviewed some pricing and design options for new sign. A motion was made by Susan to allow Mary to spend up to \$50.00 on an appropriate sign for Whittemore Spring. Seconded by Henry. Kovacs-Aye, Clavette-Aye, Gruen-Aye. Godek-Aye, Palmer- Aye.

Betsy asked to suspend the agenda and move on to New Business.

**New Business:**

**1. Meeting with Select Board:** Betsy reviewed each item on the draft meeting agenda that had been sent to all BoH members (See attached). BoH members discussed and noted the points they felt needed to be shared at the meeting with Select Board on the agenda items.

**2. Attorney General's Abandoned Property Task Force:** Betsy reviewed the July 9 program BoH members had attended and asked for a motion. Susan made a motion that the BoH accept joining the Attorney General's Abandoned Property Program, seconded by John.

Discussion. Are there any down sides or unforeseen costs to joining? Randy answered no, there aren't. It's a free program that helps the Town. No further discussion.

Kovacs-Aye, Clavette-Aye, Gruen-Aye, Godek-Aye, Palmer- Aye

Jenny Hamilton joined the meeting at 6:36 pm. Jenny briefly noted ME meeting not happening and Labor Day weekend events canceled.

#### **Return to Old Business:**

**5. Reverse 911 system renewal:** Betsy noted the work BoH members have done to research alternatives to OnSolve-Code RED. Mary noted that current contract appears to have been renewed when the upgrade of minutes was added back in May. Hilma and Mary are working to clarify what happened and how that effects possibility of switching providers. BoH members should summarize the work and information they have gathered and send to Betsy so that if we can switch to a new provider, we have all our information ready to review and compare. If we need a meeting to discuss further Betsy will reach out to BoH members.

#### **Pumping reports, well reports etc.**

Mary noted there has been an increase in Title V and percs as well as follow-up. Mary will send a list of recent activity on the BoH members for review.

#### **On Going or Suspended:**

Mary noted the work the home owner has done at **434 Rt 8 A** to clean up dwelling.

A concern had been brought to Betsy about **594 Rt 8A**. Issue is a zoning issue as well as BoH, Randy will follow up with Building inspector for update.

Susan made a motion to **adjourn** at 6:47pm; seconded by Henry.

Gruen: Aye, Palmer: Aye, Godek: Aye, Clavette: Aye, Kovacs: Aye

**Meeting Adjourned** at 6:47 pm

Minutes for conference call meeting written by Mary Sumner, BoH Clerk  
Attachment: Draft SB agenda