

**Buckland Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2021 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Via Zoom**

Agenda

- I. Open the meeting.
- II. Guest Presenters.
 - A. Jeanette Voas - Tick & Mosquito borne illness prevention/outreach.
 - B. Lisa White & Meg Ryan - CPHS Public Health Nursing Services overview.
- III. Health Agent Report - Randy Crochier or Lisa Danek Burke.
- IV. CPHS Program Manager - Welcome, Randy Crochier!
- V. Board roles/allocation of tasks.
- VI. State of COVID, local outlook:
 - A. Schools, municipal and public buildings, businesses, other??
- VII. EEA Spraying opt-out/Alt. management plan activities.
- VIII. Tick tests - update.
- IX. Mass. DEP PFAS private well testing program.
- X. PM 2.5 Sensors Grant.
- XI. Review minutes July 20, 2021.
- XII. Review/process mail & voicemail.
- XIII. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chair 48 hours prior to meeting.
- XIV. Public Comment.
- XV. Schedule next meeting.
- XVI. Adjourn the meeting.

Attendees

Marti Taft-Ferguson - Board of Health Chair
 Peggy Hart - Board of Health Member
 Dean Singer - Board of Health Member, Absent
 Randy Crochier - FRCOG Health Agent
 Jeanette Voas - Presenter
 Lisa White - Presenter
 Meg Ryan - Presenter
 Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk

Meeting

- I. Open the meeting - Meeting opened by BOH Chair Marti Ferguson at 6:40 p.m.
- II. Guest Presenters -
 - A. Jeanette Voas - Tick and mosquito borne illness prevention/outreach. Ms. Voas gave an overview of her collaboration with FRCGOG to provide tick education, and the venues she has used for outreach (food pantry, Heath Fair, Keystone Market, etc).
 1. Peggy stated she had reached out to Jeanette for educational information which she in turn left at Buckland Library, the post office and Town hall as

handouts. Ms. Voas showed examples of the handouts and posters she has available.

2. Other possibilities for sites to provide information were the transfer station, Mohawk parking lot after start of the school year, Buckland Recreation area, and the Shelburne Farmers' Market. Marty questioned whether, due to its location, the state would recognize the Farmers' Market as satisfying outreach requirements for the EEA Spraying opt-out. Logistics for setting up a table at the transfer station were discussed and a tentative date set for August 28.
- B. Lisa White & Meg Ryan - CPHS Public Health Services overview.
1. Lisa White introduced herself and Meg Ryan, and gave a brief nursing background of each. She then proceeded with a comprehensive and informative overview of public health nursing, the demographics they serve, the scope of diseases and public health issues they address, services provided, current projects, and projections for the future.
- III. Health Agent Report - Randy Crochier reported that it was a relatively quiet month with only 4 applications submitted.
- A. FRCOG is working with Mr. Newell of Clesson Brook Road with septic issue. Mr. Newell had requested a hearing, withdrew request, skipped Title V, proceeded to perc test, and is pursuing financing for a septic system. Randy recapped sources and payback options for monies available for such projects.
- B. Mohawk School Committee will vote Thursday on continuing masking for the upcoming school year.
- IV. CPHS Program Director - Welcome Randy Crochier!
- A. Randy explained the background and funding for the CPHS Program Director position. His interest stems from his participation in forming the District and a desire to ensure the strength of the District going forward.
- B. Peggy inquired about the status of 89 State Street. Randy responded that he has current contact information and with the addition of another health agent to the FRCOG staff, one will be designated half-time for housing issues. He further explained that inhabited homes and ones with children take priority over uninhabited houses.
- C. Hoarding was addressed, and although there are no identified cases in Buckland there is the possibility that a couple exist. Hoarding as an anxiety disorder was discussed, how hoarding must be approached, and the ability to condemn a true hoarding situation on a first visit. Randy emphasized the problem with fire and emergency calls to such residences. CPHS nurses participated in the discussion.
- V. Board roles/allocation of tasks - Tabled until all members are present.
- VI. State of COVID, local outlook:
- A. Buckland task force meetings have begun again.
- B. CPHS to address how member towns will approach as a whole, simplifying protocols.
- C. Marty pointed out that Town Hall is well suited to distancing, and individual offices are already equipped with pass throughs and plexiglass in doors. Town Administrator Heather Butler currently has no plans to change Town Hall access or hours of operation.

- D. Brief discussion on whether or not a poll of local businesses/shops should be conducted to solicit their input.
- E. One Select Board member has requested that the BOH make a statement on masking. A BOH member will respond to him following the BOH and CPHS meetings.
- F. The question of vaccination requirements or testing for unvaccinated employees was raised, with Randy stating it should be directed to the town's legal counsel. Employees can, however, be required to mask.
- VII. EEA Spraying opt-out/Alt. management plan activities - Peggy Hart is going to address Select Board at next meeting with planned activities and to solicit any input Select Board may have.
- VIII. Tick tests - update
 - A. Marti reported that 20 tests at \$15 each have been purchased for a total of \$300. The cost to residents will be \$20 for state laboratory processing.
- IX. Mass DEP PFAS private well testing program.
 - A. DEP is soliciting home owners to get wells tested and will be sending out postcards to residents.
 - B. Remediation is not required but there is help available to do so.
 - C. Randy reported that among the three towns of Colrain, Leyden, and Shelburne approximately 10 wells have been tested.
 - D. Peggy requested contact information in case anyone interested was not contacted.
 - E. Randy addressed the risks, and discussion followed expressing concern for the proximity of the Buckland Fire Department to the transfer station.
- X. PM 2.5 Sensors Grant.
 - A. Information for application was sent to Heather Butler; application deadline is October 1, 2021.
 - B. Randy is following up, and reported that the Select Board or Town Administrator must sign. Brief Board discussion followed.
- XI. Review Minutes July 20, 2021 - Marti moved to approve the minutes as corrected for one spelling error. Peggy seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.
- XII. Review/process mail and voicemail -
 - A. No voicemail to report.
 - B. One letter/report addressed to Lisa White.
 - C. Randy received an email from Polly Anderson regarding a September 24 event to be held by the Buckland Historical Society. Marti requested that he forward the email to her.
- XIII. Any other item not reasonably anticipated by Chair 48 hours prior to meeting - There were none.
- XIV. Public Comment - There was no public comment.
- XV. Schedule next meeting - Next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021, the second Tuesday of the month instead of the third to accommodate a scheduling conflict.
- XVI. Adjourn the meeting - Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Bolduc, Boards' Clerk, September 14, 2021

Peggy Hart

M. Talbot

D. J. [Signature]