

DS

**Buckland Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2021 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Via Zoom**

Agenda

- I. Open the meeting.
- II. Review minutes August 17, 2021 and August 30, 2021.
- III. Health Agent Report - Randy Crochier or Lisa Danek Burke.
- IV. Board roles/allocation of tasks.
- V. COVID, local outlook and updates.
 - A. Cases, stats, vax rates - local and regional.
 - B. Mask mandate - update, discussion, next steps.
 - C. Vaccination/booster updates.
 - D. Other.
- VI. Flu Clinic planning and messaging.
- VII. PM2.5 Sensor Grant - application.
- VIII. Arbovirus/Mosquitos/Tick testing - update.
- IX. Review/process mail & voicemail.
- X. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chair 48 hours prior to meeting.
- XI. Public Comment.
- XII. Adjourn the meeting.

Attendees

Marti Taft-Ferguson - Board of Health Chair
Peggy Hart - Board of Health Member
Dean Singer - Board of Health Member
Randy Crochier - FRCOG Health Agent
Jody Stetson - Shelburne Board of Health
Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk

Meeting

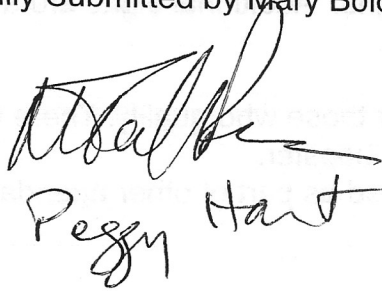
- I. Open the meeting - Meeting opened by Marti Ferguson at 6:34 p.m.
- II. Review Minutes August 17, 2021 and August 30, 2021 - Board members reviewed both sets of minutes. Peggy Hart suggested an addition to the August 17, 2021 minutes. Marti moved to approve the minutes with additional wording suggested by Peggy Hart. Peggy seconded the motion. Vote in favor of motion: Ferguson, yes; Hart, yes. Dean Singer did not vote since he had not been present at the August 17th meeting. There was a brief discussion on August 30, 2021 minutes. Peggy Hart moved to approve, seconded by Dean Singer. Vote in favor of motion: Hart, yes; Singer, yes; Ferguson, yes. Motion was passed unanimously.
- III. Health Agent Report, Randy Crochier or Lisa Danek Burke - Report was given by Randy Crochier.
 - A. There have been multiple permit applications received, and much Title V activity.
 - B. Hiring process for another health agent is moving forward; hopefully the new hire will be on the job by mid-October.

- C. Mask mandate is in effect; Shelburne mandate went into effect the same day.
 - D. Complaints have been received regarding overflowing trash barrels on State Street. The responsibility of the highway department relative to emptying trash was discussed, and the topic will be addressed at the Select Board meeting tonight (Tuesday, September 14, 2021.) One of the major problems with trash disposal is, in addition to the number of pizza boxes, their size makes it difficult to fit through the tops of the trash barrels.
 - E. Peggy stated that while handing out masking information, Buckland Pizza reported that it is difficult for the employees making pizza to wear a mask. Discussion followed on ways the Board/Health Agents could possibly help.
- IV. Board roles/allocation of tasks -
- A. With an increased number of meetings, and an uptick in communications, i.e., mail, email, and voicemail, demands on Board members are greater. Members must explore ways to divide duties.
 - B. The question was raised, "What should public health for a town like Buckland look like?" Are state requirements not necessarily what Buckland needs? Randy shared a list of ten essential BOH services comprised by the CDC in 1994; he recapped each section giving an overview of the priorities and functions of a local board of health. He gave a brief history of boards of health in Massachusetts and the changes that have taken place from the time he first became involved until now.
 - C. Marti outlined the multiple tasks to be distributed amongst the members including: attending various meetings; clerical tasks; posting, ensuring minutes are signed and scanned; creating agenda; responding to voicemail and email messages. She further questioned what is acceptable under open meeting law regarding sharing information from seminars, webinars, etc. Can links be shared with Board members? Should they all attend different meetings/events, etc. and have an "updates" agenda item? Randy responded that each town approaches these issues differently.
 - D. Taking turns being responsible for voicemail and email communications was suggested, and the importance of responding discussed. After discussing town email logistics, postings, etc. it was decided that Peggy and Dean be given log in credentials for the town website. Dividing meeting coverage was addressed further with concern expressed over the time commitment resulting from the sheer number of meetings.
 - E. It was agreed that creating the agenda is the responsibility of the Chair. Peggy will post minutes, and Dean will be responsible for voicemail and email.
 - F. Masking at the transfer station was discussed; the Town Administrator had asked the Board for guidance. Following Board discussion, it was decided to recommend that all interactions at the transfer station be kept brief and outdoors.
- V. COVID, local outlook and updates -
- A. Cases, stats, vax rates, local and regional -
 - 1. There are five active cases in Buckland, three are a cluster from an out of town event, and two are independent. One ends isolation today. Board discussion on break through cases followed.

2. A pop-up clinic to be held at the transfer station was discussed, with some debate on whether it was still scheduled to be held there or changed to the Buckland Fire Department. Because of their proximity to each other, it would not be difficult to intercept the nurse and move to one location or the other.
 3. Randy reported that the vaccination rate, already high in this area, continues to slowly but steadily rise. There are still some pop-up clinics which are being attended.
- B. Mask Mandate: update, discussion, next steps -
1. Reaction to the mask mandate is mixed with one service business refusing to comply and a retail business that will not post masking requirements. One business inquired about enforcement and the ramifications of non-compliance.
 2. Randy reported that one Shelburne business closed, but will be reopening soon. He followed with a regional overview of mandates; towns with recommendations, and towns with or without mandates and their effective dates.
 3. Board discussed enforcement, deciding initially to monitor and evaluate. Members agreed to leave mandate as is.
 4. Five or six businesses are left to post signs. Additional signs are also available from Phoebe Walker if needed.
- C. Vaccination/booster updates -
1. Boosters will be provided at flu clinics for those who qualify. There was a brief Board discussion regarding third shot vs booster.
- D. Other - COVID concerns were also addressed as part of other agenda items, such as flu clinic and masking discussions.
- VI. Flu Clinic planning and messaging -
- A. Randy announced a September 30 clinic to be held at Frontier Regional School, followed by clinics at Mohawk Trail and Pioneer Regional Schools. Board discussion followed regarding messaging, especially in relation to target audiences and pre-registration. In the absence of available fliers to advertise clinic, and no town letter or Facebook presence, what other methods can be employed? Where to publicize: local doctors' offices, and the Recorder were suggested.
 - B. New clinic registration program was explained by Randy; also the fact that there are 2 URLs to facilitate a "live" option as well as one that is used by senior centers etc. to help with those for whom scheduling is difficult.
 - C. Randy to send date of Mohawk clinic to Board members. Clinic will likely be in gym, same as COVID vaccination clinics. He also estimated the amount of time per person, thus the number of vaccinations possible per hour. Marti suggested that information should be confirmed before scheduling clinic date.
- VII. PM2.5 Sensor Grant, application -
- A. Randy will complete the application form. He suggested that Buckland and Shelburne collaborate on the number of sensors and locations.
 - B. Board discussed air quality issues and brain stormed about the most advantageous sites to place sensors.

- C. Application must be submitted by October 1st or 2nd and sensors are to be up and activated by December.
- VIII. Arbovirus/Mosquitos/Tick testing, update -
 - A. Tick tests have been ordered.
 - B. Marti reported on Arbovirus, EEE, and West Nile Virus both in terms of incidence and locations. Board again addressed methods of outreach for public education and awareness.
- IX. Review/process mail and voicemail -
 - A. Peggy reported that she had referred a couple of voicemail messages to Randy regarding East Buckland Road.
 - B. Complaints were made about masking signage and non-compliance of a local business.
- X. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chair 48 hours prior to meeting - There were none.
- XI. Public comment - There was no Public Comment.
- XII. Adjourn the meeting - Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Bolduc, Boards' Clerk, October 19, 2021



Peggy Hart