

Board of Health Minutes  
41 Cochituate Road – Large hearing room  
October 16, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Robert DeFrancesco (RD), Chair, John G. Schuler, M. D. (JGS), Jon Storer (JS) were present. Participating by Remote log in was Genevieve Anand M. D. (GA) Public Health Director Julia Junghanns (JJ) and Health Agent Darren MacCaughey (DM).

One may watch or may participate remotely with the meeting link that can be found at <https://www.wayland.ma.us/public-body-meeting-information-virtual-inperson-and-hybrid>

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A, §18 meetings in the Town of Wayland will be conducted via remote participation. Interested parties may view the meeting either directly through an online teleconference via Zoom or by watching the meeting live streamed on WayCam. Members of the public may participate by calling a designated phone number if they wish to make a comment during the proceedings. All persons who wish to make a comment will be provided an opportunity to be heard. The connection information for Zoom as well as the public comment phone number will be listed on the meeting agenda which will be posted on the Town website and available in the Town Building lobby at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. In addition to being live streamed, Waycam will record the meeting and this recording will be made available to the public as soon after the meeting as is practicable. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings.

6:30 p.m. Public Comment – there were none

6:30 p.m. **Review and discuss draft update of Disposal Works Construction Permit (DWCP) fee schedule.**

Ms. Junghanns presented the Board with the current schedule of (Disposal Works Construction Permit) DWCP fees and fee schedules from several surrounding Towns for a first discussion regarding the fee schedules. Staff is looking to modify the soil testing fees to avoid the present confusion with the terminology regarding if the soil testing would be for an upgrade or new construction to add bedrooms. Often the engineer/homeowners do not always understand the difference between an upgrade and new construction. It is being proposed to set a flat appointment fee (\$300.00) for the Health Agent to go out and witness soil testing (this is a model we see in other towns). When the septic design is received, the Health Agent will review the design and determine if there are additional fees due for additional testing that was performed or will need to be performed. There was discussion regarding the process of soil testing and the associated fees. The discussion will be continued as the fee schedule is worked out.

7:15 p.m. **Vote to post meetings for Great meadows Public Health Collaborative (GMPHC) through Sudbury and the GMPHC website. Review Annual report of the Public Health Excellence Grant, additional update on CT/CI Grant work for the conclusion of the grant year (June 30, 2024), draft budget, office of Local Health Performance Standards press Release; workforce training and credentialing.**

Wayland is part of a 7 town collaborative and it has been advised by Mass Association of Health Boards that the GMPHC should be following Open Meeting Law and posting their meeting agenda's and minutes. There is a mechanism to adopt a process with the understanding that the minutes and agendas will be on the regional website for Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative. The Director reviewed the two grants again, the PHE Grant and the CT/CI grant (which we are the fiscal agent for) and the work they are performing and the timeline for grant funding from the State. Wayland benefits from the work that GMPHC is doing through an Intermunicipal agreement we are part of a Public Health Excellence grant being managed by the fiscal agent town of Sudbury. We have had assistance from the PHE Regional Health Agent who has been coming to Wayland to assist with compliance with reporting for Innovative and Alternative septic systems.

An Annual report for the Public health Excellence Grant/CT CI grant was provided to the Board. The CT/CI grant is working on a Health Equity Needs Assessment, to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup> when the funding ends. This

project was discussed and voted for by the PHE Advisory Committee. Other work is being done as well; planning local events, Concord held an event – Laura Duff Regional public health nurse “hiding in plain sight” during Concord Carlisle back to school night. Now they are planning an event regarding “Aging in Place”. Also, other programs and focus on mental health needs, harm reduction. Filling in when there are extra needs, vacancies, vacations or problems where additional support is needed.

**7:45 pm. RD: Motion: In accordance with provisions 940CMR2903 we adopt the open meeting law method specific to Regional or District Public bodies posting methods that the method for posting meetings for the Great Meadows Regional Collaborative shall be those posting mechanisms of the Sudbury PHE Collaborative host community and posted on the Regional website.**

**Second JGS roll call: JGS- yes, JS-yes, GA- yes, RD-yes, vote 4-0 all in favor**

Working to strengthen the delivery of Public Health Services, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) today announced the establishment of a set of performance standards, credentials, and workforce training requirements for local public health departments. These standards, created in close collaboration with local public health partners, are an important step toward providing consistent, high-quality public health services for all Commonwealth residents.

The implementation of the Performance Standards will:

- Ensure local public health employees have the knowledge and training required to carry out their duties
- Assist local health departments in offering consistent and high-level services to all residents
- Establish a measure for assessing local health departments’ capacity to determine what resources are needed to fully implement the Performance Standards (e.g., staffing, training, funding)

JJ reviewed briefly the Blue Print that the state created and has been following to expand public health to this direction. SAPHE, state action for public health excellence act.

**7:50 p.m. General business- Bills- Correspondence Loker field soil removal area -410 commonwealth Road, letter from MassDEP RTN 3-37690, letters from Weston & Sampson on public involvement activities at disposal site 3-37690**

The Town manager and BoH received a letter from DEP dated September 19, 2023 regarding historical site operations at the Loker field property and resource areas for an assessment of soils within and around the former Burn area for presence of PFAS. The letter also allows for the relocation of the soil reuse area and reuse of the soils on the disposal site is acceptable

There are several letters regarding the PIP activities for the Loker Field Project; Weston & Sampson Engineering (who was hired by the town) is providing the information and they have extended the end of the comment period to October 14, 2023.

The site of the field is at the former Dow Chemical property and there is a document repository in the Health Dept with years of reports. There was discussion regarding the location of the soil source area with the soils in question, the field is completed and the parking lot has been paved. The Board asked to the current location of the soil stockpile and that is not known presently.

The Health Department has received an Environmental Notification Report regarding the extension of comments period regarding Modera Wayland Project (Mill Creek Project at the former Whole Foods) in anticipation of supplemental information and they are accepting comments up to October 31<sup>st</sup>. Modera

Wayland is appealing the Wayland ZBA decision in which the ZBA denied the application and an appeal was filed 8/28/23.

Correspondence has been received from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Revisions are being proposed to the toxic or hazardous substance list of 22 substances. Julia will do more research on this topic and provide an update to the Board when more information is available.

8:15 p.m.       **Director's Report-** Ms. Junghanns advised the Board regarding several housing violations where the residents are working to clean up their properties. The property at 10 Shore Drive was before the Board prior to Covid and we received another complaint from a neighbor regarding the yard. We are working with the resident on improvements/cleanup and compliance.

We are working on updating our septic permit fees and starting FY 25 budget soon. Michele Schuckel PHN has provided an update of Vaccines, advertising for the clinics and getting the word out about free test kits.

A survey is out on Public health Equity that takes about 20 minutes to complete, we have distributed flyers to encourage residents to complete the survey. We encourage Board members to take the survey. The information is for a state equity survey and will also be used for our Regional Health Equity Needs Assessment.

Michele has completed one senior clinic with two more to come on 10/23 and 11/6, she has been assisted by a great group of volunteers and nurses. All town staff are being encouraged to attend. Orders for Pfizer, Moderna and Novavax; COVID vaccines are provided and additional clinics will be upcoming. We are advising the public that we have received additional Covid test kits. Narcan is being offered for free at the flu clinics and at the Health department office. The GMPHC Regional Nurse is assisting the school nurses to be able to offer onsite vaccine in the schools for staff.

Schools are off to a great start and mandated health/screenings are being scheduled. We are part of a school safety planning program with a multidisciplinary group of first responders and school administration. Wayland will have a 0.5 FTE fully trained wellness coach that will be for 5 years (using awarded grant money), in conjunction with the High School Administration, Guidance and the Wellness team.

Next meeting will be November 13, 2023

**7:55 P.M.       RD: motion to adjourn – second JGS Roll call JS=yes, JGS=yes, GA- yes and RD –yes**

Patricia White, Department Assistant

**101623 Minutes**

**Approved 031124**