



TOWN OF TISBURY

office of

THE BOARD OF HEALTH

PO Box 666, 66 High Point Lane
Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts 02568

MEETING MINUTES – December 14, 2021 – 4:00 PM

The Tisbury Board of Health (BOH) held a meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 4:00 PM.

Due to ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, this meeting was held virtually via Zoom, ID 970 5689 4859, Passcode 317040, phone 646-876-9923.

Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Dr. Michael Loberg, Vice-Chairman Jeff Pratt, and Malcolm Boyd, Clerk. Ms. Maura Valley, Health Agent, Catie Blake, Assistant Health Agent, and Valerie Soushek, Administrative Secretary, were also in attendance.

Commissioner Pratt called the meeting to order at 4:11 PM.

Chairman Loberg joined the meeting at 4:27 PM.

The meeting minutes of November 16, 2021 were approved as written.

HEALTH AGENT REPORT

- **COVID update**

Ms. Valley reported 105 cases last week, a weekly record. There are 48 cases reported so far this week since Sunday. The health agents are trying to automate the contact tracing system for reporting home test results even though the State has said to reduce such efforts as the State is shutting down the Contact Tracing Collaborative. The Island is still conducting as much tracing as possible as the health agents believe they can reinforce the isolation and quarantine protocols. The automated system will consist of an email address published to the public with an auto-response providing a link to a website with general information, when to quarantine, when to isolate, etc. Such guidance will be beneficial for the home tests from the State. The text message for positive cases has also been updated. The bus was on-island last weekend, and they administered 1,215 vaccinations. Except for a few pediatric doses, all available Moderna and

Pfizer vaccines were used. Another bus will be on-island on January 9th. Details will be available to residents in the local papers.

- Nitrogen regulations

Ms. Valley reviewed the recent hearing as friendly and opposition-free. Ms. Valley will forward a copy of the recording to Commissioner Pratt since he was not in attendance. In addition, she sent the most recent draft of the regulations to Tisbury's Legal Counsel to review and specifically answer whether the BOH has the legal authority to require residents to use a provisionally approved technology. The commissioners may be able to act further on the regulations in January in parallel with the CWMP and needs assessment projects.

- Board of Health budget

Ms. Valley provided a copy of the preliminary budget to the Commissioners. She explained that spending is still very unusual given the pandemic, so previous estimates were used in the hope that we will be returning to business as usual in the new fiscal year. She is still waiting for Wright Pierce's proposal. The commissioners unanimously approved the budget as presented and for submission by Friday, December 17th. All understood that the Wright-Pierce contract proposal will still require negotiation upon receipt.

- Holiday meeting schedule

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held after the holidays, on January 11, 2022. An earlier date can be considered if necessary.

ASSISTANT HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

- General updates

Ms. Blake reported that annual licensing on Opengov is still a learning process for the BOH and end-users, but she is confident that it will get easier with continued use.

Inspections at Cronig's and Stop & Shop, which are very time-consuming, were recently conducted. Stop & Shop is the cleanest it's ever been.

Staffing continues to be a challenge for food service establishments.

DWA FOR BOARD APPROVAL

4351 Kenneth B. Hurd / 127 Red Coat Hill Road / 52-A-7 – Approved.

BILLS AND PERMITS FOR APPROVAL

With no further business to conduct, the commissioners adjourned at 4:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Soushek
Administrative Secretary

Document(s)

The Board of Health commissioners accept the meeting minutes, dated December 14, 2021, as presented.

Date: _____ Signed:  _____