



TOWN OF TISBURY

office of

THE BOARD OF HEALTH

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

MEETING MINUTES – November 15, 2022 – 4:00 PM

This meeting was held at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 High Point Lane, and virtually by Zoom meeting ID: 810 3729 9967, Passcode: 850883, or by phone at 646-876-9923.

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pratt at 4:00 PM.

The meeting minutes for September 27, 2022 were approved by the Commissioners unanimously.

APPOINTMENT(S) – N/A

HEALTH AGENT REPORT:

DPH Capacity Assessment

Massachusetts' Department of Public Health (DPH) has been conducting a capacity assessment, a long process and a lot of work for municipal health agents. Phase 1 included answering many questions specific to health departments' capacities, and phase 3 was more of a records audit where they requested documents of actual transactions. The State is using this exercise to see where additional training, funding, and staffing, to a lesser degree, are needed. It isn't a punitive survey.

DEP Nitrogen Sensitive Area Regulations

Ms. Valley attended an updated presentation at the MHOA conference last month. When the new regulations are adopted, they will immediately be effective for communities with 280 designations, including Cape Cod. The Islands must comply when their TMDLs and nitrogen-sensitive areas are established. When the effective date is confirmed, the presenter stated that filing a notice of intent for the 20-year permit extends the time for gaining compliance, which applies to Tisbury, given that it will not be possible to complete the septic upgrades within the five-year option. With the current town-level regulations, Tisbury is well ahead of other Island and State communities, so the State will likely focus on communities that have yet to do much or no mitigation for nitrogen in the ponds. Ms. Valley advised the State that funding must be available before the upgrades are ordered. Further, the ARPA grant will only provide enough funding for seven systems in Tisbury. Per Mr. John Smith of Kleantu, the cost of the NitROE system will remain at least the same when it is placed in general approval status by the State. Only the cost of testing could be reduced if the frequency is changed.

COVID and Flu Vaccine Clinics

A COVID vaccine bus was on-island recently. Over 500 shots were administered. In addition, everybody who was vaccinated received a \$75 gift card made available by the rural community program. Another clinic will be held on December 11th with gift cards included.

Three community flu shot clinics will be held—one each in Edgartown, Tisbury, and West Tisbury during the week of November 28th. Martha's Vineyard Hospital donated 200 doses to the program. The State also supplied 150 doses for people under 18 years old or the non- or under-insured island population. More information will be published in the newspapers and websites soon.

Holiday Meeting Schedules

All agreed that there would be no additional meetings in November. The regularly scheduled meetings in December are on the 13th and 27th. However, due to limited availability during the holidays, the meetings will be held on the 6th and 20th.

Additional Update

Ms. Valley updated the commissioners on the property at 187 Lagoon Pond Road—Ms. Hambrecht checked with the zoning department and was told that the house she wanted to move to her property was too big to be a guest house. As such, a subdivision of the lot will be required, but she will still need a planning board special permit. A hearing is pending.

ASSISTANT HEALTH AGENT UPDATE:

Potential Allergen Issue

Bread provided by Sweet Bites and sold at Cronig's Market was mislabeled as being nut-free and caused a reaction in a boy with a nut allergy. Upon investigation, the bread was pulled and relabeled as banana nut bread.

Ms. Blake recommended that all employees at Sweet Bites become allergen awareness trained and post additional warning statements, etc., to which their management was very responsive.

Wolf's Den

During a common victualler's license inspection by the building and fire inspectors, it was discovered that the Wolf's Den was refrigerating their food with a mini-split unit set to 60 degrees in a closed-off room. Ms. Blake responded to inspectors' observation immediately--some of the food was frozen, but large amounts had to be disposed of. What was still frozen had to be appropriately thawed and cooked immediately. Ms. Blake also checked the temperature in the other refrigeration unit, which was registering at 60 degrees, so everything had to be thrown out. Ms. Blake ordered them to have the temperatures checked/calibrated by the technician when the freezer part was replaced and frequent BOH inspections will be conducted in the future to ensure that they are following protocols.

DWAs FOR BOARD APPROVAL

4399 Flowerwood LLC / 17 DeBettencourt Way / 23-A-19.2 – Approved

4402 Flowerwood LLC / 317 State Road / 23-A-19 - Postponed

4403 105 Hines Point LLC / 105 Hines Point / 11-A-44 – Approved

4404 Manny DeOliveira / 131 Summer Street / 25-C-26 - Approved

BILLS AND PERMITS FOR APPROVAL

Wampanoag Environmental Laboratory / water testing / \$600

Island Health Care / public health services / \$4,048.22

Envirotech Laboratories, Inc. / water testing / \$570

Envirotech Laboratories, Inc. / water testing / \$456

With no further business to conduct, Chairman Pratt adjourned the meeting at 4:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Soushek
Administrative Secretary

Document(s)

The Board of Health commissioners accept the meeting minutes, dated November 15, 2022, as presented.

Date: 17 January 2023 Signed: _____