



TOWN OF TISBURY

office of

THE BOARD OF HEALTH

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MEETING MINUTES – February 9, 2021 – 4:00 PM

The Tisbury Board of Health (BOH) held a meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 4:00 PM.

Due to ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the meeting was held virtually via Zoom -- Meeting ID: 913 4397 2630; Passcode: 165947

Chairman Boyd called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

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

Pam Bennett, HR Administrator, was in attendance.

MEETING MINUTES – The meeting minutes of November 17 and December 8, 2020 were approved.

HEALTH AGENT REPORT

- COVID 19 updates

Ms. Valley reported that there is going to be a County-sponsored community forum to discuss vaccines and the vaccination process on Friday, February 12, 2021, at 5 PM. There will be a presentation with MVH. Ms. Valley will be representing the Island health agents. IHC will also be in attendance. Ms. Valley stated that she will forward the information to the commissioners for their attendance if available. They should also forward the details on to anyone else that may be interested. Questions will be taken.

To date, all vaccines are going through Martha's Vineyard Hospital since most Island residents have medical records there. Ms. Valley is on the steering committee and meets regularly with MVH representatives. They believe they can administer 500 doses per day, but the State determines the priority and number of doses available to MVH.

The Island could see another uptick in cases with the upcoming school breaks especially withing families and household groups.

ASSISTANT HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

Ms. Catie Blake reported that an inquiry about holding the Street Fair in July has been received. Ms. Blake explained that it is too early to make such decisions; the State has not provided any advance information for the summer. MV Museum has reached out to the BOH regarding a large oyster festival. For the most part, she has been working with food service establishments to get them licensed and inspected. She stated that the Black Dog enterprise has sold 60% of their business and there have been no further issues with compliance.

OLD BUSINESS

- Nitrogen regulations

Ms. Valley confirmed that she and Commissioner Loberg met with Mr. George Sourati, Sourati Engineering Group, to discuss the proposed revisions to Tisbury's Nitrogen regulations. Mr. Sourati commented that they were well thought out and the right thing to do. The main changes include—

- The required Nitrogen discharge level is being lowered, which a few technologies can achieve.
- A property within a watershed would be required to install an advanced treatment system at the time of sale/transfer.
- A failed system within a watershed must be upgraded to an advanced treatment unit; a waiver will no longer be automatic.
- Even if a system was approved for extra bedrooms without construction, a system upgrade will be required when the bedrooms are constructed under the new regulations.

Ms. Valley stated that she would talk to Ms. Meegan Lancaster, Oak Bluffs Health Agent, about the next steps for a common version of the "watershed" regulations. She believes, however, that Oak Bluffs is considering such regulations as part of their CWMP process.

Ms. Valley did reach out to Mark White, regarding the CWMP, to no avail.

Commissioner Pratt had to leave the meeting at 4:40 PM.

It was agreed that Ms. Valley would review the changes and questions from a legal standpoint with Ms. Joan Malkin, Esq. while she continues to seek advice from Town Counsel.

Commissioner Loberg stated that short term rental taxes collected could be available for subsidizing the installation of future advanced treatment systems.

DISPOSAL WORKS APPLICATIONS

DWA 4300 Michael Cochran – 11 Martha’s Vineyard Ave. / 16-C-2.14

- Approval postponed for further information about the proposed system compared to imminent changes to the Nitrogen regulations.

DWA 4304 MCLC Family Ltd. Partnership – 475 Edgartown Road / 19-A-2 – Approved.

With no further business to conduct, the Board of Health commissioners adjourned at 5:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Soushek
Administrative Secretary

Document(s)

The Board of Health commissioners accept the meeting minutes, dated February 9, 2021, as presented.

Date: _____ Signed:  _____
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