

**Becket Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 28th, 2013**

Board of Health Members Present: Laurel Burgwardt, Gale LaBelle, Howard Lerner.

Board of Health Members Absent:None

Meeting opens at: 10:11 am

Members of the public present: Robert Ronzio, Beth VanNess, Colleen O'Conner, Jeanne Pryor, Kim Raferty.

Ms. LaBelle calls the meeting to order at 10:11 am and announces that agendas are on the table for anyone who wants one. She advises that this meeting is being held in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws regarding public health and safety , regulations of the Department of Public health and the department of Environmental Protection as well as the By-Laws of the Town of Becket. All decisions require approval of a majority of the quorum of the Board of Health members present. Motions ending in a tie will not be acted upon until such a time as a majority can be achieved. In unusual cases, the rule of necessity may be invoked to reach a decision. Ms. LaBelle further advises that it is her responsibility under the open meeting law, to ask if anyone is making a video or audio recording of the meeting, Ms. LaBelle introduces herself as well as the other members of the Board to all present.

Review and Approval of July 31st , 2013 Meeting Minutes- Approval of Minutes tabled until next regularly scheduled meeting.

Public Input- Ms. Colleen O'Conner thanks the Board of Health members for doing all that they have and being instrumental in finally getting things moving at her property. Ms, O' Conner explains that getting the inspection done at the school as well as on her property has been a long time coming and again, thanks Ms. LaBelle for all that she has done for the Board of Health in the last three months. Colleen confirms that everything is moving in the right direction. Ms. LaBelle briefly summarizes for all present as to how things are going at the proposed site and further advises Colleen that the crew will be back at 8:30 am Tuesday morning to complete the job. Ms. Pryor asks if there is a report available from last year, and if so, she says she would like to read it. Ms. LaBelle will have the Health Agent look into this.

Old Business – Ms. LaBelle advises the other Board of Health members that they have received a complaint on the Sala property in Becket, reporting that there is no running water at the premises. Ms. LaBelle explains that when she went to the homeowner to speak with him, he explained to her that he does not live on the property, he just goes there to farm the land. Board members briefly discuss a few of the grants that have been available in the past to possibly assist homeowners in need. Ms. O' Conner explains that she is fairly sure that there isn't any electric service there either.

Ms. LaBelle informs the Board that she has sent the homeowner a certified letter and that she is willing to go through all the proper procedures and will conduct all required inspections. Mr. Howard Lerner asks Ms. Pryor to please explain the CDBG Grant that everyone is speaking of, Ms. Pryor explains the grant for all to hear and understand. Mr. Lerner states that he thinks that we should grant money for all those who have their primary residence here.

Mr. Robert Ronzio asks if the Board of Health has received a complaint on a piggery located on Dragon's Way? Ms. LaBelle says no such complaint has yet been received.

Percolation test update- Ms. Burgwardt advises board members that she has observed Peter Franz completing the test on McNerney Road and that the property is now in compliance, she also states that Black Arrow Way property as well as Gentian Hollow Road are all set.

Chairman to report on the Health Alliance- Ms. LaBelle briefly reports that Scott has been on board all month and that all is going very well.

Center Pond Water Testing follow-up- Ms. LaBelle reports that this is still in progress and will advise when there is new information to report. Ms. LaBelle reports that Camp Greylock, Camp Lenox, and Camp Becket all had water issues and that all information has been filed.

Sherwood Forest Water testing- Ms. LaBelle and Mr. Ronzio report that all water tests have been good, no issues to report.

Medical Marijuana- Ms. LaBelle informs board members of some upcoming meeting dates, board members discuss.

Ms. LaBelle advises board members present that Ms. Burgwardt will be attending a soil evaluator class on September 18th, Ms. Burgwardt states that she is looking forward to attending. Ms. LaBelle further advises that Scott K. has completed 12 Title V's over the last month.

New Business- Review of fee schedule /registering schedule in Boston- Ms. Burgwardt advises that the Board of Health has to witness all Title V's in the Town of Becket. Ms. Burgwardt further advises that there have been some recent complaints. Mr. Ronzio asks what exactly a witness does at the Title V inspections and expresses concern that if the individual witnessing has not yet been trained it may be difficult for them to know what it is they are actually looking for. Ms. Burgwardt briefly explains to Mr. Ronzio what they are looking for and how the process is carried out. Members present discuss the fact that a perc test does have to be observed, however with a Title V, it is optional.

Ms. LaBelle advises of a complaint that was just received on a property in the Town. Ms. LaBelle reads the letter that was sent by the DEP aloud for the board members to hear. Board members briefly discuss. Mr. Lerner advises that they need to send out two letters to the property owners, one to be sent certified mail and the other regular mail, notifying them of the reported issue and letting them know that the Board of Health will need to come and do an inspection of the property in order to properly investigate the complaint.

Budget- Read and reviewed. Ms. LaBelle advises that she has paid the Transfer Station \$1178.00. Upon review, it appears that 30% of all monies have been spent.

Mr. Ronzio discusses a recent article that appeared in the Berkshire Eagle about the Quarry in the Town of Becket. Mr. Ronzio expresses concern that this may be considered a “public beach” and that water testing should be considered by the Board. Ms. Pryor explains that the town Administrator along with a Becket Police Officer has recently visited the Quarry and have also had conversation with the Berkshire Eagle. Ms. LaBelle advises that she will do some research and then report back to the Board.

Ms. LaBelle announces that there is a vaccine training program that is being offered and is coming up. Gale advises she will be attending.

Ms. LaBelle reports one other complaint that the Board has received, referencing a property on Wells Road. She explains that it is a landlord / tenant situation and that they did go to the property, took pictures of all the apparent violations and have been in contact with the homeowner. Ms. LaBelle explains that the homeowner has a mediator and is trying to work things out.

Any other business to come before the board- None

Board members briefly discuss setting a date for the next regular meeting, explaining there is an upcoming Jewish Holiday. Next meeting to be scheduled for Wednesday, September 11th at 9:30 am .

11:30 pm - Howard makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, Laurie seconds motion, meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hunt
Administrative Assistant

Signed _____ Date _____
Gale LaBelle

Signed _____ Date _____
Laurel Burgwardt

Signed _____ Date _____
Howard Lerner

