

**Becket Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 15th, 2014**

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

Board of Health Members Absent : None.

Public Present: Daniel Lovett, Colleen O' Connor.

Meeting opens at: 10: 08 am

Ms. LaBelle calls the meeting to order at 10: 08 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, Heather Hunt advises Ms. LaBelle that she is making an audio recording. Ms. LaBelle introduces herself as well as the other members of the Board to all present.

Review and Approval of December 4th Meeting Minutes- Board members read and review minutes as presented. Mr. Lerner makes minor changes. Mr. Lerner makes a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Ms. LaBelle seconds motion , minutes are unanimously approved as amended.

Public Participation- Mr. Daniel Lovett approaches the board members present and explains that he is from Hill Engineering. He further explains that Hill Engineering has been hired by Camp Watitoh to do Title V Inspections. Mr. Lovett advises that the camp has a total of eight septic systems and that they have spent 2-3 days at the camp thus far. Ms. LaBelle asks Mr. Lovett what the population of the camp is. Mr. Lovett states that in the summer, there are about 240 people there per day, and that includes campers as well as staff.

Mr. Lovett presents the preliminary plans that they have prepared for Camp Watitoh showing the eight systems and the leech fields. Mr. Lovett states that there has been no evidence of any well contamination. Mr. Lovett also states that he has contacted Mr. Paul Netupski at the DEP.

Mr. Lovett states that it is quite a complicated set of systems and that he is in attendance at the meeting to help the Board of Health members better understand the report that Hill Engineering has provided.

Board members read and review the report submitted, Mr. Lovett points out that septic systems that are marked #1, #2,#3, and #5 have had some high seasonal waters. Mr. Lovett then presents the preliminary plans that are currently being worked on, further advising that they currently

have a survey crew working there. Mr. Lovett informs the board that the owners of the camp are requesting that they are allowed to remain open while the project is ongoing, as long as there is no contamination or imminent threat. Mr. Lovett also explains to the board that it is the intention of the owners to upgrade to 1000 gallons of water per day. Mr. Lovett states that it could take up to two years to complete the project, further explaining that the owners would like to be able to use the money made during the next two summer seasons to help fund the project.

Ms. LaBelle advises Mr. Lovett that she will have the Health agent review plans submitted. Ms. LaBelle also advises that she will be doing some further research on this issue, explaining that the Board has received some correspondence from the DEP and that the camp does have some pending issues that they may not have yet disclosed to Hill Engineering. Ms. LaBelle assures Mr. Lovett that she will add this to the next Board of Health's meeting agenda, giving time for further research to be done and then further discussion to follow. Mr. Lovett agrees that would be a good idea, giving him time to discuss with their clients.

Ms. Mary Graves, Berkshire Berries, enters the meeting and approaches the board, explaining that she had sent in a check some time ago to pay for her permits needed and she advises that she has not received anything to date back yet. Mary explains that her current license is going to expire on January 16th so she needs this matter given immediate attention. Ms. Graves explains that in the past she has always sent in a check, before her license is due to expire, then the new one is mailed to her and then, an actual inspection occurs in the Spring. Ms. LaBelle advises that she will speak with Ms. Burgwardt and make sure to get back to Mary as soon as possible.

Systems Control/ Establishing Protocol-Review of Rules and Regulations- Mr. Lerner makes a motion to table the discussion until the next meeting where all board members are present; Ms. LaBelle seconds motion, Unanimous Approval.

Board to review any new plans received- Board members present take another look at plans submitted by Camp Watitoh, briefly discuss.

Plans submitted for a tight tank at 334 Winter Drive- Board members agree this was previously looked at and discussed as well. Ms. LaBelle advises that she has drafted a letter and has mailed it out to the proposed new owner, explaining the process that needs to be followed when requesting permission to put in a tight tank.

Correspondence- Read and Reviewed.

Ms. LaBelle reads aloud a letter received from the Berkshire County Board of Health stating that the Town of Becket currently has \$25.00 due. Mr. Lerner makes a motion to allow Ms. LaBelle to pay \$25 in dues owed to the Berkshire County Board of Health, Ms. LaBelle seconds motion; motion unanimously passes. Gale agrees to put through the bill for payment right away.

Budget- Read and Reviewed.

Old Business- Update and Review of Percolation Tests, Title V's- No report at this time.

New Business- Changes recently made to Title V- Ms. LaBelle announces that as of January 3rd there have been quite a few changes made to the Title V Rules and Regulations. Ms. LaBelle has hand outs of all the changes that have already taken effect as of January 3rd, 2014. Board members read and review. Member of the public, Colleen O' Connor explains to the Board members present that this is very serious and could drastically change the real estate market in the Town of Becket. Mr. Lerner suggests that it is time that the Board seriously looks into Waste Water options. He explains that there are many possibilities that need to be explored. Mr. Lerner advises that he will speak with Charlie Kinecki as well as Edward Gibson and report back to the Board.

Ms. O'Connor advises Ms. LaBelle to consider going to the Special Town Meeting to be held in February and present some of these Board of Health issues at that time.

Any other business to come before the board- Mr. Lerner briefly goes over a list of phone messages that he has retrieved and returned. Board members briefly discuss.

Mr. Lerner suggests that the Board consider putting in an additional meeting this month to be held on Wednesday, January 29th at 10:00 am. Ms. LaBelle and Ms. Burgwardt both agree, next meeting to be held on January 29th.

11:29 am –Mr. Lerner makes a motion to adjourn the meeting , Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion; Meeting is adjourned at 11:29 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hunt
Administrative Assistant

Signed _____ Date _____
Gale LaBelle

Signed _____ Date _____
Laurel Burgwardt

Signed _____ Date _____
Howard Lerner