

MINUTES
STURBRIDGE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Monday, May 3, 2010 7:00 pm

In Attendance: Linda Cocalis, Bob Audet; John Degnan. Alyssa Rusiecki, Health Agent; administrative assistant Lynne Girouard.

ORGANIZATION – The Health Agent opens the meeting at 7pm. The Board must re-organize. Mr. Audet makes a motion for Ms. Cocalis to be nominated as the Chair; Mr. Degnan seconds. The Board votes (2 – 0) approved, (1 abstains, Ms. Cocalis). Mr. Audet nominates Mr. Degnan as Vice-Chair, Ms. Cocalis seconds. The Board votes (2 – 0) approved, (1 abstains, Mr. Degnan). The Board votes to appoint Ms. Rusiecki as Health Agent for three more years.

MINUTES — March 15, 2010 and April 5, 2010 minutes approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT’S REPORT – Lynne goes over correspondence received. Ingrid Swenson is an applicant for substitute Hazmat chemist. The Board voted to approve (3 – 0) hiring Ingrid both as an assistant and a substitute chemist, in the event Mr. Towns is away for a weekend in which a Hazmat day is scheduled.

H1N1/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – Chairman Cocalis signed the document for regional public health mutual aid. This agreement is conceptual only and does not have any funding designated for it. In the case of an emergency, the Board would need to go to the Finance Committee for a reserve fund transfer. The Agent continues to work with sub-contract nurse Kate Pollender. The Senior survey will go out in the Council on Aging newsletter. The Board received a request from Ric Skinner asking if we wanted to computerize the Special Populations data; Mr. Degnan states that the State of Connecticut is looking at buying some software for approximately \$200 for mapping critical infrastructure. Mr. Degnan also states that he supplied an updated EDS/COOP template on behalf of the Board of Health; Ms. Rusiecki will review it with Ms. Pollender. Ms. Cocalis reports that both she and Mr. Degnan attended the LEPC meeting. It was discussed that in the event of the need for an EDS (Emergency Dispensing Site), that Tantasqua and Burgess are still the first and second options, otherwise local hotels would be a possibility. A refrigerator will be purchased and placed at the Safety complex for vaccine use. Mr. Degnan has discussed with Chief Ford.

REGULAR BUSINESS – AGENT’S REPORT – The Agent reviewed the on-going work/projects including the following:

Beaches – The Agent states that the regulations for testing at semi-public and public beach testing is required, and that the Board had reached out to the residential associations last year and there was no response. Mr. Degnan said that he would see if he could find a contact and follow-up.

Camps – The Agent stated the fees for the camp application must be voted upon and the state allowable fee is \$50.00 and that no application has been submitted yet from Tantasqua for the sports camp. Mr. Audet makes a motion that the Board adopt a fee of \$50 for an application fee for recreational camps for children, Mr. Degnan seconds, The Board votes, (approved (3 – 0)).

Regionalization – An email was forwarded about general regionalization for Health Boards. The Board members have a concern that if Sturbridge participated along with other towns that have less of a staff than we do, then it would be detrimental to Sturbridge if those towns then had access to our resources, (i.e. Health Agent). If there is funding to expand services and staffing, then it may be worth looking at.

173 Main St – The temporary Town Administrator Racicot said that the Board of Health needs to vote on the “sewer expansion” at this parcel which abuts the old Rom’s site. The Agent stated that the initial interdepartmental review was signed off because it was on sewer and not on on-site septic. The Board stated that in the future, they want copies of all interdepartmental reviews. The Board is not certain of its jurisdiction so they will not vote; jurisdiction is cited in the zoning bylaws and this does not appear to be an expansion, as there is no property there to expand. Mr. Degnan states that he went to the site during a rain storm and the outlet pipe was “pouring out” so he has concerns regarding the development of the parcel in general. Ms. Cocalis states that we can still make a comment with the Boards’ concerns and in the future consider adopting an environmental health impact regulation.

Concerns of the Members – Southbridge Landfill; historically, the previous Board members with Town Administrator Malloy came up with a settlement agreement for \$50,000 for testing and placement of a sentinel well. To date, the Board of Health has not received notice of payment and that our engineering company, CME stated that the sentinel well should be placed in a different location than what is shown. The new Town Administrator, Shaun Suhoski, was made aware of these concerns and he said the he would write a letter stating that our engineers want the sentinel well in a different place.

The Board received a letter from DEP on April 28th, stating that there is a request from Southbridge of a re-allocation of any combination of C&D residual and MSW without regards to geographic origin. The DEP letter stated that the Sturbridge Board of Health would have a right to appeal. The Agent was asked to respond to any concerns on behalf of the Board. Mr. Degnan asks why Southbridge was allowed to originally take in C&D and not MSW? Ms. Cocalis stated that it relates to the liner requirements, which are different for C&D than they are for MSW and also that there are issues with the FAA (birds and the airport, and airport restaurant Public Water Supply not taken into consideration), VOCS from Millenium power plant, C&D fines (drywall, hydrogen sulfite and lead paint dust) for cover material not allowed per one of the 58 conditions; possible inaccurate acreage for site assignment; potential diesel particulates from trucking through town as well as change in schedule, (hours of operation listed); concerns about surrounding land use and the impact to the receptor network; and re-iteration of our engineer CME’s concern about geologic issues and the location of the sentinel well.

ADMINISTRATION – Seasonal vs. H1N1 Flu clinic billing revisited – Ms. Cocalis states that \$60 for nursing and \$30 for administration would be \$90 per hour and based on the number of clinic hours, and that is what we should pay them. Mr. Degnan states that Harrington should send us an updated bill. **Schedule** – The Agent will be on vacation next meeting, and the Chair will work with the Lynne to set up the meeting.

Voted to adjourn at 10:20 pm

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 17, 2010 7 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Rusiecki
Public Health Agent