

MINUTES
STURBRIDGE
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Members present: Linda Cocalis, Richard Volpe, Sandra Fallon. **Also present:** Louise Bonnette, Southwest Division Worcester Regional Medical Reserve Corps Unit Leader; Health Agent, Alyssa Rusiecki, Lynne Girouard, and Clerk.

Linda Cocalis opened the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Alyssa wanted to explain the difference between Region 2 emergency management and the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Southwest Division (SW) which includes 17 towns. Louise Bonnette is the leader for the MRC, and Alyssa handles administration for that grant. The bulk of Alyssa's MRC grant stipend work is done separately, but Louise does most of the recruiting work and is allowed to use the Town of Sturbridge office infrastructure at any time per our agreement with the City of Worcester.

Conversely, the Agent participates in meetings during the day as part of the Board of Health Agent function, for Public Health emergency management in Region2.

Louise states to the Board that the SW MRC is comprised of volunteers to help out in time of crisis. Some towns get called in on flu clinics to help out and the volunteers are called in time of disaster. Louise gave handouts to the members that tell just what the MRC does. Any person that volunteers for the MRC has a Cori check done and then they can be deployed to any disaster. Linda asked Louise what her quota amount for volunteers would be. She said that she has no quota amount of volunteers but for the region now there are 46 approved and 88 pending volunteers. To keep the volunteers involved we had a pizza party at Worcester Library. All volunteers that showed up received a backpack and an item for there "go-kit." Planning a show movie in January and would like to have something every quarter to keep the volunteers involved and interested. On Nov. 18th, there is an orientation in Sturbridge on first aid, sheltering, and other issues. Linda asked what benefits Sturbridge is getting being the lead sponsor for the region. Alyssa responded that most importantly to have direct access to volunteers in case of a disaster or emergency. We are learning through MA Responds on how to get the messages out. The Board of Health office also obtained through the grant a computer, printer, and an iPad that we keep in the office for MA Responds and also are being used for our daily use for as long as Sturbridge hosts the SW division. There is documentation on all the equipment that was purchased through the grant. Linda asked if there was a disaster in Dudley how would it be handled. It would be coordinated through Liz Foely in Worcester. Louise comes in periodically and uses the equipment purchased through the grant. Louise said

she holds Health Fairs and gets volunteers through word of mouth and senior centers to sign up. Linda suggested getting a spot on cable access and a presentation could be done just once and put on the cable access. Louise thanks the Board for their interest.

HEARING: Ethan Hillman for a Variance to deadline for a perc test at 166 Podunk Rd.

All abutters were notified by Certified Mail and Ethan Hillman said he talked to all the abutters and there was no problems applying for the variance. Only one abutter, Elizabeth Brosnan from 169 Podunk Rd. attended the meeting but had no problem with the variance.

Alyssa stated that there needed to be a correction from the October 6th meeting, (at which she was not present, due to bereavement). The Agent stated that there was discussion by the applicant stating that the Agent made the 2007 perc occur near the wetlands because it had to be in the “most restrictive spot” and that is why the test failed. The Agent stated that there was some confusion, and that the language relative to “most restrictive” had to do with vertical elevation of the soil profile, and not near a wetlands location. The Agent went on to explain that she would never knowingly allow a perc test and soil evaluation near or within 100 feet of a wetland. The Agent showed a map of the testing and confirmed through Bertin Engineering, the Conservation Commission Agent, and the Planner that the testing occurred at 160 feet from the nearest wetland. Alyssa explained why the perc was never finished in 2007 and compared to 2001 perc; they are approximately ten feet apart from each other. The Board of Health in 2007 told Alyssa that no variance would be granted, and that is why the 2007 perc was not continued past the first of six inches at 24 minutes per inch. Linda made the motion to accept the variance for 166 Podunk Rd., with conditions 1). The original engineer re-certifies and submits the plan for review; and 2). that since Alyssa was not here in 2001, that the BoH signature stamp be used for this future permit. Discussion: Mr. Volpe states that the variance will be given but that the applicant should proceed with caution and at his own risk, due to the differences in perc rates. The Agent suggests that it would be prudent to use an expanded perc rate for the design. The applicant states that he has spoken to the engineer at Para Land Surveying and he has no problem with it. Rich Volpe 2nd the motion, (3 – 0) APPROVED.

INSPECTORS REPORT (Dawn Toon):

- **Napoli’s** – needs a handle on his refrigerator and has ordered it; Dawn stated that the rest of the previous violations have been corrected.
- **Sturbridge Coffee House** – She is moving to TJ O’Brien’s . Linda had a question about a grease trap there but since they only sold ice cream they do not have one. The coffee

shop will only be serving pastries and coffee. No sandwiches will be served as she is bringing no ovens with her. Dawn said she has no drawings on the establishment yet.

- **New England Truck Stop** – Has to be checked again as a new 3 bay sink has to be put in.
- The Stop & Shop Pea Pod has not been started as they do not think they would have enough interest in it. The Pea Pod trucks do not come out of the Stop & Shop in Sturbridge but must be coming from one central spot. Linda questioned if we should be notified if they are coming into Sturbridge to deliver.
- **Sturbridge Country Inn** – Heating unit – Occupant has been moved to another room.
- **X-tra Mart** – Wants to start making sandwiches, Dawn will follow-up.
- **Hamilton Rod & Gun** – Nothing going on everything closed up.

Dawn states that our inspections are pretty well caught up in the first round; going with Ray (Duffill) from FDA and Diane (Bernazanni) from the State Dept. of Health to Shaw's. If things need to be written up Dawn will do them and will be checked by Ray and Diane, as the purpose of the co-inspection is that Diane is being re-certified and Dawn will use it as a learning experience.

Dawn talked about the Emergency Food session at the MHOA conference and how to set priorities and how you would set up for disasters. Linda said some protocol has already been set up for disasters since Alyssa, Ron, and DPH followed up when the tornado and the Halloween storm resulted in major power outages.

Linda questioned Dawn about getting the GEO system up and running and offered her more hours to do the job. Dawn said she can only do the GEO system on Friday. Dawn said they were having problems with the system and needed another field for the grease traps and could not get any help. Linda said if we are not getting help than we should scrap the system. Dawn said she would call them the next day. If they do not answer we will look for another supplier. The BoH would like to get at least all the Restaurants and Hotels inputted on the system.

Linda would like the activity sheets turned in on Friday and sent to the committee members.

HEALTH AGENTS REPORT

Housing Food & Nuisance:

- **Host Hotel:** The Building Inspector has concerns that the railings do not have the right spacing between them but they have been in some 20 years and he wants the BoH to write a letter because it come under the housing code and also building code. Paul Halfmann, Asst. Director of Community Sanitation, (DPH), stated that the Building Inspector should write it up. Paul will write a letter stating under whose jurisdiction it is under.

- **Beaver Permit** – 256 Main St. Army Corps. of Engineers. Linda gave Doreen permission the issue a permit to them.
- **275 Main St** – Public House - Will be expanding and remodeling the house that was just bought next door. They have a very large grease trap outside for the restaurant.

Title 5 and Wells:

- **9 Woodlawn Dr.** Upgrade existing septic with soil absorption 90' instead of 100' from well. It can be done without a hearing because it is his own well.
- **181 Shepard Rd.** – Received a call from a consultant that wanted to do a soil evaluation test. When Alyssa saw the consultant at the conference he said that the owner, Mr. Pelletier, had cancelled the test.
- **67 Walker Pond Rd.** – The owner reported to Alyssa that there were odors, and when they were investigated by the Operation and Maintenance personnel (Steve Nelson), it was determined that the new system (Singular unit) was never turned on. Mark Farrell, the designer, should have known if it was on or off and did not. The Agent was concerned that the untreated effluent would affect the Bottomless Sand Filter.
- **57 Bennetts Rd.** – Proposed bottomless sand filter. Needed to reevaluate the soil and met with Mark Farrell on this matter.
- **12 McGilpin Rd.** – Some confusion in the technology installation guide that has now been resolved and allowed to be installed. The Agent will follow-up with the guide author at a later time when projects slow down.
- **36 Old Village Rd.** – The owners obtained a maintenance agreement with Bob Silva. There was an unpermitted repair done on the system. When they have an O&M contractor the BoH will sign off. There has to be an evaluation done to make sure that there is no breakout.
- **O & M Tracking** - The county of Barnstable has a tracking system for the O&M system and will do a tracking for \$50.00 for each tracking of the system. Alyssa said that there is money in the revolving account. Linda asked Alyssa to get the presentation to be put on the next meeting.
- **18 McGilpin Rd.** – This is another Innovative/Alternative system that has not been maintained as required by the Department of Environmental Protection, (DEP). Its existence was documented in an original report done by Tighe & Bond in 1998.

- **13 Carey Rd.** – The occupants are not happy the way the system is operating and will not sign an O&M contract. The system has been in 1-1 ½ yrs. They are talking about suing.
- **Tight Tanks: Bennetts Rd., 108 Leadmine, 28 Goodrich.** Either not living in them or possible demo and the properties should start over again. No structures can be built over them. All systems have some problems. Alyssa observed the tanks either leaking or not watertight. Some enforcement orders should be done. Letters have already been sent out several times. The leaking tight tanks can cause a problem for the nearby lake. A drive by will have to be done to see if anyone is living there or not. Linda suggested using it as a Nuisance Law clause and could possibly charge them for taking it out or put a property lien on it. The letter should say that if they do not respond to the letter other legal methods will be taken.
- **62 Bullough Rd.** Tight tank– New installation. Owners feel that it has a high water alarm and that it is not watertight. Alyssa will ask Mark Farrell, designer, and Mr. Cady, installer, to go out and make a determination as to whether there is leakage or not.
- **136 and 138 Podunk Rd.** – Failed tight tanks. Actively being lived in. Plans received on the properties and letter sent that says they need to start installation within 30 days and that was in October. The occupant’s mother came in and wanted to know if there were any funding options to help her son as he could not afford to put the system in. Alyssa gave his mother some information and a reference to call DEP and USDA. The system is leaking and we will have to use legal remedies and take it to the next step to enforce this order.
- **55 Bennetts Rd.** – The property has no system on it. It had a composting toilet on it but the owner said she gave it away. The property is for sale so they will have to come back to the BoH for permits.

Schedule: Agent’s vacation time. Anniversary date is Nov 1, 2014. – Would like to use the day after Thanksgiving and some possible days in May for vacation days. Rich made a motion that the 5 days be carried over used by the fiscal end of year. Linda 2nd the motion, (3-0 APPROVED).

OLD BUSINESS: 31 South Shore Dr. Chairman Cocalis would like the Board to know that John Seguin was served a lawsuit by his neighbor Gary Allard, but even though the Board of Health was cited as a defendant, they were not served. Linda will follow-up with the Town Administrator.

MINUTES: October 20, 2014 approved. October 6th, 2014 with minor changes.

RECYCLING CENTER/LANDFILL: The Board reviews the balance of the PAYT bag account as well as the groundwater well monitoring account. Linda reviews the history of the gw well account. CME should be consulted for placement of the well.

NEW BUSINESS: Hearing: Fit for Nutrition: Variance to needing an outside grease trap. Only having protein shakes. Upon conferring with Greg Morse, DPW Director, a motion (LC) is made to allow the activity, seconded (SF). RV abstains (APPROVED 2 – 0 -1).

CONCERNS of the MEMBERS: The budget is coming up. The Board wants to ask for recycling containers, ruggedized radios for the Recycling Center, and the inspecting software for food and hotels. The time logs should be turned in to the BoH on either Friday or Monday. At the next meeting, the BoH will discuss the Recycling Dividends Program with Irene, the budget, the local changes to regulations, and preparation for the Finance Committee meetings.

A motion is made and seconded to close the meeting, (3 – 0) APPROVED.

Adjourned at 7:38pm

Submitted: Norma Buckley

Reviewed: ___ Dec 1, 2014 _____

Approved: ___ LC, SF, RV _____