

Board of Health Minutes  
February 22, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. Present were Thomas Klem, Chair, Arnold Soslow, M. D., Michael Bean, M. D., and Michael Wegerbauer. Also present were Julia Junghanns, Director of Public Health and Patti White, Department Assistant.

7:34 p.m.          Public Comments

Dianna Warren presented documents to the Board that she believes to be expert commentaries on the Smart Meter Technologies. She also wanted to let the Board know that the Sage Report documents that she presented to the Board at the last meeting are just a portion of the report; the rest of the report is available on line. There is no Federal/state/or local mandate that says we have to have smart meters on our homes.

Mike Lowery 120 Lakeshore Dr., also a member of the BOPW explained that the BOPW is not looking to install full time operating meters; they will only transmit  $6/10^{\text{ths}}$  of one second 4 times per day. He asks if the studies that have been presented by Ms. Warren are applicable to the device that is being considered by the BoPW.

Stanley Robinson, 9 Wheelock Rd- Mr. Robinson is presenting himself as a representative of people with medical implants. His has a new pacemaker that is radio controlled. He has concerns regarding the power, frequency range and the transmissions for the meter readers and if they will have any effect on his pacemaker.

Ed Collins- 43 Plain Rd. Mr. Collins is asking what specific technological data has been made available to the BoH for their consideration. He has concerns regarding funding from the Federal Energy Policy and believes it should be an opt-in policy and not for mandatory town use.

Victoria Mints of 26 Damon Street is expressing concerns about her children's exposure with Wi Fi in schools and this exposure at her home.

Mike Lowery – 120 Lakeshore Drive-The wireless devices are an additional component to the present meter- he is suggesting that the BOH ask that BOPW allow certain residents to opt out.

8:00 p.m.          **Discussion regarding Wayland Water Department proposed Network Meter Reading System (Smart Meters). Guest and resident Dr. Robert Wenstrup has an extensive background in physics.**

B.S., Physics

M.S., Nuclear Physics

PhD., Atomic Structure Physics.

Fellowship in Diagnostic Radiology from Mass General Hospital

Chief Physicist, Diagnostic Radiology and Radiation Safety, Lahey Clinic Medical Center,

Research Affiliate, High voltage Research Laboratory, MIT  
Senior Physicist, Institute Guilfoyle,  
Independent Consulting Physicist.

Dr. Wenstrup is one of the people recommended to address issues and questions on RF's through the State's Radiation Control Program. Based on his background specializing in this field, Mr. Wenstrup has done research and is providing this information regarding the proposed network metering system without compensation and for the public's good. This evening, he is here to discuss just the proposed network system, specifically the items listed below:

- 1) Purpose of metering system
- 2) Difference between dumb vs smart meter technology
- 3) Details of system and how it operates
- 4) Compare RF power for various sources and calculations of system
- 5) Present his conclusion and provide a chart showing power densities from various sources at various distances.

The installation proposed involves the addition of a meter that will attach to the present meter that is presently on all residences. Sensus Metering Co. (m150-R2) Manufactures meters for water, electricity and Gas. Water meters are dumb meters, they can only pick up the request to transmit a reading and send it back to the source. The meter being considered is not a "smart meter". True "smart meters" are used to read and control electrical and gas systems and provide information to residents regarding their usage allowing them to control their usage. The unit being considered has a battery good for 20 yrs, even though the meter unit is capable of operating at 2 watts, the Town will have it set to operate at 1 watt, and this will be done to preserve the life of the battery.

The meters will operate on the 900- 901 megahertz bandwidth, Sensus has purchased a bandwidth so it cannot be used by anyone else, because of this, there will be no interference and they can lower power levels. This bandwidth is separate from all microwave, electric smart meters, cell phones and emergency dispatches signals transmitted from fire and police department. The signal sent from the meter back to the town through an antennae on Reeves Hill will contain the serial number to identify the meter, each meter has a unique signature similar to cell phones, the information transmitted cannot be interpreted by any other party. Can pacemakers operate in this spectrum? NO, this bandwidth is reserved for these transmitters. Is there an issue of home security? No, this signal is encoded, and it will be received and transmitted to a water department computer, by phone lines and that information will be done over a secure line.

The signal from the residence to the antennae will last .15 seconds, this will be done 4 times each day (every 6 hours), and the total for the day is .6 seconds. There will not be any communication with the meter at any other time of the day. The transmitter cannot transmit any additional information regarding the property. Signals are spaced out from each other and it's a very small fraction of radiation. It's about 20 times lower then the accepted value of EM radiation from a tv or radio.

Dianna W. – has Dr Wenstrup provided all documents to BOH that he has received from Sensus so that it is available to the public to be scrutinized?

Dr. Wenstrup has presented the BOH office with documents and they are being referenced tonight.

**AS: Motion amended by Dr. Bean: Motion part # 1 There is no broad scientific consensus as to the long term health effects of EMF radiation. The BOH believes that the Sensus Flex Net SmartPoint model # 510X water meter poses very little EMF risk to Wayland citizens.**

**Motion part #2 The Board of Health strongly believes and recommends that since there is no broad scientific consensus as to cumulative long term risks of lifetime EMF radiation exposure especially with high risk groups like children and developing embryos that people should have the ability to opt out or opt in if they choose to.**

**Vote 3-0 A.S.,M.B.,T.K., 1 abstain MW**

The Board of Health has been advised that the DPW will be posting Dr. Wenstrup's data on their website for the public to access and review.

Kurt Tramposh, 2 Meadow Path- Mr. Tramposh feels that the BOH is giving a complete approval without understanding about things like the battery in the unit causing a problem (lithium Thionyl Chloride battery)— he feels the Board should check that this is not a factor that might cause a problem. This system is designed for a non-pit setting; he believes that there are homes in town that have their meter in a pit on their house, how will those situations be handled?

AS has left the meeting

9:57 p.m. Motion to adjourn all in favor 3-0

Respectfully submitted  
Patti White  
Department Assistant  
022212minutes  
Approved 051412