

**Minutes of the Carlisle Board of Health**  
**August 21, 2007**  
**Approved 9/25/07**

Present: Board Members Jeffrey Brem (Chairman), Michael Holland, Bill Risso, Chris Deignan; Leslie Cahill; also present: Linda Fantasia (Agent), Rob Frado (TCG), Laura Sholten, Carlisle Mosquito

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. at the town hall.

**MINUTES** – 07/17/07 to be done at next meeting.

**EMERGENCY PLANNING JOB DESCRIPTION** – The Board would like to hire Mary Kate Martelon (MADPH Summer Intern) on a part time basis through the end of the year if grant funding is available. She would continue to work on the EDS Plan and begin organizing Neighborhood Networks. The Board approved a proposed job description. Cahill (arrived) was asked to determine a rate. Fantasia explained that there are three public health sources of funding: pandemic flu, medical reserve corps and bioterrorism. It is expected that each of these funds will be replenished for the coming fiscal year, but the guidelines need to be set by the state. There is a balance of \$2000 in the Flu funding which must be spent by 8/30/07. Brem asked Fantasia to look into possible funding for the next meeting.

**AGENT AUTHORIZATION** – The Board’s authority to authorize its agent is stated in MGL. Ch 111, sec 30. The Board considered authorizing its agent to approve the following on behalf of the Board:

- Septic system and building permits which are in compliance with local and state regulations following a satisfactory technical review or conditional approval by the Board.
- Licenses for septage haulers, water system installers, and installers on behalf of the Board provided they are in good standing and have submitted required applications, fees, and passed the installer’s test if applicable.
- One Day Temporary Food Service Permits on behalf of the Board after the applications have been checked and approved by the Board’s food service consultant.
- Barn Inspection Licenses following inspection and approval by the Animal Inspector.

Brem suggested doing this annually in the month of August.

It was moved (Risso), seconded (Deignan) and voted 4:0 (Holland had not arrived) to authorize the Board’s Agent to act on the Board’s behalf as stated above.

**BILLS** – It was moved (Risso), seconded (Deignan) and voted 4:0 (Holland had not arrived) to approve the bills as presented. Tri-annual pay increases in accordance with the Town’s wage and salary classification plan were also approved for Fantasia starting 9/8/07 and deAlderete starting 9/1/07.

**SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM** – Cahill attended the closing ceremony which included presentations of the various projects. Many of the projects dealt with Lyme Disease, West Nile Virus, EEE, Emergency Preparedness Planning and the use of School Facilities. Carlisle was the only town to talk about Neighborhood Networks. Cahill learned that starting on 7/1/08 new legislation prohibits the disposal of syringes in landfills. Carlisle will need to provide a collection service. Fantasia explained that the current practice allows disposal of diabetic needs and non-infectious waste in sealed containers at the transfer station. Carlisle EMS also has a limited sharps disposal and Emerson Hospital will accept sharps. A practical solution would requiring pharmacies to collect used syringes. The Board was concerned about bio-medical waste disposal and cost. The Town may need to consider funding for next year. Cahill also said that the City of Newton talked about the importance of the school nurse during an infectious disease outbreak. Good communication with the health department was stressed. Fantasia said the Board has collaborated with Carlisle’s School Nurse Kathy Horan in the past on a voluntary Hepatitis B program for Sixth Graders with

which was very successful. This is now a required immunization. Occasionally there have been individual cases of chicken pox or whooping cough and Horan has always consulted with the Board. Confidentiality can be an issue between the school and the Board of Health, but Fantasia said this has not interfered with appropriate follow-up. As a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the Superintendent would also be involved in a major public health emergency. Brem thought it would be important for the school nurse to be included in emergency planning. Cahill said the role of the school nurse has changed and now involves administration of medications. The Board felt it was the school department's responsibility to make sure that appropriate treatment protocols were being followed. Cahill said TB was also a hot topic at the presentation. (Holland arrives)

**PUBLIC HEARING 274 HEALD ROAD – replacement of failed septic system. Local Upgrade Approval requested: 15.405(1)(b) Depth of Cover, 3' maximum, 5.2' provided; Carlisle Supplementary Regulations Waivers Requested: 15.211 Minimum Setback Distances for pump chamber and leaching area to bordering vegetated wetlands 52' and 72.3' provided respectively, 100' required; only 1 deep hole provided, 2 required. Plan entitled: "Septic System Design for Paul DiCristina, 274 Heald Road, Map 6, Parcel 9, designed by David Schofield, dated 5/22/07, revised 8/20/07".**

The public hearing was opened. Present were David Schofield, design engineer and abutter Scott Bratton (28 Berry Corner Lane). Schofield submitted his green abutter cards.

Schofield explained that the proposed four bedroom system would replace the existing system which has failed. The site is limited by wetlands, property lines, onsite well and the depth of the sewer line which is under a slab foundation. He had investigated through field analysis moving the well but there would be no benefit due to the slope of the terrain. The design utilizes a Presby System which allows a 40% reduction in bed size. This provides the maximum distance possible from wetlands. Schofield said the proposed design is the best location given all of the restraints. Since the system will be located under the driveway only one test pit could be dug in the limited open area. The pump chamber needs to be at least 5.2' in the ground because of the depth of the sewer line. This is more than the maximum 3.0' cover allowed by Title 5. The surface cannot be graded because of the height of the driveway. The pump chamber will be 52' and the leaching area 72.3' from wetlands.

The percolation rate was good at 18 mpi. The design calls for adding a two compartment tank in reverse (500 tank/1000pump) which along with the existing 1000 tank meets the garbage grinder requirement. Frado noted that the Plan Notes state the system is not designed for a garbage grinder. The waiver for distance from leaching area to wetlands is not requested on the plan. Schofield will correct these and submit corrected plans. Frado also asked that the Presby design requirements be submitted and Schofield agreed.

The Board asked if the system had failed an inspection. Brem thought local upgrade approvals may be limited to failed systems. Schofield was not sure if an inspection was done. It may have been a voluntary assessment. Based on the elevation of groundwater at 51' and a tank depth of 5.6' the leaching area had to be in groundwater. Schofield agreed to check with the owner or if necessary provide his own documentation. Brem asked whether the d-box, tank and system had H-20 loading. Schofield said they did. The additional cover will provide the extra loading capacity. A Presby System can be located under a driveway. Brem was concerned about changes required during installation. Frado said these would be shown on the as-built. The Board agreed Frado should be notified in advance in they were design changes. A Notice of Intent has not yet been filed. The Board asked for audience comments.

Scott Bratton (28 Berry Corner Lane) asked whether the proximity of the system to the wetlands which abut his yard would have an affect on his well. He has a 300' bedrock well. Schofield said it is difficult to locate the water source for a bedrock well, but the existing system is discharging untreated effluent into the aquifer and wetlands. The new system will be at a higher elevation and farther from wetlands than the existing system, 72' compared to 50'. This is a significant improvement. Brem further explained that one of the purposes of a wetland is to remove contaminants. The design also calls for a second tank which will provide additional settling time before discharging liquid to the leaching area. He agreed with Schofield that it is difficult to trace a specific water source in bedrock. Groundwater travels through fissures in the rock which

act like a maze. The design of the Presby System also provides additional treatment within the leaching area. Risso agreed that the newer system was a significant improvement over the existing failed system. There was no further discussion.

It was moved (Holland) to close the public hearing. Motion was seconded (Risso) and unanimously voted.

The Board agreed on the following conditions: verify that the existing system has failed; notify the Board's consultant of any design changes prior to construction; provide the Presby System design criteria calculations; plan must be approved by the Conservation Commission; submit revised plans deleting the note that the system is not designed for a garbage grinder and adding the waiver for setback from the leaching area to wetlands.

It was moved (Risso) to approve the proposed septic system repair granting the waivers as requested and with the conditions as stated. Motion was seconded (Cahill) and unanimously voted 5:0

**PUBLIC HEARING 867 CURVE STREET – replacement of failed septic system requiring local waivers. Local Upgrade Approval requested: 15.212 Depth to Groundwater 5' required, 4' provided; and 40% reduction in leaching area using a Presby Enviro-Septic Leaching System. Plan entitled: "Sewage Disposal System Design Plan, 867 Curve St, Map 28, Parcel 5, Prepared by Foresite Engineering, dated 6/15/07, revised 7/25/07, 8/13/07".**

The public hearing was opened. No one was present to represent the applicant since no additional waivers were needed other than the local upgrade approvals which are part of the Remedial Certification. The Board still felt that a representative should have been available to talk about the plan.

Frado explained that the proposed design was revised to avoid having to file with DEP for a second waiver. The bed was raised an additional foot providing a 4.0' offset to groundwater which complies with the Presby Enviro System Remedial Use design criteria. A conventional system would have needed a 5.0' offset due to the < 2mpi percolation rate. The leaching area is 40% of the required size. The Board reviewed the design. Risso asked if the manholes would be to grade. Frado said they are within 6" to grade. Brem was concerned about potential drainage problems near the garage and whether the high vent needs to a certain distance from a structure.

The Board agreed to ask for clarification on the grading at the southwest corner of the garage and whether high vent complies with the design criteria for the Presby Enviro Leaching System. Frado asked whether adding a clay barrier would affect the Board's approval. The Board agreed that as long as the clay barrier design is in compliance with Title 5, it would be acceptable.

It was moved (Risso) to close the public hearing. Motion was seconded (Deignan) and unanimously voted.

It was moved (Deignan) to approve the proposed design for 867 Curve Street with the conditions as noted. Risso seconded and the motion unanimously passed.

**PUBLIC HEARING 56 BELLOWS HILL ROAD – new system for guest house. Local waiver requested: system not designed for garbage grinder. Plan entitled: "Subsurface Sewage Disposal System, 56 Bellows Hill Road, Map 3, Block 13, Lot 8, designed by Norse Design Services, dated 7/19/07, revised 8/3/07".**

The public hearing was opened. Green cards were submitted. Present for the meeting was Jeff Hannaford of Norse Engineering Services. Brem disclosed that Hannaford was his brother-in-law.

Hannaford explained that an existing barn previously used as an office is being converted to a guest house for the owner's grown children. A guest house is allowed as long as there is no kitchen and it is intended for relatives. The house will be inspected annually for compliance. At a previous meeting the Board had agreed on a three bedroom system without the garbage grinder allowance since there will be no kitchen. A deed

restriction will be recorded. The proposed design includes a three trench Infiltrator System designed in accordance with the new guidelines calculating breakout from the top of the trench. The guest house will be tied into the existing well. There have been no changes to the floor plan from the plan submitted 7/17/07. Deignan asked about the sporadic use. The Board suggested installing speed levelers in the distribution box to guaranty continuous flow.

Sylvia Willard of 34 Bellows Hill Road said she had no problems with the proposed guest house.

Risso moved to close the public hearing. Motion was seconded (Deignan) and unanimously voted.

Holland moved to approve the proposed design with the condition that speed levelers be installed and a garbage grinder deed restriction recorded. Motion was seconded by Deignan and unanimously voted.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**COVENTRY WOODS WELLS** – It was not known whether all five wells had been drilled. Fantasia will check with the Pump and Well Inspector, Ralph Metivier.

**GROUNDWATER MOUNDING CONSULTANT** – GZA was the only responder. The Board agreed to recontact the other companies. People may have been on vacation.

**NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS** – Brem and Mary Kate Martelon met with the Selectmen who were very supportive of the plan. Under the proposed plan neighborhoods would voluntarily organize sharing supplies, contacts and helping to coordinate communication during an emergency. The Board of Health will work with the neighborhood organizers. The networks will be advertised with flyers, cable commercials and inserts in the tax bills. Brem suggested sharing the contact list with the Police Department.

## **CARLISLE SUPPLEMENTARY SEWAGE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS (CSR)**

Sylvia Willard, Conservation Administrator and Kelly Guarino, Conservation Commissioner were present. The Board continued its discussion of the proposed revisions.

The Board agreed with a revised definition of wetlands based on Title 5, the Wetland Protection Act and the Carlisle Local Wetlands Bylaw. The Board agreed to require proof that a lot is legal prior to a permit and agreed to add a note to plans that retaining walls are considered part of the system design and may not be changed without Board approval. The Board decided to specify the penalties for violations so that it is less ambiguous. Boards can fine up to \$100 per violation under Title 5 and each day can be a separation violation.

The Board then had a lengthy discussion on spring high groundwater testing and whether it should be required. Cahill is not in favor of allowing year round testing for high groundwater based only on mottles. There may be some situations when observed groundwater is better. Frado said there have been sites where mottles were lower than observed groundwater. These instances are rare but can happen. He also noted that reading mottles can be difficult in very sandy soils. Willard asked whether mottles can be seen in land that has been tilled. Frado said this has not been the case on parcels which he has worked. The Board noted that if mottles are not seen, Title 5 has other methodology such as USGS or monitoring wells or the Frimptor method. The use of soil mottling and certifying soil evaluators was an attempt by the state to address some of the uncertainty in determining groundwater. Brem did not see why a land owner who purchases a property in September should be forced to wait until spring to do testing. This is impractical when there is an acceptable alternative. Risso does not see what benefit there is to Carlisle in accelerating the development process. Local regulations are intended to protect Carlisle's natural resources. There has to be a significant reason to change regulations that have been working for years. Cahill agreed with Risso. Brem asked about other towns. Fantasia provided a short survey of sister towns. Most still require high water testing for new construction, but the dates of high water season vary. Risso felt it would be appropriate to allow out of season testing or soil mottling for individual lots or repairs, but not for developments. Brem disagrees with

starting high water season in March. The ground can still be frozen. He would prefer April and May or March through May. Risso would like to keep a two month window. Frado agreed that March can be cold and May very wet. A larger window would allow for annual differences. Cahill suggested March 15 through May 15. Holland said he was OK with staying with Title. Deignan was uncertain and would like more time to consider the issue. Frado gave a brief explanation of the testing problems at Hart Farm where mottles were difficult to read due to very sandy soils. Holland said that if there no mottles, then using seasonal groundwater is acceptable. If there are clear mottles, it is unlikely that groundwater will be higher. The Board agreed that this topic needs more discussion since there is no consensus. More discussion will take place at the public hearing scheduled for 9/11/07.

Brem noted that the Conservation Commission may be interested in the future discussions on the garbage grinder allowance and setbacks to wetlands. The Board is very interested in obtaining comments. Reporter Sholten asked whether the Board was under any pressure from the state to change or eliminate local regulations. The Board said it was not. The Board will review a revised draft on 9/11/07.

There was no further business. Meeting voted to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Fantasia  
Recorder